

Welcome! Founded in 1971, we are a non-profit 501(c)3 membership organization located in NYC’s only mainland borough — The Bronx. We are a diverse collection of individuals all seeking to leave our great grandchildren better air, land, and water quality than we have at present. We are teachers, community activists, health professionals — environmentalists. Let us introduce ourselves. We promote clean air and water. We are against habitat destruction. We believe in preserving nature. We think globally and act locally. We hold meetings, write comments, and have fun, too!

OVERNIGHT TRUCK PARKING SURVEY

City Hall has convened a task force to address overnight truck parking in NYC and to assess potential solutions. The city already has existing regulations prohibiting commercial vehicles from parking on residential streets overnight, but that has not prevented the problem from persisting as you are aware. With community input, they will be able to accurately assess the current situation and potential solutions for the issues.



*Spanish version of the survey is linked directly through the main survey. For other languages, or any other questions, please contact OTPTaskForce@cityhall.nyc.gov. **The survey will close on February 24th.** If there are other parties or individuals who have expressed concerns about overnight truck parking, please send them this survey. Survey Link: <https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/1267646decb5419284ab98c766ad6d9a>

MEETINGS

SPEAK UP – FEBRUARY 25

The 29th Bronx Parks Speak Up will be commemorating the 30 years of the first comprehensive Bronx County Greenway Plan with the theme of “Connecting the Bronx One Greenway at a Time.” The event is open to the public, but you must register. It will be held IN PERSON at Lehman College Music Building in the Faculty Dining Room for the first time since the pandemic in 2020. 11 am to 5 pm. More

<https://bceq.org/2023/02/18/2-25-23-speakup-connecting-the-bronx-one-greenway-at-a-time/>

Lehman College Faculty Dining Room, Music Building (Bx10 or Bx26 bus, D or 4 train to Bedford Park Blvd.)

CONNECTING THE BRONX ONE GREENWAY AT A TIME

PANEL DISCUSSION:
New Pathways for Greenways

WORKSHOPS:

- Advocating for Bronx Parks and Green Spaces
- #CapTheCrosBoro
- (Naturalist) workshop: City Nature Challenge and Community Science

PRESENTATIONS:

- Capital Reform: Current Progress and What’s to Come
- Greenways, they’ve been a long time coming!
- (Naturalist): Connect with Nature

For more information, visit www.bronxspeakup.org

Follow us on    [bxspeakup](https://twitter.com/bxspeakup)



Special thanks to Carl Ekman, Lehman College, SCGD and PaperKings for Parks. Photo credits: Barbara Jennings by Areelia James, Ed Garcia Conde, Bronx River Alliance, Daniel Rendell.

Speak Out - BCEQ has a table at Speak UP where you can **Speak OUT** on any topic you like. It will be recorded and prepared as a combination of these shouts on a BCEQ YouTube to send to the City’s Leaders. Stop by and take one minute to sign up and speak for 30 seconds to say something that concerns you. We will be taping speak outs up to 12 noon.

Check out BCEQ on YouTube <https://bceq.org/2022/11/11/bceq-is-on-youtube/>

Questions? Contact communication@bceq.org

NYSERDA NY Climate Act Scoping Plan, Thursday, March 2 from 6 to 8 pm ZOOM

This is a presentation on the recently finalized [Scoping Plan](#) issued by New York’s Climate Action Council that was co-chaired by NYSERDA along with New York's Department of Environmental Conservation. The Scoping Plan covers numerous policies and strategies to tackle climate change and pollution in a justice oriented, holistic fashion that improves the quality of life of all New Yorkers by surmounting long standing barriers to decision-making processes and access to knowledge and opportunities to prosper from the green economy.

The purpose of the presentation is to increase general awareness of the Scoping Plan to key BCEQ staff, organizational members, and/or affiliated networks. It may also share various opportunities related to job training, accessing State clean energy and climate protection resources, and giving public input on the design of programs and strategies. The presentation includes Q&A and take between 30-60 minutes of total time on a PowerPoint. Scoping Plan <https://climate.ny.gov/resources/scoping-plan/>. VIRTUAL on ZOOM - kindly register by emailing karen@bceq.org to get the zoom link.

WORLD WATER DAY – MARCH 21

The Bronx and Harlem River Urban Waters Federal Partnership (“UWFP”) will be holding a Meet and Greet for a pre-celebration of World Water Day on Tuesday, March 21, from 8:00 am to 12pm at the Bronx Children's Museum. The event



will occur at the historic Bronx Powerhouse Building (725 Exterior St., Bronx NY 10451) located in Mill Pond Park. Weather permitting, the event will occur in front of the building, or as directed. A press conference will occur at 9:30 am. At 10 am the Museum will host educational activities with local school children. At 2 pm, the Water and Heritage Awareness Shield will be presented in a ceremony at the Angel of the Waters Fountain in Central Park. **Registration is required.** More <https://bceq.org/2023/02/18/3-21-2023-world-water-day-pre-celebration-of-croton-water-supply/>

BCEQ Annual Meeting – Thursday, March 30 – Note date change



The Bronx Council for Environmental Quality (BCEQ) is holding the 22nd Annual Environmental Conference & 53rd Annual Membership Meeting on Thursday, March 30, 2023 from 3 to 7 pm at Manhattan College, Kelly Student Commons, Hall 4C, 3900 Waldo Avenue at 238th St, Bronx, NY 10463. The program is free, in person, & open to the public. Space is limited so please rsvp@bceq.org. Mass Transit is available; Parking in the Manhattan College Parkway off 242nd Street.

More <https://bceq.org/2023/02/18/3-30-23-annual-meeting-hold-the-date/>

ACTION ITEMS

Climate Change Solutions using Carbon and Energy Efficiency

Many of us are concerned about what the future holds in terms of Climate Change, Green House Gases, and Carbon Sequestration. Conserving and protecting our natural resources, making our uses of electricity more efficient, and growing green spaces are all important steps toward attaining that goal. BCEQ proposes to open the discussion in the Bronx, and set the goal for all of our residents to help us reach the goal of saving 160 Mega Watts – enough to replace the “Peaker plants” in the south Bronx – an area with the highest rate of asthma in the nation. More info <https://bceq.org/2023/02/19/climate-change-solutions-using-carbon-and-energy-efficiency/>

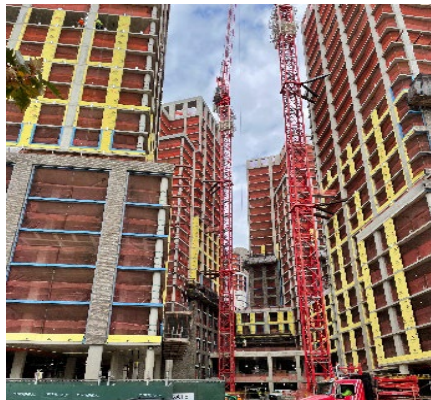


Green Infrastructure for Private Property

NYC Soil & Water Conservation District has partnered with the Bronx Council for Environmental Quality (BCEQ), Green Roof Researchers Alliance (GRRA) and NYC Department of Environmental Protection to reach out to residents and businesses in the Bronx Community Districts 1, 2, 4, 5 and 9 to disseminate information about incentives and regulations around green infrastructure. More <https://bceq.org/2023/02/19/green-infrastructure-for-private-property/>



Concrete, Rent, Environment



Editorial that discusses the impact of concrete on the air we breathe. The interaction with the building affordable housing that does not solve the need for affordable housing which is to manage rents so they are not an undue burden as they are in the Bronx with 11 of the 12 Community Boards at 45-55% rent burdened. We need older housing to be maintained, with rents to be contained or subsidized, so people can live in sustainable neighborhoods with family and longtime friends.

More ... <https://bceq.org/2023/02/19/cement-rent-environment/>

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEWS and MORE

Army Corps of Engineers

ACE Harbor and Tributaries Study (HATS) proposes new constructions along our waterways to protect us from storm surges. Do you like their ideas? Comments due March 7

The Draft Integrated FR/Tier 1 EIS can be found at <https://www.nan.usace.army.mil/NYNJHATS/>

Air Quality Permit Renewal at the Harlem River Yards Peaker Plant – due March 21

BCEQ is partnering with South Bronx Unite and the law firm, Earth Justice on comments and a request for a public hearing on the renewal of the permit for New York Power Authority "peaker" plant in Harlem Yards. Intended to be temporary and run only in "peak periods", this Mott Haven plant burdens the South Bronx with industrial infrastructure and air emissions. We seek organizations to sign on to demands to hold a public hearing, undertake an environmental impact study, and commit to a shutdown commitment!

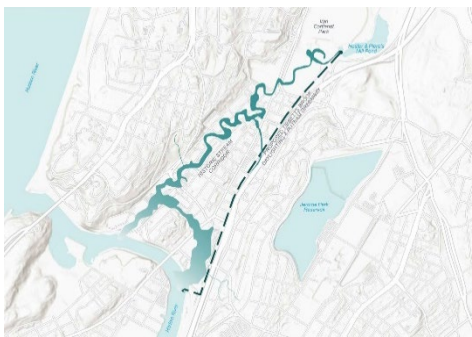
Tier 4 Energy is along the Harlem River

Electricity is coming from upstate down the Hudson River into the Harlem River, on land at the Harlem River Yards, then back in the water toward Astoria. Article VII is the statement on the application of New York Power Authority and Clean Path New York LLC for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need from the New York State Department of Public Service. We think they should not use jet plow in the Harlem, but instead use HDD in the water as they are in the Hudson. Also, this gives them no reason to go on land on the HRY. Comments due anytime.¹

NYS carbon-emission reduction mandates - are bringing renewable energy--and new energy infrastructure to New York City. What does this mean for the Bronx? Where does it go? Who gets the benefit?

Issues to watch for future reference - Where do we put **electric car stations**? Leasing of solar and wind on public lands and waterways. When are we going to be able to walk inside the Jerome Park Reservoir?

The Daylighting of Tibbetts Brook *out of the Sewer* and into the Harlem River



We are very excited that our 30-year dream has become a reality. Finally, the city was able to complete the purchase of a part of the greenway to the Harlem River. There are so many benefits: cleaner water, more recreation, less overflows, and the largest Green Infrastructure in the City!!! Unfortunately, while the water is able to reach the river; the people are not. The area from 230th Street to the River is owned by Metro North, and they will not allow the public to use the area. Instead, they plan to store collected Metro North trash from trains, stations & terminals on the rail lines.

¹ Article VII applies to the siting of major utility transmission facilities (submarine and onshore cable connection), lines 125 kV and overextending a distance of one mile or more. Article VII application is a robust procedure that involves alternatives analysis, public and stakeholder involvement, environmental studies, purpose and need statements, and other information. PSC issues approval. <https://www.nyscrda.ny.gov/-/media/Project/Nyscrda/Files/Programs/Clean-Energy-Standard/Tier4-Step-2-Bid-Submission-Response/Clean-Path-NY.pdf> page 192