

# Bronx River Alliance 2011 Annual Report



# Our People

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## HONORARY BOARD MEMBERS

Alexie Torres-Fleming, Director Emerita

Ruth Anderberg & Nancy Wallace

## EX OFFICIO BOARD MEMBERS

Adrian Benepe, Commissioner, NYC Department of Parks & Recreation

Ruben Diaz, Jr., Bronx Borough President

Councilmember Maria del Carmen Arroyo

Councilmember Oliver Koppell

Councilmember Anabel Palma

Councilmember Joel Rivera

## SPECIAL ADVISORS

Sonia Manzano, Gail Nathan, Wendy Neu, & Dart Westphal

## TEAM CO-CHAIRS

Dawn Henning, Ecology Team

Mel Rodriguez, Greenway Team

Julien Terrell, Greenway Team

Betsy Ukeritis, Education Team

Chrissy Word, Education Team

**Staff:** Leonardo Arroyo, Ivan Braun, Robert Clare, Jason Coward, Linda R. Cox, Jasmine Diaz, Elaine Feliciano, Valerie Francis, Josue Garcia, Maggie Scott Greenfield, Damian Griffin, Michael Jaffe, Robin Kriesberg, Penny Matta, Michael Mendez, Andre Rivera, Milka Rodriguez, Norma L. Rosa, Maurice Samuels, Joseph Sanchez, Maria Sawyer, Devona Sharpe, Saudy Tejada, Mildred Torres

**Interns:** Alejandro Baladron, Michele Calabrese, Richard Day, Jose Fabre, Emily Kain, Anya LaRouche

**Dedicated Volunteers:** Charles Berenguer, Stephen DeVillo, Ruby Moore, Morgan Powell, Dan Hamburg, Mary Hutson, Nilka Martell, Juan Acosta, Charles Vasquez, Michael Gupta, Nessie Payton, Mel Rodriguez, Gerry Segal, Martha Schwartz, Hank Stroobants, Betsy Ukeritis, Jennifer Ukeritis, Robert Ward

**Pro Brono Counsel:** Kevin Fullington of Herrick Feinstein LLP, John Denne, Ethan Strell of Carter Ledyard and Milburn LLP, and the law firm of Jones Day



# 2011 Financial Summary

## Revenue

Contributions	71,359
Government grants	49,688
In-Kind contributions	528,166
Special Events income	64,349
Interest/Miscellaneous Income	4,913
Net assets released from restriction	779,260
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>1,497,735</b>

## Expenses

Program services	
Ecological Restoration	654,490
Education	141,855
Greenway	132,581
Outreach	150,250
<i>Subtotal, Programs</i>	<i>1,079,176</i>
Administrative	141,684
Fundraising	166,001
<i>Subtotal, Support Services</i>	<i>307,685</i>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>1,386,861</b>
<b>Operating Surplus</b>	<b>110,874</b>

## Current Assets

Cash and cash equivalents	103,975
Investments	307,133
Pledges receivable	257,829
Government grants	500,271
Prepaid expenses	6,676
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>1,175,884</b>

## Liabilities

Accounts payable & accrued expenses	48,875
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## Net Assets

Unrestricted	578,961
Temporarily restricted	548,048
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>1,127,009</b>

<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Net Assets</b>	<b>1,175,884</b>
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**Capital Funds:** In 2011, the Bronx River Alliance raised \$1,190,000 in capital funds for Bronx River Greenway projects, including the Starlight Park comfort station, River House, security measures for the greenway link from 180<sup>th</sup> St to Bronx Park East, and pathway improvements in Shoelace Park. We extend our appreciation to the following funders and supporters: Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr., Council Member Maria del Carmen Arroyo, Council Member Joel Rivera, Council Member Larry Seabrook, Council Member James Vacca, and the entire City Council Bronx Delegation.

# Five Highlights from 2011

## #1 More Steps Towards a Continuous Bronx River Greenway:

The Soundview greenway bikepath was completed in 2011, offering the public a continuous riverside route along the edge of the park. The Greenway's first two orientation signs (funded by Verizon) were also installed at the entrance to the new bikepath and at the improved 222<sup>nd</sup> Street entrance to Shoelace Park. Several more greenway projects made their way towards construction start or completion, most notably the expanded Starlight Park, scheduled to open in 2012.



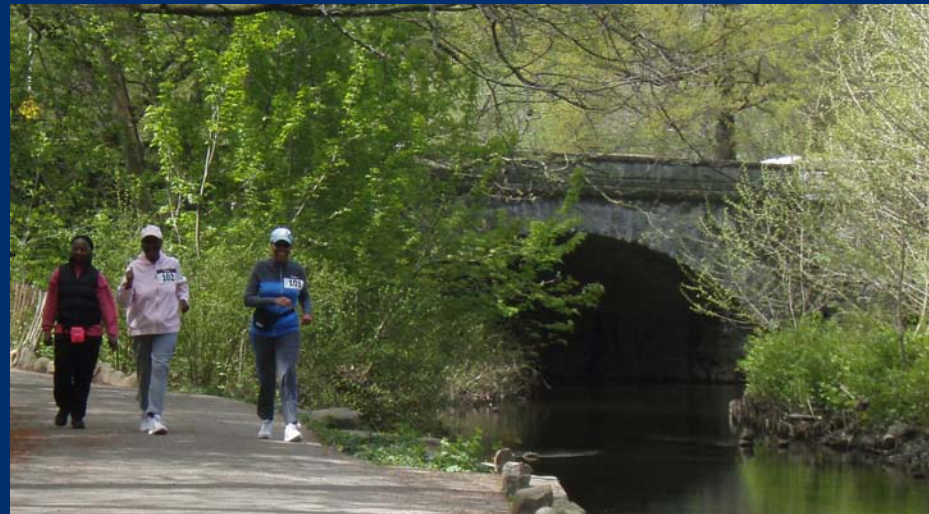
# Five Highlights from 2011

## #2 Growing Activities on the River and Greenway:

*Record number of Bronx River paddlers.* A record 2,500 people paddled the Bronx River with the Bronx River Alliance in 2011, from school children to tourists. The tourists on trips organized by the Bronx Tourism Council rated the canoe trips the best part of their Bronx experience.

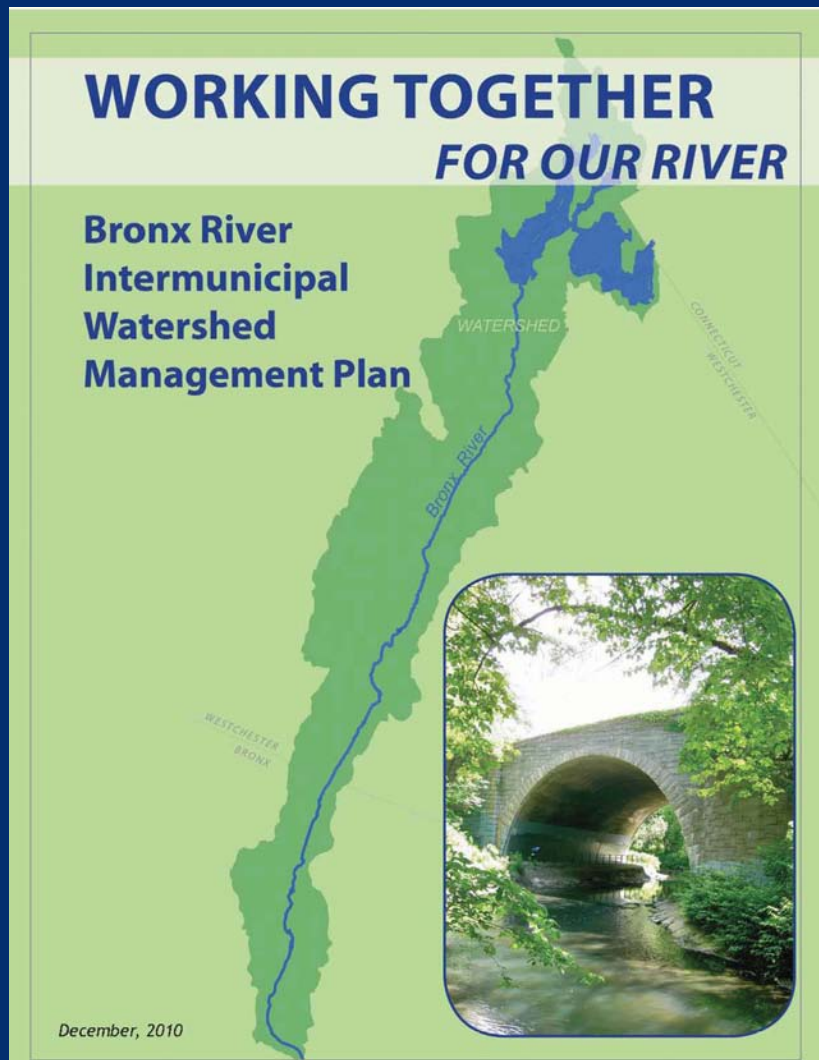
*Bikes on the Greenway.* To encourage bicyclists to give the Bronx River Greenway a try, we filled a container at the Concrete Plant Park with bikes and lent them out throughout the summer and fall. This new bike share program gave more than 500 children and adults the opportunity to discover the joys of biking the Bronx!

*First Shoelace 10K Run.* The Friends of Shoelace Park took on an ambitious 10K Run/Walk as its first major project, to raise funds for improved gardening in the park and to showcase the extensive, uninterrupted paths of Shoelace Park and the Bronx River Forest.



# Five Highlights from 2011

## #3: Intermunicipal Watershed Plan Launched



“The Bronx River Watershed Intermunicipal Management Plan: Working Together for Our River” was launched early in 2011. The Plan is a collaborative effort between the Alliance, NYC Parks Natural Resources Group, and the Westchester County Department of Planning to plan for and implement improvements to the full 23 miles of the Bronx River and its watershed. The Plan laid the groundwork for many of the green infrastructure improvements that are now underway in the watershed.

We released the Plan at a launch event on March 3 at the NY Botanical Garden’s Stone Mill with a program that included NYC Parks Commissioner Benepe, the DEP’s Carter Strickland, and the chair of Westchester County’s legislation committee.

To read the plan, visit [www.bronxriver.org/plans](http://www.bronxriver.org/plans).

# Five Highlights from 2011

## #4 Federal Urban Waters Partnership

The federal government designated the Bronx and Harlem River watersheds as one of seven pilot project areas for a new Federal Urban Waters Partnership initiative. This initiative has focused new attention on these rivers, and has the prospect of bringing federal help to solve the impasse over the 172<sup>nd</sup> St Bronx River Greenway pedestrian bridge over the Amtrak line.



# Five Highlights from 2011

## #5: Ten Years of Service to the Bronx River

Finally, in 2011 the Bronx River Alliance commemorated our 10-year anniversary, with a memorable party honoring four key founders: Majora Carter, Jenny Hoffner, Alexie Torres-Fleming, and Dart Westphal. With all that we all we have accomplished in one short decade, we had a lot to celebrate!



# Partners

## NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

222nd Street Block Association  
American Museum of Natural History  
Beczak Environmental Education Center  
Bike New York  
Bike the Bronx  
Bissel Gardens  
Bronx Children's Museum  
Bronx Council for Environmental Quality  
Bronx County Historical Society  
Bronx River Parkway Reservation Conservancy  
Bronx River Art Center  
BronxWorks  
buildOn  
Christodora Inc.  
City Parks Foundation  
Community Greens  
Downtown Boathouse  
Drew Gardens  
East Bronx Historical Forum  
East Coast Greenway Alliance  
Environmental Education Advisory Council  
Five Borough Bicycle Club  
Friends of Brook Park  
Friends of Shoelace Park  
Friends of Soundview Park  
Friends of Van Cortlandt Park  
Friends of Woodlawn Cemetery  
Gaia Institute  
G.I.V.E.  
GLOBE/ Queens College  
GrowNYC  
Harding Park Homeowners Association & Environmental Center  
Harlem River Working Group  
Hunts Point Alliance for Children  
Hutchinson River Restoration Project

Mary Mitchell Family and Youth Center  
Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance  
Montefiore Medical Center  
Mosholu Preservation Corporation  
Natural Resources Defense Council  
Neighborhood Initiatives Development Corporation  
Nos Quedamos/We Stay  
New York Botanical Garden  
New York Horticultural Society  
New York City Housing Authority Gardening Program  
NYCH2O  
New York Restoration Project  
NY/NJ Baykeeper  
The Osborne Association  
Partnerships for Parks  
Phipps Community Development Corporation  
Pratt Center for Community Development  
The Point CDC  
RCNYC  
Regional Plan Association  
Recycle a Bicycle  
Rocking the Boat  
Southern Bronx River Watershed Alliance  
Storm Water Infrastructure Matters (S.W.I.M.)  
Sustainable South Bronx  
Transportation Alternatives  
Tri-State Transportation Campaign  
VeloCity  
Wakefield, Williamsbridge & Woodlawn History Project  
Wakefield Taxpayer & Civic League  
Westchester Biking and Walking Alliance  
Wildlife Conservation Society  
Youth Ministries for Peace & Justice

## FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration  
National Park Service, Rivers and Trails  
Office of Congressman José E. Serrano  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

## STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Bronx Borough President's Office  
Community Boards: 2, 6, 7, 9, 11, 12  
Mayor's Office of Long-term Planning and Sustainability  
New York City Department of Education  
New York City Department of Environmental Protection  
New York City Department of Parks & Recreation  
New York City Department of Transportation  
New York City Soil & Water Conservation District  
New York State Office of the Attorney General  
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation  
New York State Department of State  
New York State Department of Transportation  
New York State Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation  
Westchester County Department of Parks, Recreation, and Conservation  
Westchester County Planning Department  
Westchester County Soil & Water Conservation District  
Yonkers Green Policy Task Force

## SCHOOLS

Alternative Learning Center at P.S. 6  
Academy of Environmental Science

Archimedes Academy  
Banana Kelly High School  
Bronx Academy for Computers and Technology  
Bronx Community Charter School  
Bronx Guild High School  
Bronx International High School  
Bronx Lighthouse Charter School  
Bronx Satellite High School  
Collegiate Institute for Math and Science High School  
DeWitt Clinton High School  
Emelior Academy  
Explorations Academy  
Fannie Lou Hamer Freedom High School  
Fieldston School for Ethical Culture  
Fordham University  
High School for Media and Communication  
Immaculate Conception School  
Jane Addams High School for Academic Careers  
Lehman College/ CUNY  
Manhattan College  
Metropolitan Lighthouse Charter School  
New York Institute for Special Education  
New York University Wallerstein Collaborative  
New York Institute  
P.S. 214  
Queens College, CUNY  
St. Simon Stock Elementary School  
SUNY Maritime College  
Urban Assembly School for Wildlife Conservation  
Validus Prep  
Van Nest Academy  
Washington Heights Expeditionary Learning School

# 2011 Financial Supporters

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Trust  
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The J.M. Kaplan Fund  
National Fish and Wildlife  
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Watershed Initiative  
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Fund

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Coca-Cola Foundation  
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Sims Metal Management

## PUBLIC FUNDING

Community Development  
Block Grant  
Congressman José E. Serrano's  
WCS-NOAA Lower Bronx River  
Partnership  
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New York City Department of  
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New York State Department of  
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Justice Community Impact  
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of State, Environmental  
Protection Fund  
New York State Office of Parks,  
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Trails Program  
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David Simone

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Elias  
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Vista Food Exchange Inc

