



The Impact of Climate Change on Fisheries in New York



Last week I was interviewed for an extensive story on **PBS's New York NOW** broadcast about New York State's fish hatchery system and the impact of climate change on our state's waterbodies. My clip was a small part of the story, which provides interesting details about the challenge of rising waterbody temperatures on aquatic species.

The state has thousands of miles of freshwater and saltwater shorelines and has allocated additional funding for environmental management of marine habitats that are vital to the state for fresh water and food, supporting jobs, the economy, and recreational activities to protect them from rising temperatures and water acidification.

I was interviewed for the story as a member of the Assembly Environmental Conservation Committee and as a sponsor of one of the bills to authorize the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) management of species being impacted by climate change. New York's fish hatchery system was established in 1864 making it the oldest in the nation. The state's fish hatcheries feed 1200 waterbodies across the state and help maintain an ecological balance for these habitats.

If you would like to learn more about the state program, please visit <https://dec.ny.gov/things-to-do/freshwater-fishing/hatcheries>

You can view the video story [HERE](#).



Assemblyman **Steve Otis**



Legislative Update

Fall 2026

Dear Friends,

I am writing to share some of the highlights of my advocacy during the 2026 Legislative Session.

My priority is always to view state issues from a community perspective and to make sure the concerns of our local governments and school districts receive the attention they deserve in a legislative process that does not always apply such focus.

Another priority has been the leadership role I have been able to play as Chair of the Assembly Science and Technology Committee. Again, this year, several cutting-edge technology issues were part of the work of the committee. I closely follow developments on fast-moving issues, such as artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, data privacy, and digital equity. Several important bills came through the committee this year.

The session included budget wins in providing additional state aid to school districts and local governments, for childcare, lowering utility costs, clean water infrastructure, and affordable housing. One goal of many of these efforts is to reduce costs to New Yorkers by using state dollars instead of paying for services through the local property tax.

EMS reform continues to be a major priority. The statewide county by county planning process, initiated in legislation I sponsored in 2025 (A8086A), is now underway.

Changes in Technology Bring New Urgency to the Digital Equity Issue

This year I have continued to play a leadership role in support of digital equity and inclusion programs. These are the programs that provide broadband access, a device, and hands-on training to individuals in need of these tools. With the rapid growth of AI and new cybersecurity threats, the gap faced by individuals already left behind on digital access, device, and literacy skills has grown even larger. The elements needed to properly train individuals have grown.

With elimination of federal funding, it is more important than ever that states identify funding streams to support these programs. This year I successfully advocated that \$20 million in a Verizon settlement with the NYS Public Service Commission earmarked for these exact programs be assigned to the NYS ConnectALL office, the unit that worked with groups throughout the state to write NYS's Digital Equity Plan.

The ConnectALL office has previously administered grant programs for this type of work when funds have become available. The new \$20 million will provide a needed boost. To reach all the various types of individuals in need of these services, far more money is needed. The programs provide skills for education, work, employment search, health care access, economic development, financial literacy, and retraining programs provided by labor unions. On this funding issue, we had strong support from Governor Hochul's office. I have been advocating for funding for these programs for several years.

I work closely with the New York State Digital Equity Network (NYSDEN), the statewide organization of digital inclusion program providers. I will be participating in the Annual NYSDEN conference later in September. In Westchester I have been able to secure funding for digital inclusion programs in communities I represent including The STEM Alliance which often partners with local not-for-profits to provide computers, access and training to the individuals they serve.

For many years I have helped organize and been a panelist at the annual SOMOS conference in Albany. Our recurring topic has been on the unique needs of the Latino community outside of New York City. As part of the SOMOS 2026 Conference in Albany, I sponsored a new topic that overlaps with my Science and Technology and digital inclusion work. Our panel was titled: **AI, Cybersecurity, Broadband & Digital Equity; Protecting & Empowering Latino Communities in New York & the Caribbean.** Much of the discussion focused on the urgency of providing digital access and training to those individuals excluded from access and literacy, given fast moving developments in AI, cybersecurity threats, and the necessity of having digital access in the world we live in today. The speed of technological change means that the digital divide is growing.

You will soon receive my Fall Legislative Update in your mail. You can read the newsletter [HERE](#). Please contact my office if you would like a copy in Spanish at 914-939-7028.

Port Chester Day at Lyon Park



August's Annual Port Chester Day at Lyon Park provides a great opportunity for local vendors, not-for-profits, and enticing food trucks. It was held on a beautiful day last Saturday. This local 9-hour tradition always is a big draw for families eager to enjoy Lyons Park, entertainment, and catching up with the activities of Port Chester's many not-for profits. I am pictured here with friends at the Lions Club tent.

Taste of Union Avenue Festival in New Rochelle



New Rochelle's Taste of Union Avenue Festival is an annual celebration of culture, cuisine, and music of the Union Avenue neighborhood of the city. Every year the

number of booths grows representing culture, local food vendors, not-for-profits, and government services. The City of New Rochelle provided many booths highlighting a variety of city services offered to the community. I joined New Rochelle City Councilwoman Martha Lopez at the event that is based in City Council District 1, which Martha represents.

Larchmont-Mamaroneck Local Summit

Join us on September 8 for our first program of the 2026-27 season!



**Join us to hear an update from Albany from
NYS Senator Shelley Mayer and NYS Assemblyman Steve Otis**

**Our programs are held at the Nautilus Diner
\$12 (cash only), Bagel and Coffee Breakfast
Nautilus Diner 1240 W Boston Post Rd, Mamaroneck, NY**

RSVP till be available later this summer.

An RSVP is requested for planning purposes. Thank you.

Community Events



**TOWN OF
MAMARONECK**

FALL FESTIVAL

**OCTOBER 3RD
12:00 - 4:00PM**

**A Celebration of the Season
at Memorial Park!**

**FOOD TRUCKS | MUSIC
VENDORS
PUMPKIN PATCH
TOUCH A TRUCK
& FAMILY FUN!**

www.townofmamaroneckny.gov/recreation





The City of New Rochelle cordially invites you to

Hispanic Heritage Month Recognition

Celebrating the past, present and future
of Hispanic Americans in New Rochelle and beyond



Thursday, September 17, 2026
5:30-7:30PM



City Hall Council Chambers

515 North Ave, New Rochelle, NY, 10801

Light refreshments will be served

RSVP: newrochelleny.gov/hispanicheritage





BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF NEW ROCHELLE



MASCARO WOMENS
Auxiliary

BACK TO SCHOOL BASH!



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12TH

🕒 11:00AM - 2:00PM

📍 COLUMBUS FIELD



SOCCER
CLINIC



FIELD DAY
ACTIVITIES



ZUMBA



MUSIC



INFORMATION
TABLES



INFLATABLES



DUNK
TANK



FOOD TRUCK
IN THE CLUB PARKING LOT
FOR A FEE

Bring the whole family and
LET'S CELEBRATE
the new school year!





Open Air Gallery

Event Dates: Sept. 17–Oct. 29, 2026

Opening Reception: Sept. 17 - 5:30-7PM

Deadline for Apps: May 13, 2026

Show More

🕒 **WHEN**

September 17 - October 29

[Add to Calendar](#)

📍 **WHERE**

[The Rye Arts Center](#)

51 Milton Rd. Rye, NY 10580

[Get Directions](#)



Jay Medal Soirée
★ America at 250 ★
1776 2026

Saturday, September 19th
at the Jay Estate



Annette Gordon-Reed Harold Holzer Hon. Rowan D. Wilson Elihu Rose



