

Clean Water/Jobs Coalition Visits D.C.

By Al Caccese

THE CLEAN WATER/Jobs Coalition, in which Audubon New York is the lead conservation organization, traveled to Washington, DC in February to fight for full funding of the Long Island Sound Restoration Act.

The Coalition is a diverse group of building contractors, labor unions and conservation groups who have tirelessly worked for more than a decade to secure legislation and federal funding for the cleanup of the Long Island Sound. Based on the

Coalition's advocacy and strong support of New York Governor George E. Pataki and Connecticut Governor John C. Roland, the Long Island Sound Restoration Act was passed in the year 2000 and authorized \$40 million per year for a period of five years.

Unfortunately, the program has only been funded at the level of \$5 to \$6 million annually for the first three years. The Coalition spent two full days meeting with the staffs of the four U.S. Senators from New York and Con-

necticut and more than 25 members of Congress, or their representatives, urging the delegations to work together to have the Act fully funded at the \$40 million level in the Fiscal Year 2004 appropriations process.

Both New York and Connecticut have committed hundreds of millions of dollars to restore sewage treatment facilities, in an attempt to reduce nitrogen levels in the Sound by 58%. These actions will not only clean up this nationally important estuary,

but will create construction jobs which will serve to jump-start a sluggish economy.

Some 10% of the U.S. population lives within 50 miles of the Sound and it is a major economic and recreational resource for the Northeast. It is time for us to truly invest in this great national resource.

JAMESTOWN AUDUBON SOCIETY INVITES YOU TO

2003 NATURE ART FESTIVAL

August 9th and 10th

Co-sponsored by Jamestown Audubon Society and the Roger Tory Peterson Institute

75 nationally recognized nature artists, including Laura Mark-Finberg, Francis Sweet, Luke Buck, Linda Rossin and Martiena Richter, each actively creating a work of art during the festival.

Jamestown is in beautiful Chautauqua County, birthplace of Roger Tory Peterson and home of the Chautauqua Institution and the Lucy-Desi Museum, honoring comedian Lucille Ball.

For more information,
1-800-758-6841 or
www.natureartfest.org



Pesticide Education Travels to Your Backyard

By Sean Mahar

IN THE PAST few years, ongoing research by New York State Wildlife Pathologist Ward Stone has shown that thousands of birds a year are dying from exposures to aesthetic lawn pesticides. From these findings, Audubon New York launched a Pesticide Education Campaign geared at informing homeowners. Once again this year this campaign is aimed at bringing homeowners peer reviewed scientific information on the negative environmental and human health effects associated with the use of these toxic lawn care chemicals.

Homeowners and residents across New York have been bombarded with misleading advertisements about the necessity of these pesticides. This year, we will be contacting hundreds of thousands of New Yorkers with science-based flyers and brochures. This information will help people understand that toxic chemicals, birds and children don't mix well. If people are given the truth about the concerns of pesticide use, most will stop using them.

We are strongly encouraging chapter members and other citizens to help with this outreach. If you would like any of our outreach materials for distribution to neighbors, or at events, please contact Sean Mahar at Audubon New York for further information. Also contact Sean if you are interested in having someone speak at your chapter meetings or other events about the negative effects of pesticides.

Remember to spread the word about pesticides instead of spreading pesticides.

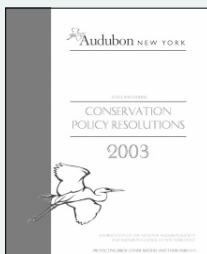
Parkway De-Mapping Urged on Staten Island

By Al Caccese

AUDUBON NEW YORK joined forces with the New York City Audubon Society and a score of civic and environmental organizations in support of legislation (A2211/S1432) introduced by Assemblyman Robert Stranieri and Michael Cusick, and Senator John J. Marchi, which would protect approximately 500 acres of open space in the Green Belt on Staten Island.

Under the provisions of the bill, the mapped, but un-built, Richmond and Willowbrook Parkways would be de-mapped and transferred to New York City Parks and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation for use as parkland. Thanks goes out to New York City Audubon Society for their leadership on this issue.

Audubon NEW YORK 2003 CONSERVATION POLICY RESOLUTIONS



Each year, Audubon New York, the Audubon Council of New York State, and Audubon Chapters establish up-to-date public policy resolutions for conservation funding, bird and wildlife conservation, and habitat conservation. *These public policy resolutions form the basis for Audubon New York's conservation programs and set measurable benchmarks for conservation action.*

To receive your copy of Audubon New York's 2003 Conservation Policy Resolution Book, please contact:
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<http://ny.audubon.org/resolutions/index%202003.htm>