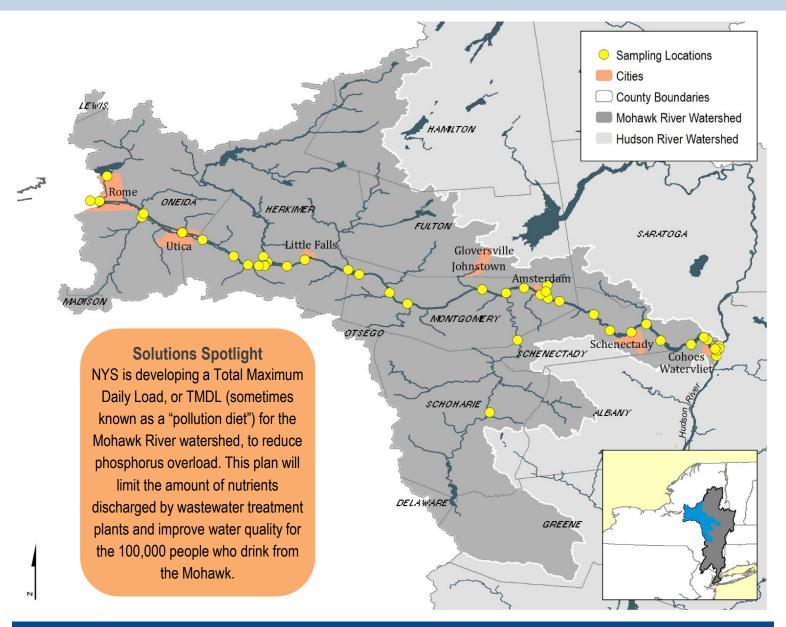
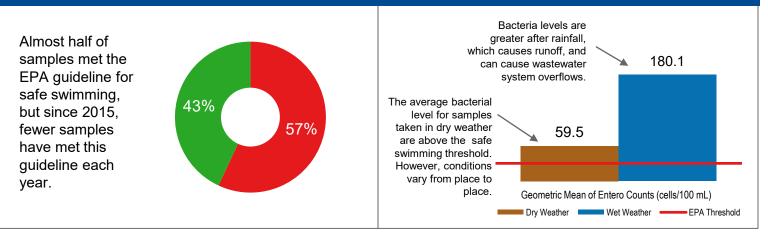
## **MOHAWK RIVER** Water Quality Monitoring Results

### 2015-2021



#### What portion of our samples were safe for swimming?

#### How does weather affect bacteria levels?



More: Explore a watershed map, data from each sampling site, and other info at riverkeeper.org/water-quality/citizen-data/mohawk-river.

### Mohawk River Water Quality

#### **Community Science**

The water quality data presented here are based on an analysis of 1582 samples collected and processed since 2015 by volunteers, Riverkeeper, SUNY Cobleskill, and SUNY Polytechnic. Samples are collected monthly from May to October. If you would like to get involved with sampling contact Sebastian Pillitteri at spillitteri@riverkeeper.org.

#### Why We Measure Bacteria

Fecal indicator bacteria such as Enterococcus ("Entero") usually do not make us sick. But because they live in the guts of warm-blooded animals, when these bacteria are present in water, pathogens that can make us sick may also be present.

Sources of fecal bacteria may include sewer overflows and failures, inadequate sewage treatment, urban or farm runoff, septic system failures, wildlife and contaminated sediment.

While research continues, the EPA has set thresholds to define if water is safe for swimming based on decades of science relying on measurements of these bacteria. Data are shown in Entero cells per 100 mL.

#### About the Mohawk River

The Mohawk River is the largest tributary to the Hudson River and is also the Erie Canalway. More than 100,000 people use it as a source of drinking water.

#### Signs of Progress

How high were bacterial levels?

EPA threshold: Geometric Mean

Florida- Old Erie Lock 28

Amsterdam- Riverlink Park

Amsterdam- Quist Road\*\*\*

Niskayuna- Aqueduct Park

Rotterdam- Lock 8

should not exceed 30

Scientists have long raised concerns about the potential for invasive fish to move from the Great Lakes to the Erie Canal, which includes part of the Mohawk River. The round goby reached the Hudson River in 2021, 7 years after it entered the Mohawk River. A canal barrier is urgently needed prevent future spread of invasive species such as Asian carp.

What portion of samples were acceptable for swimming? EPA threshold: single sample should not exceed 60

Rome- Delta Lake outlet Rome-Barge Canal at city boat ramp Rome- Bellamy Harbor Park Whitestown- Route 32 Bridge Oriskany- Oriskany Creek tributary\*\*\* Barge Canal at Historic Utica Marina Utica- Reall Creek tributary\*\*\* Utica- Park & Ride fishing access Frankfort- Dyke Road Bridge Schuyler- Frankfort Harbor\*\* Schuyler- Moyers Creek tributary\*\*\* llion boat launch\*\* Herkimer- Gems Along Mohawk Herkimer- I-90 bridge\*\* Herkimer- Fishing access at STP\*\*\* Herkimer- West Canada Creek German Flatts- Barge Canal Lock 18 Little Falls- Rotary Park Manheim- East Canada Creek Minden-Barge Canal at Lock 16 Fort Plain- Lock 15 kayak launch Canajoharie- DEC boat launch Rte 10 Glen- Riverside Drive kayak access Middleburgh- Schoharie Creek\*\*\* Charleston- Schoharie Creek

et	<mark>3%</mark>	92%	16.7
р	38%	62%	21.2
k	46%	54%	62.4
е	53%	47%	75.8
*	61%	39%	128.4
а	31%	69%	34.8
*	85%	<mark>15%</mark>	323.8
s	75%	25%	178.4
е	74%	26%	307.1
*	73%	27%	173.5
*	79%	21%	165.4
*	68%	32%	165.0
k	64%	36%	114.8
*	67%	33%	149.5
*	76%	24%	221.5
k	65%	35%	93.7
8	34%	66%	25.7
k	46%	54%	52.9
k	57%	43%	110.1
6	21%	79%	11.8
h	57%	43%	95.1
0	51%	49%	68.9
s	61%	39%	96.4
*	52%	48%	66.4
k	47%	53%	61.1

% of Samples Unacceptable

Sampling began in 2015 and expanded in \*2016, \*\*2017, \*\*\*2018

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.7 Glen- Schoharie Creek at Mohawk .2 .4 Amsterdam- N Chuc at Forest Ave.\*\* .8 Amsterdam- N Chuc at Shuttleworth\*\* .4 .8 .8 .4 Florida- Lock 10 boat launch .1 Glenville- Lock 9 boat launch .5 .4 Schenectady- Mohawk Harbor\*\*\* .0 .8 .5 .5 5.7 .7 .9 ).1 .8 .1 .9 .4 .4

**RIVERKEEPER**.

44%	56%	55.1
64%	36%	137.1
88%	<mark>12%</mark>	649.3
<b>93</b> %	% 7 <mark>%</mark>	416.6
60%	40%	129.0
61%	39%	103.1
39%	61%	65.0
38%	62%	46.1
30%	70%	29.0
54%	46%	75.0
48%	52%	41.5
33%	68%	35.4
43%	57%	71.1
65%	35%	126.2
41%	59%	41.5
78%	22%	283.1
75%	25%	164.4
88%	<mark>12%</mark>	376.7
88%	<mark>12%</mark>	335.6
88%	<mark>12%</mark>	388.0
86%	<mark>14%</mark>	489.5

Niskayuna- Lock 7 boat launch Halfmoon- I-87 crossing\*\*\* Cohoes- Crescent Rd NYPA Kayak\*\* Waterford- Flightlocks Road Cohoes- New Courtland Street\* Waterford- Tail Race fishing area\*\*\* Cohoes- Van Schaick Heartt Ave\*\*\* Cohoes- Van Schaick bike/hike trail\*\*\* Green Island- Silhouette dock\*\*\* Waterford Harbor % of Samples Acceptable

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