Our goal is to enhance the quality of life in and around the watershed for all of its natural and human residents by promoting the thorough investigation, impartial evaluation and effective removal of threats to the watershed. It is the intention of the Association to accomplish these goals through independent research, public information and education, sustainable projects and cooperation with state, federal and municipal authorities.

Our vision for the Elizabeth River/Arthur Kill Watershed Association is that of a voluntary group of members who represent our diverse constituents who:

- enhance public understanding of water issues,
- undertake necessary data collection on watershed quality,
- promote community activism and sustainable stewardship, and
- prompt legislative review and thus ultimately restores, preserves, and maintains the environmental, recreational, and commercial quality of the watershed area for one and all.

What is a Watershed?
A watershed is an area of land that drains all water that falls within a common point. The map identifies environmental features and resources in the Arthur Kill Watershed.

A watershed is an important way to organize how we think about natural relationships between water, earth, and people. Watershed provide habitat for plants and animals and provide important environmental benefits such as water filtration and storage.

It is our hope that the reader will contemplate these changes, and also dream of how we might restore some of the watershed while continuing to enjoy living urban life in the greater New York City area.

The Arthur Kill Watershed
The Arthur Kill itself is a tidal strait connecting the Kill van Kull and Newark Bay to the north with Raritan Bay and the Raritan River to the south. The narrow estuarine channel separates New Jersey from Staten Island. It is approximately 132 square miles in area.

In 1990, NJCF and the New Jersey Audubon Society conducted an inventory of this river and streams corridor, identifying nearly 200 bird species including about 90 species that breed in the watershed. Most of the Arthur Kill watershed has been densely developed for industrial, commercial, and residential uses. The population density is nearly five times that of New Jersey as a whole, and is 75 times that of the national average.

Source: New Jersey Conservation Foundation & U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

A Green Map is a map that locates and promotes sustainable urban features, both natural and manmade. All over the world, cities & towns are being Green Mapped using the globally shared, award-winning icons seen on this map. For more info visit greenmap.org