



We Need Your Help



Finding alewives in the Carlls River and area streams

You may have noticed the fishway installed by Babylon Village last spring at the Argyle Lake falls. It allows fish like the alewife to spawn in the upper reaches of the Carlls River – for the first time in over 100 years! Our citizen-science research – documenting the spring spawning run of these important fish helped get the federal grant that paid for the fish ladder.

Now, you can help us with monitoring the 2014 run, an important step in the restoration effort. We need people on the river and other area streams and creeks from March to May. The alewife arrival each year is a boon to many species, including striped bass, bluefish and osprey.

Lots more information about the fish and our program at www.seatuck.org.

Training sessions are available

Want to help? Contact Enrico Nardone at 631 581-6908 or staff@seatuck.org

If you can't spare the time for training and monitoring, help our local scout with your observations anyway.

If you see these fish in local waters or find the carcass of one on a river, pond or stream bank – CALL Mike Reilly at 631 889-2832.

TIPS FOR FINDING ALEWIVES

Look at the fish on the front of this flyer. Note a small grayish/black dot behind its gill, in line with the eye. That is a good marker for alewives, which are a type of river herring. Usually they will be in a school – that is, many fish swimming together.

They are typically 10-12 inches long and can be hard to spot in the water, since they camouflage themselves with dark green coloring on top to hide from predators. Wearing polarized sunglasses makes it easier to see them. And when they roll, their silvery sides flash.

Dams on almost all our streams and rivers have prevented these ancient ocean-going fish from getting to their spawning grounds upstream. Your help as a citizen scientist will assist in returning their numbers to the many thousands that were here before.

Thank you!

