



WESTCHESTER
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



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Source to Sound Watershed Tour

April 23, 2016, 9:00 a.m.

Starts at Mianus River Gorge, Bedford, NY

Bedford, NY: The Mianus River is one of a number of the coastal rivers that empties into Long Island Sound (LIS) at Cos Cob Harbor in southwest Connecticut. Its headwaters in North Castle and Bedford, NY, drain to the Bargh Reservoir, a drinking water source for the communities of Greenwich, Stamford, Port Chester, Rye and Rye Brook.

The popular Source to Sound Watershed tour takes a closer look at where our household water comes from and what it takes to make sure it's clean. Starting at the Gorge, participants will then head to the Bargh Reservoir that holds back 2.2 billion gallons of drinking water. While last year we visited the upper dam, this trip will focus on the how water is diverted by pumps and aqueducts to other reservoirs.

Next, we will cross over the Rockland Reservoir that receives water from the Bargh on our way to the Putnam Filter Plant (last year we visited the Mianus Plant). This modern plant is larger and handles more water than Mianus.

We'll finish up at the old pump station on Route 1 in Greenwich. The dam there has a fish ladder that allows thousands of alewife, herring and brown trout to get over the dam and upstream so they can breed in the lower river. The tour is timed to arrive at high tide so we can attempt to net some migrants as they go upstream. Bring your own lunch or pick up something at the Italian deli in Greenwich at our final stop.

Please register by emailing alison@mianus.org or call (914) 234-3455.

Mianus River Gorge's Source to Sound Watershed Tour is part of its Source to Sound initiative, funded through a generous grant from the Westchester Community Foundation. The purpose of the initiative is to create a detailed aquifer baseline report on the health of the aquifer, map wetland resources, and evaluate the functional health of each wetland complex identified. MRG scientists and consultants will map wetland resources using GIS technology and, through intensive field work,

identify the most critical wetlands to determine whether they are functioning effectively. The team will identify threats to the health of the identified wetlands and possible strategies to reduce those threats.

Mianus River Gorge, located in Bedford, NY, works to protect and promote appreciation of the natural heritage of the Mianus River watershed through land acquisition, conservation science, research, and education throughout the region. www.mianus.org

Westchester Community Foundation's (WCF) mission is to develop and manage philanthropic resources, and to distribute them in a way that is responsive to donor interests and community needs. The Foundation actively promotes charitable giving on behalf of the area's nonprofit organizations. WCF is a division of The New York Community Trust, one of the largest community foundations in the country, with assets of approximately \$2.6 billion. For more information, visit www.wcf-ny.org.

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