

THE BRONX RIVER LONG TERM CONTROL PLAN



Wastewater in the Bronx

Whenever you use the sink or flush a toilet, that wastewater goes down our drains and pipes and off to our wastewater treatment plants. Here in the Bronx, wastewater is combined with stormwater from our streets and parking lots and both go through a seven-hour treatment process before being released into the Bronx River. Unfortunately, our current wastewater plants do not have the capacity to handle all this water, so when it rains as little as 1/10", Combined Sewage Overflow (CSO) outfalls release a mix of untreated stormwater and raw sewage directly into the Bronx River to prevent overwhelming wastewater treatment plants. Human health risks from exposure to Bronx River after CSO events include diarrhea, skin rashes, and pink eye.

What is a Long Term Control Plan (LTCP)?

A Long Term Control Plan is required by the Clean Water Act, which establishes the basic structure for regulating discharges of pollutants into the waters of the United States and regulating quality standards for surface water. ~NYC Dept. of Environmental Protection

How Does This Affect Our Community?

Many Bronx communities, including students, regularly use this river, which was designated a National Water Trail by the National Park Service in 2012, for education, recreation, and enjoyment. We need a clean and healthy river to protect our own health and safety.



Nearly 5,000 people a year paddle the Bronx River, which was designated a National Water Trail by the National Park Service

The City's proposed CSO Long Term Control Plans will not make our waterways safe for recreational activities. They will leave hundreds of millions of gallons of sewage overflows in each waterbody annually, on dozens of occasions per year. Many of the approved plans do not reduce overflow volume at all and instead call for diverting raw sewage into the East River.

What Are We Asking For?

The Bronx River Alliance calls on NYC DEP to comply with the Clean Water Act and raise the quality of the Bronx River to meet the highest level - fishable and swimmable waters that are safe for primary contact.

How Can You Help Keep Our Waters Safe?

Attend the DEP LTCP public meeting on November 15th, 2017 from 6-8pm!!

Where: CUNY School of Law, 2 Court Square West, Queens, NY 11101

Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/annual-citywide-ltcp-public-meeting-tickets-39015341938>

Even if you can't make the meeting, you can make your voice heard:

- Email your comments and concerns to ltcp@dep.nyc.gov.
- Spread the word about the impacts of CSOs on our local Bronx waterways and get involved.
- Write to your local councilperson and express your concern for the health of your community.