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Our Methods

Riverkeeper has doubled the size of its legal team in the past 3 years.

Riverkeeper combines a unique set of strengths that make such alliances attractive to many groups: a professional reputation, a grassroots base of public support, a powerhouse of attorneys, and strong interlinking partnerships with key organizations expert in law, engineering, biology, hydrology, economics and energy policy.

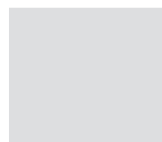
Success Story

LEGAL CASE:
Concrete Polluters Case

COURT DECISION:
Sed ut perspiciatis unde omnis iste natus error sit voluptatem accusantium doloremque laudantium, totam rem aperiam, eaque ipsa quae ab illo inventore veritatis qui ratione voluptatem sequi nesciunt. [Read More >](#)

Bold fact/statistic (possibly combined with imagery) rotates between method statistics.

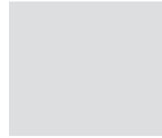
Enforcement & Litigation



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Patrol Boat



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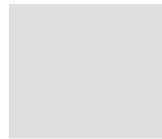
Policy & Legislation



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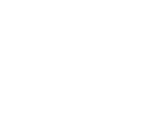
Research



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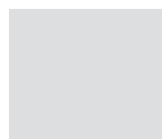
Development Review



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Watchdogs & Activists



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Outreach & Education



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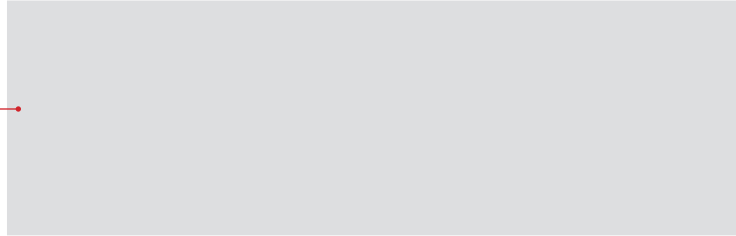
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Enforcement & Litigation



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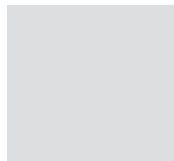
Quick Facts

- Sed ut perspiciatis unde omnis iste natus error sit voluptatem accusantium doloremque laudantium, totam rem aperiam, eaque ipsa quae ab illo inventore veritatis et quasi architecto beatae vitae dicta sunt explicabo.
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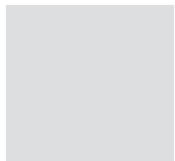
We serve a diverse population, from urban dwellers residing in New York City to local fishermen and working class families who live and work in the rural Hudson Valley. With every passing day, the public's concern only increases for rigorous protection of the drinking water supply, for power plant safety, and for preservation of their local environment. Because of Riverkeeper's widespread reputation for taking on polluters, whether large or small, we are increasingly deluged with requests for our services.

Due to this increase in requests for assistance, Riverkeeper has doubled the size of its legal team during the past three years, and hired a staff investigator to respond to citizen pollution reports. Investigations and cases usually start with a simple phone call or e-mail, or someone hailing our patrol boat out on the river with a tip. On the river, our Boat Captain, John Lipscomb may investigate the issue himself or call into the office for support. Then, our investigator, Basil Seggos, will be dispatched to the suspected site or to meet with the citizen "watchdog". Once we have sufficient information we can determine if a violation of Clean Water, zoning codes or other issues is occurring. In many cases we will be able to guide the person, or group, that informed us of the violation in what their rights are, and often stop the problem right there and then. When the case is more complicated or grievous, we will decide how we can bring the appropriate legal resources to bear.

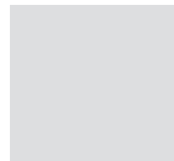
Our Team



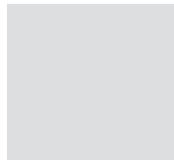
[Tracy Brown >](#)
Director of Communications



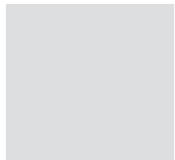
[Tara D'Andrea >](#)
Grants Manager



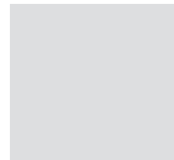
[John Lipscomb >](#)
Boat Captain



[Ramona Cearley >](#)
Assistant to Policy and Enforcement



[Katarina Duplessy >](#)
Vice President & COO



[Stella LiRosi >](#)
Operations Manager

Our Partners

- [Pace Environmental Litigation Clinic](#)
In the fall of 1987, Riverkeeper joined with the Pace University School of Law to establish the Pace Environmental Litigation Clinic. The Clinic's directors and professors, Karl S. Coplan and Robert F. Kennedy Jr., instruct eight to ten second- and third-year law students for a two-semester period on legal issues developed by the Riverkeeper program of environmental investigation and monitoring. [More >](#)

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- [> *More Legal Cases*](#)

SUCCESSSES

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[Story Title](#)
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Pace Environmental Litigation Clinic

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Through a special practice order from the New York State Supreme Court and the federal courts, the clinic students have permission in New York State to act as practicing attorneys. The students represent Riverkeeper in federal and state courts, federal and state administrative proceedings and occasionally in local proceedings. Their efforts have led to precedent-setting decisions by federal courts under both the Clean Water Act and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act.

The school teaches law students to use their skills to address areas of public concern, including the impact of human activities on the environment. Through the clinic program, the students gain in-depth professional training in environmental law while having a measurable impact on the management of one of the premier natural resources on the East Coast: the Hudson River-Long Island Sound estuarine system.

Contact Info

Pace Environmental Litigation Clinic
Pace University School of Law
78 North Broadway
White Plains, NY 10603
p: 914.422.4343
f: 914.422.4437
www.law.pace.edu/envclinic/index.html

Relevant Riverkeeper Work

CAMPAIGNS

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- [> Protect the Watershed](#)

Cite and link to campaigns that use the method highlighted on this page

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