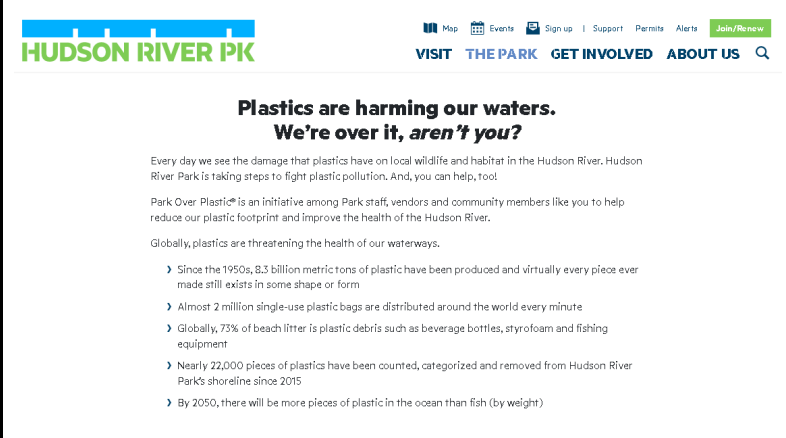
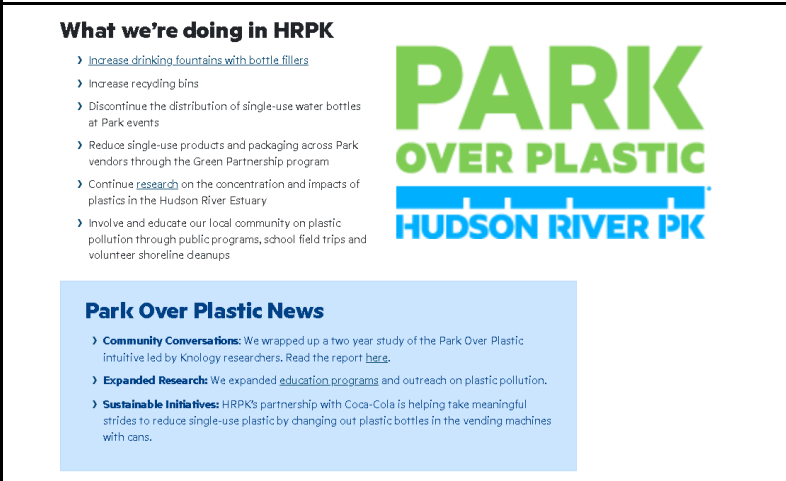










Website		
<p>Dedicated Webpage</p>	<p>Call to Action: Explaining the “why”</p>	 <p>The screenshot shows the Hudson River Park website header with navigation links: VISIT THE PARK, GET INVOLVED, ABOUT US. The main content area features the heading "Plastics are harming our waters. We're over it, aren't you?" followed by a paragraph explaining the damage to local wildlife and habitat. Below this is a list of statistics: 8.3 billion metric tons of plastic produced since the 1950s, 2 million single-use plastic bags distributed every minute, 73% of beach litter is plastic debris, and 22,000 pieces of plastic counted since 2015.</p>
	<p>How you are taking action: what are your commitments?</p>	 <p>The screenshot shows the "What we're doing in HRPK" section with a list of actions: increase drinking fountains with bottle fillers, increase recycling bins, discontinue single-use water bottles at Park events, reduce single-use products and packaging across Park vendors, continue research on plastics in the Hudson River Estuary, and involve/educate the local community. To the right is the "PARK OVER PLASTIC HUDSON RIVER PK" logo. Below is a "Park Over Plastic News" section with three items: Community Conversations, Expanded Research, and Sustainable Initiatives.</p>

Park Over Plastic Toolkit: Messaging

	<p>Community Participation: From small changes at home to larger, group actions.</p>	<h3>Reduce Plastic Consumption</h3> <p>Single-use plastics have become a nearly invisible staple in our day-to-day lives but by making a few simple swaps when you come to the Park, you can help us build a greener open space!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Bring a reusable water bottle. You'll find convenient bottle-fillers all over our four-mile footprint. › Recycle smart. Recycling in your Park is easier than ever. Use the bins, and be sure you know what's recyclable! › Refuse Single Use Plastics. Reusable bags, metal straws, and more – there are ways to swap out your single-use plastics. Check out options in HRPK's Green Resource Guide <h3>Get involved</h3> <p>Whether you're eager to lend a hand, get your organization on board or share the word with your communities, you can take an active role in Park Over Plastic.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Join a Shoreline Cleanup. Estuary Lab scientists regularly host shoreline cleanups, open to members of the public like you! You'll remove plastics from our shores and record macroplastic data, taking part in our ongoing plastics research. Check out the Estuary Lab page. › Become a Green Partner. Green Partners are the backbone of HRPK Park Over Plastic – find out how your local business can get involved. More info forthcoming. Stay tuned! › Become a Sustainability Sponsor. Show your organization's support for a greener NYC! Contact Tom Lindon, VP of Marketing and Events at tlindon@hrpk.ny.gov to learn more. › Spread the Word. To build a greener Park, we need your voice! Help us build our Park Over Plastic community by sharing on social media. Drop your email below, and we'll send you our Park Over Plastic social media package – so you can let your friends and family know you choose Park over Plastic.
<p>Additional Pages</p>	<p>Blogs</p>	<p>◀ See All Park Stories</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Share   </p> <h2>Examining the Impact of Park Over Plastic</h2> <p>February 24, 2021</p> <p>Hudson River Park's 400-acre Estuarine Sanctuary is a natural resource of national importance. Our Sanctuary waters and the ecological abundance they support inform the Park's mission as well as robust science and education programs that reach more than 30,000 people annually. Our work to protect and restore the Sanctuary has shown us the growing harm that plastic pollution causes our waterways. As stewards of the Sanctuary, we are committed to understanding and addressing this issue through research, community engagement and coordinated action.</p>  <p>Over the past decade, the Park's River Project created two research projects to monitor the scale of the plastic pollution problem in our waters. Volunteers at marine debris cleanups have removed and catalogued over 29,000 plastic pieces from Park shorelines since 2015 and contributed findings to NOAA Marine Debris Program's national dataset. Since 2016, our River Project has also conducted the longest running Hudson River microplastic research study in partnership with CUNY Brooklyn College. Marine debris cleanups and microplastic research both</p>

Park Over Plastic Toolkit: Messaging

	<p>Shoreline Cleanups & Research</p>	<p>Marine Debris Study</p> <p>Hudson River Park uses the NOAA marine debris protocol to collect and monitor debris found on the Park's soft shoreline at the Gansevoort Peninsula. In 2018, over 100 volunteers supported this project to collect and categorized 6,200 pieces of marine debris, collectively weighing 1,000 pounds. This work removes trash from our shoreline but also provides information that helps scientists examine the distribution, concentration and variability of debris in the Park's waters.</p>  <p>Get Involved! Schedule a Shoreline Cleanup</p> <p>Hudson River Park's River Project invites organized groups (ages 18+) to support the marine debris study marine debris study through an engaging and informative volunteer day in the Park. Volunteers count, categorize and remove marine debris from our shoreline alongside dedicated Estuary Lab scientists. Join us to help improve conditions in our Hudson River Estuary, protect Hudson River Park's Estuarine Sanctuary and build a community of dedicated environmental stewards!</p> <p>To learn more and schedule a cleanup, email education@hrprt.nyc.gov.</p> <p>Reports & Data</p> <p>2021 Waste Report</p>
	<p>Education Materials</p>	<p>Plastic Rapid Survey Lesson Share   </p> <p>This lesson demonstrates how plastics end up in the Hudson River and prompts students to investigate plastic use in their daily lives. Students will conduct a survey to explore differences between single-use and reusable plastic items found in their home. The activity concludes with a brainstorm of alternative materials to minimize our demand for plastic and ultimately protect our environment.</p> <p>Plastic Rapid Survey Lesson</p> <p>Themes: Plastic Consumption, Water Quality, Combined Sewer Overflows, Pollution, Human Impact on the Hudson River Estuary</p> <p>Agers: 8-14</p> <p>Prep Times: None</p> <p>Activity Times: 30-40 minutes</p> <p>Resources</p> <p>Plastic Rapid Survey Worksheet Plastic Rapid Survey Answer Key</p> 