

THE Fisherman

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THE FISHERMAN REEF WILL BOOST ANGLING AND DIVING OPPORTUNITIES ON THE LONG ISLAND'S SOUTH SHORE.

A NEW ARTIFICIAL REEF, THE FIRST IN THE NORTHEAST/MID ATLANTIC REGION TO BE CONSTRUCTED OF REEF BALLS, IS SLATED FOR DEPLOYMENT IN THE GREAT SOUTH BAY ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20. FUNDED BY THE FISHERMAN MAGAZINE'S BUILD A REEF FUND, CREATION OF THE FISHERMAN REEF IS BEING ACCOMPLISHED THROUGH THE JOINT EFFORTS OF NEW YORK'S DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION, NEW YORK STATE PARKS, RECREATION AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION, NEW YORK ARMY NATIONAL GUARD-AVIATION SUPPORT DIVISION, ROMAN STONE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AND THE FISHERMAN MAGAZINE.

THE FISHERMAN'S REEF FUND IS SUPPORTED BY DONATIONS FROM READERS, AND THROUGH THE ENTRY FEES GENERATED BY FISHING CONTESTS SUCH AS THE CAPTREE RODEO, RIVERVIEW STRIPPED BASS CONTEST AND BURNETT'S STRIPPED BASS CONTEST.

ONE HUNDRED REEF BALLS, DOME SHAPED STRUCTURES MEASURING THREE FEET HIGH, BY FOUR FEET IN DIAMETER, WILL BE AIRLIFTED BY ARMY NATIONAL GUARD HELICOPTERS IN CLUSTERS OF THREE A STAGING AREA AT ROBERT MOSES STATE PARK TO THE REEF SITE, SEVERAL HUNDRED YARDS SOUTH OF CAPTREE STATE PARK. THE SITE LIES WEST OF THE FIRE ISLAND LIGHTHOUSE, AND EAST OF THE COAST GUARD STATION FIRE ISLAND. REEF BALLS ARE A STATE OF THE ART REEF BUILDING MATERIAL CONSTRUCTED OF ENVIRONMENTALLY SAFE CONCRETE. UNLIKE REGULAR CONCRETE, WHICH HAS A PH OF 12, THE CONCRETE USED IN REEF BALL CONSTRUCTION CONTAINS A BLEND OF W.R. GRACE'S FORCE 10,000. THIS ADDITIVE RESULTS IN A SUPER HIGH STRENGTH AND A PH OF 8, WHICH IS THE SAME AS NATURAL SEAWATER. ROMAN STONE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY OF BAYSHORE IS THE SOLE MANUFACTURER OF REEF BALLS IN THE NEW YORK METROPOLITAN AREA. THE NEW REEF WILL BECOME A HAVEN FOR A WIDE VARIETY OF MARINE SPECIES, INCLUDING SEA BASS, BLACKISH, PORGIES, SUMMER FLOUNDER AND STRIPPED BASS. THE FISHERMAN REEF SHOULD PROVIDE A BIG BOOST TO THE RECREATIONAL FISHING INDUSTRY. ONE OF THE COUNTRY'S LARGEST OPEN AND CHARTER BOAT FLEETS IS BERTHED JUST MINUTES AWAY AT CAPTREE STATE PARK. DIVERS WILL ALSO FIND SOME EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITIES TO EXPLORE THE NEW STRUCTURE WITHIN THE SHELTERED CONFINES OF THE GREAT SOUTH BAY.

A PRESS/VIP BOAT WILL BE AVAILABLE ON THE MORNING OF WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20. THE CAP'N ANDY WILL DEPART FROM CAPTREE BOAT BASIN (WEST SIDE OF DOCK) AT 9 A.M. AND RETURN BY 11 A.M.. REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED. FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ATTENDING THIS EVENT, CONTACT FRED GOLOFARO AT (516) 345-5200.