Annual Report

FY 2018

"Restoring Moriches Bay, One Oyster at a Time"

1,200,000 Oysters and Counting

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Table of Contents

The Moriches Bay Project, founded in 2013, is an IRS approved 501 (c) 3 non-for-profit organization.

Our mission is to naturally clean up Moriches Bay by restoring oyster and clam shellfish populations to a sustainable level. These shellfish will naturally filter and clean the Bay.

MBP also operates the Moriches Bay Observation System (MBOS) to monitor the health of Moriches Bay.

To Our Shellholders ____ 1

Environmental & Educational Summary ____ 4

Financial Statements ____ 8

Contact Information ____ 10

Company Information ____ 10

FL.UP.SY. grows seed oysters (top), Full Grown Oyster - 4 months (bottom)

"Companies have stockholders, but The Moriches Bay Project has **Shellholders**"

Our **Shellholders** support us all year through donations of time, talent and money

Strategic Highlights

The Moriches Bay Project (MBP) achieved all of financial and program goals in 2018, including 500,000 oysters placed into Moriches Bay. We also increased our Educational, School and Community Outreach programs to over 5,000 contacts by holding a total of seven (7) Bay Steward workshops and over 15 school and community outreach programs. We solidified the Moriches Bay Observation System (M.B.O.S.) by adding a fifth real-time water quality monitoring station. Finally, we built the first solar FL.UP.SY in Suffolk County!

Students from our local schools are learning first-hand how to make oyster cages and care for oyster farms

To Our Strategic Highlights

Our **Shellholders** range from elementary students that make oyster cages to middle schoolers that maintain the cages over the summer to researchers studying the health of Moriches Bay, to businesses, foundations and individuals that support us financially.

Financial Support Highlights

MBP received $160,262 in financial support in 2018. This includes funds from our annual Oyster Fling, business donors, individual donations, crowdfunding, and grants. Our special thanks to the Smith Family for a major grant to establish a new aluminum FL.UP.SY. (**FL**oating **UP**weller **SYs**tems). Many of our supporters have also donated their invaluable time. We continue to partner with the Town of Brookhaven, Southampton Town Trustees and Cornell Cooperative Extension that provide a myriad of support.

Our volunteers are proud of their accomplishments with MBP

Volunteers at the Pickett Point Oyster farm assembling the cages for 20,000 oysters

To Our Strategic Highlights

The fin and shell fish can't say thank you, so we will.

THANKS!

Operating Program Highlights

MBP continues to improve operations at our oyster gardens producing 500,000 oysters in 2018 for a total of 1,200,000 oysters since 2013. MBP volunteers operate four (4) FL.UP.SY.s, and four (4) oyster farms. We also posted continuous water quality data from five (5) sites on the web in real-time and are publishing that data monthly through The Moriches Bay Index. At the same time, we have increased collaboration with the scientific community, schools and the greater Moriches Bay community through enhanced outreach.

Looking Ahead to 2019

2019 will continue the challenge of cleaning Moriches bay, one oyster at a time, and we are poised to start strong in the New Year.

Laura Fabrizio, Co-Founder & Director
Aram Terchunian, Co-Founder & Director
James Hulme, Esq., Director
Dwight Surgan, Senior Scientist

Environmental & Educational Summary

"Companies measure success in dollars. MBP measures success in Oysters and People."

These shellfish naturally filter the Bay and remove Nitrogen. Here is how we did in 2018:

Gallons of Moriches Bay Filtered
23.3 Billion

Pounds of Nitrogen Removed
786

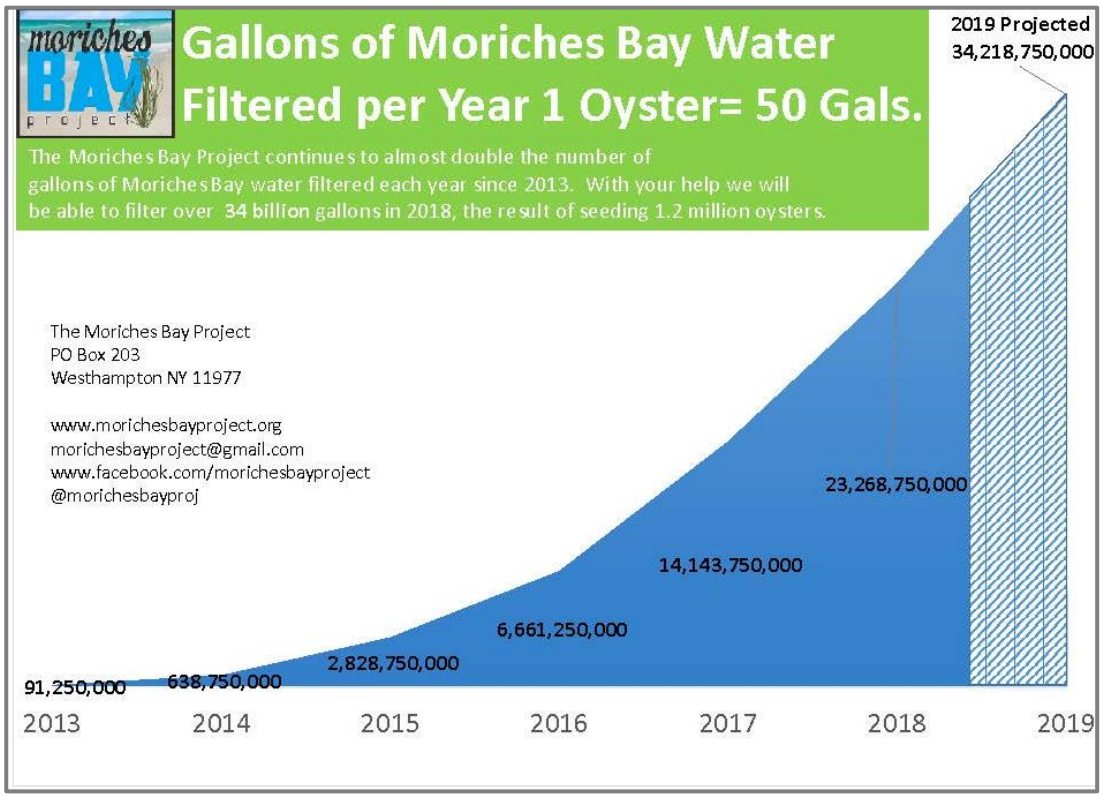
Number of People Engaged
5,061

Total Oysters Seeded
1,200,000

The Moriches Bay Project measures success in Gallons, Pounds, Oysters, and People.

1.2 Million Oysters and 23 Billion Gallons of Moriches Bay Filtered

Naturally filtering Moriches Bay is a main objective of the Moriches Bay Project and in 2018 we increased our oyster population to 1.2 million and daily filtration to over 63 million gallons per day, or 23 billion gallons per year. All of this was done by oysters measuring around just 3 inches in length! Our goal is to create annual sustained oyster seeding of 1 million oysters in Moriches Bay by 2020. Since 2013. Amazingly, each oyster filters approximately 50 gallons of water per day. As you can see, we are one half of the way there and 2019 will be our biggest year yet, projecting to grow an additional 600,000 oysters and naturally filter over 34 billion gallons of Moriches Bay water.



Environmental & Educational Summary

FL.UP.SY

FLoating
UPweller
SYstem

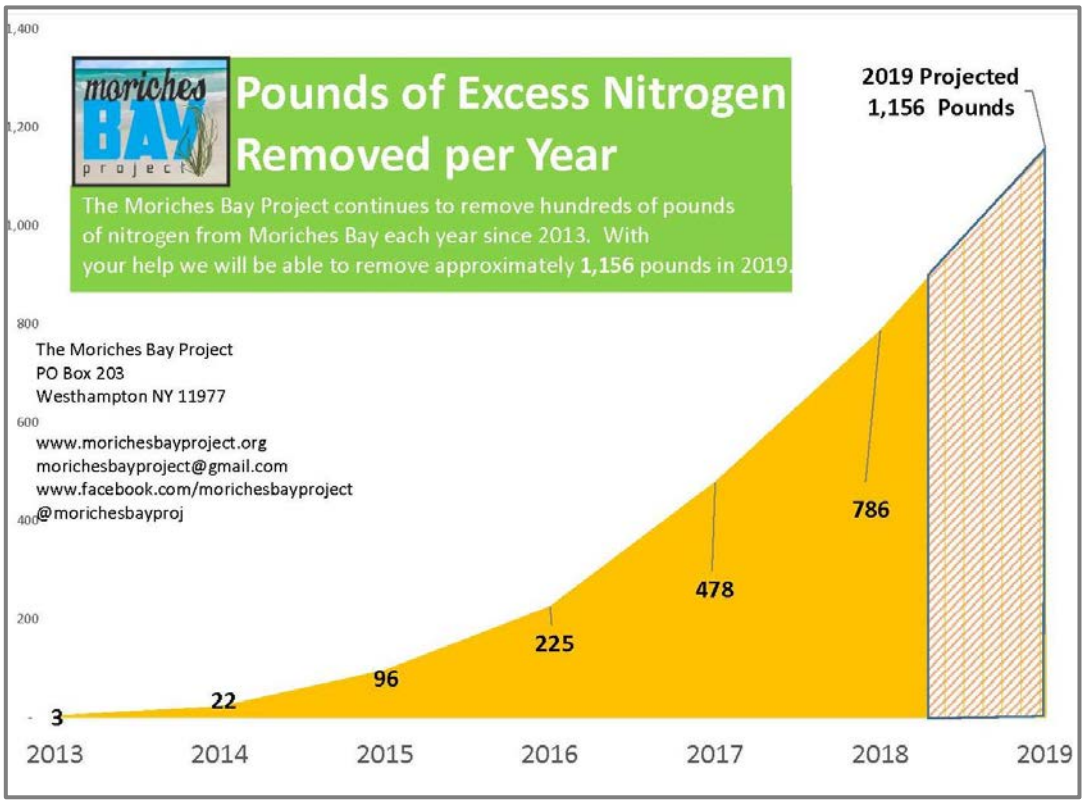
FLUPSYS enable MBP to raise up to 100,000 oysters or 500,000 clams at one site.

Supporters at the Annual Oyster Fling make programs possible.

Greg Rivara of Cornell Cooperative Extension, SCMELC inspecting oysters.

Nearly 800 Pounds of Nitrogen Removed from Moriches Bay*

Another increasingly important component to the revival of Moriches Bay is the removal of excess Nitrogen from the water. The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) have identified Moriches Bay as "Nitrogen Impaired," meaning there is too much Nitrogen in the water. Oysters remove Nitrogen in their shells, flesh, and waste. In 2018, our oysters were able to remove 786 pounds of excess Nitrogen through our oyster gardens, oyster beds, and FL.UP.SYs. Cleansing the waters of Moriches Bay is an important part of an overall approach to healthy Bays that includes 1) reducing inputs from septic systems and road runoff, 2) treating contaminated groundwater and 3) filtering Moriches Bay with oysters and clams. (* the average home produces 9.9 pounds of nitrogen. Thus, our project mitigated the impact of 80 homes)



Environmental & Educational Summary

The Moriches Bay Project engages volunteers of all ages to support the various education and restoration programs for oysters that naturally cleanse Moriches Bay.

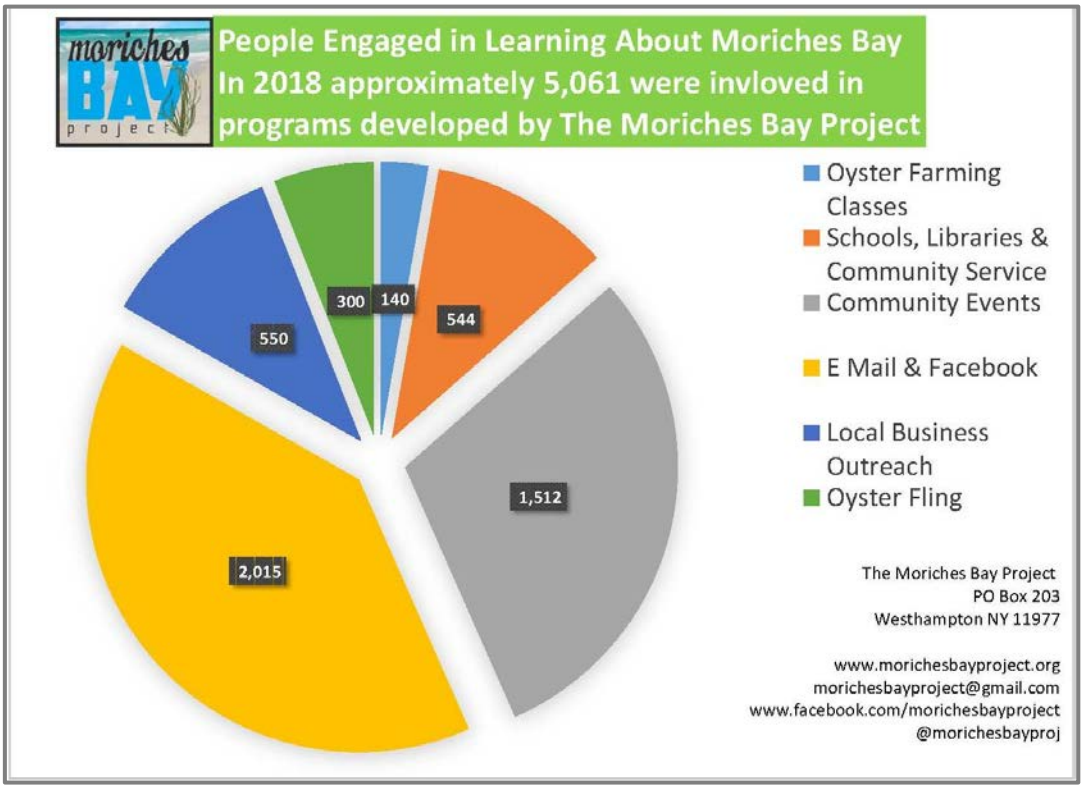
Our annual “Oyster Fling” fundraiser is a seasonal hit.

With the support of Kim Tetrault of the Cornell Cooperative Extension, MBP reaches over 5,000 people in our schools, libraries, and civic organizations

Over 5,000 People in the Community Engaged

The Moriches Bay Project works with and through many different community organizations to educate people about the challenges and opportunities facing Moriches Bay today. A short list of organizations and supporters includes:

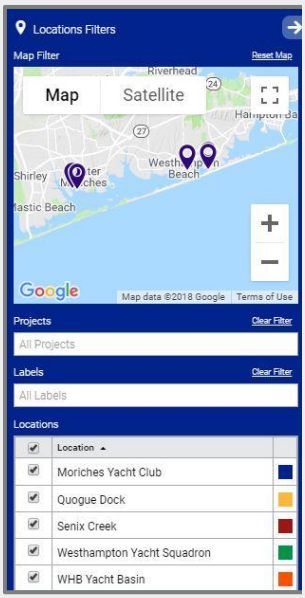
1. Town of Brookhaven
2. Cornell Cooperative Extension, SPAT Program & SCMELC
3. Island Outreach Foundation
4. BNB Bank
5. Solution Management Incorporated of East Moriches
6. Southampton Town Trustees
7. John and Elaine Kanas Family Foundation
8. Villages of Quogue, Westhampton Beach & West Hampton Dunes
9. Buoy One Restaurant and Catering
10. Schools and Libraries in Westhampton Beach, Remsenburg, East Moriches, William Floyd, Raynor School, Center Moriches & Quogue
11. Discovery Land Company
12. Girl Scout Troop #’ 1556 and Boy Scout Troop # 29
13. Kiwanis, Rotary, and other service organizations



Environmental & Educational Summary

Housed in a 2” plastic tube, the MBOS sensors track 17 parameters, including:

- *Dissolved Oxygen*
- *Water Temperature*
- *Salinity*
- *Water Depth*
- *pH*



MBP continues to share data with local governments and educational institutions

The Moriches Bay Observation System (MBOS) Continues to Grow

The MBOS is the first real-time, continuous water quality monitoring system in Moriches Bay. Each station monitors 17 different variables on an hourly basis and posts all of the data to our publicly accessible web site. The MBOS was expanded to five (5) stations is 2018. To access, use the following hyperlink (https://goo.gl/q2qMNM) or click on MBOS at our homepage.

Our Volunteers & Staff are the BEST!

Dwight, Jon, Anthony & Brian work with volunteers to operate the FL.UP.SY.s, maintain the oyster farms, supervise the community events and operate the MBOS.

Financial Statements

Oysters are our currency, but we need your financial support to grow them.

A single oyster (above) can be held in your hand. MBP puts them into the Bay by the thousands to naturally cleanse the water.

Revenues from Donations, Fundraising and Grants

- Donations come from school children, private foundations, individuals, local businesses, and you.
- Our annual fundraiser, the Oyster Fling, is growing in success each year.
- The Moriches Bay Project receives grants from Long Island based private foundations. Our special thanks to the Smith Family for a major grant to establish a new aluminum FL.UP.SY. in Moniebogue.

Expenditures to Support Program and Restoration

- Oyster gardens & FL.UP.SY.s are growing oysters from 1/8-inch seeds to 3-inch adults.
- The five (5) MBOS Moriches Bay Observation System Monitoring Stations are monitoring Moriches Bay water quality 24/7/365.
- Educational Outreach engages Bay lovers from the ages of 2 to 92.
- The Moriches Bay Project's scholarships to local High Schools are bettering both the Bay and the community.
- Honoring the unsung "Heroes of the Bay"

Description	Revenue*	Expenses*
Donations, Sponsors, Grants & Gifts	$160,262	
FLUPSYS, Gardens & Farms		$29,049
Educational & Community Programs		$15,379
Moriches Bay Monitoring System (MBOS)		$12,531
Fundraising Expense		$47,443
Administration, Legal & Other		$13,299
Operating Capital		$42,561
*As of December 1, 2018		

Summary of Financial Condition

The Moriches Bay project continues to fund all programs at their budgeted level and pays all bills within 30 days.

Financial Statements

The Moriches Bay Project partners with local businesses (Proud Pour, Oyster Wine, above) to support our various efforts.

Congressman Lee Zeldin, Westhampton Beach Mayor Maria Moore, and Trustee Brian Tymann assisted in the annual Oyster Shucking Contest at the Kiwanis of Greater Westhampton Oyster Festival.

Looking ahead to 2019

In 2019 The Moriches Bay project will continue to accelerate our effort as we have done in the past 5 years. This will mean **600,000 more** oysters in Moriches Bay (for a total of 1.8 million oysters) naturally filtering water and absorbing nitrogen. Specifically, we will do the following.

Oyster Gardens and FL.UP.SY. (FLoating UPweller SYstems)

- Establish an oyster sanctuary in Quantuck Bay
- Convert one (1) wooden oyster FLUPSY to a sturdier aluminum holding up to 100,000 oysters.
- Add an additional 600,000 oysters to our Oyster Sanctuaries

Moriches Bay Monitoring System (M.B.O.S.)

Maintain the Five (5) water quality monitoring stations to track water quality in Moriches, Quantuck, and Moniebogue Bays and collaborate with researchers local and nationwide. Continue to produce monthly issues of the Moriches Bay Index to disseminate data on the Bay's improving water quality to the public.

Educational Outreach

Continue to produce at least five (5) Bay Steward Classes with Cornell Cooperative Extension and others in 2019. Produce at least ten (10) Elementary and Middle School presentations and over 15 community outreach events.

Administration

Maintain administrative costs below 20% of revenue.

The Moriches Bay Project provides opportunities for our volunteers to make **tangible** and **visible** improvements to the health of Moriches Bay and engages decision makers at all levels.

The result of a season of hard work 500,000 oysters into Moriches Bay.

The Moriches Bay Project's **Board of Directors** develops and executes our annual program.

James Hulme, Esq., Director, Dwight Surgan, Senior Scientist,
Laura Fabrizio, Director & Co-Founder, and Aram Terchunian, Director & Co-Founder

Donation Contact Information

The Moriches Bay Project

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Donate here: https://tinyurl.com/ybf754q3 or scan here