

Hudson River Park Happenings

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President's Letter:
FALL INTO COLOR...

This issue we are introducing a reformatted Happenings newsletter. This shorter two-page format will highlight a specific activity associated with bringing the Hudson River Park to fruition. We will publish a four-page issue quarterly that will create a verbal picture of how the completed Park will look, how it respects the history of the waterfront and the neighboring communities, and how it introduces an exciting new element into the New York City urban landscapes.

Meanwhile, as days grow cooler and winter draws near, people are discovering the beautiful fall foliage that is currently flourishing along the Hudson River. The Hudson River is lined with trees, bright colors, and smiles. We recommend that New Yorkers take advantage of this eye-catching scenery at New York City's waterfront park.

As the holiday season approaches, the Hudson River Park Trust wishes you and your family a safe and happy Thanksgiving. Although this has been a trying and sorrowful time for the people of New York, we are nevertheless reminded that the freedom and diversity this great city defends leaves us very much to be thankful for.

Perhaps in a gesture of symbolism we can affirm that as sure as seasons change, so too will New York remember and rebuild. We will continue to act together in the spirit of kindness and compassion in the months ahead, and when flowers bloom again in the spring, we will be reminded of the greatness and regeneration before us. Families are invited to visit the Hudson River Park for an afternoon of togetherness; the Park and the River always offer a place for individuals to experience some solace or reflection.

Sincerely,

Robert P. Balachandran, President & CEO
Hudson River Park Trust

Robert Balachandran speaking to students from The Lab School who are attending the Hudson River Park Water Quality Education Program.



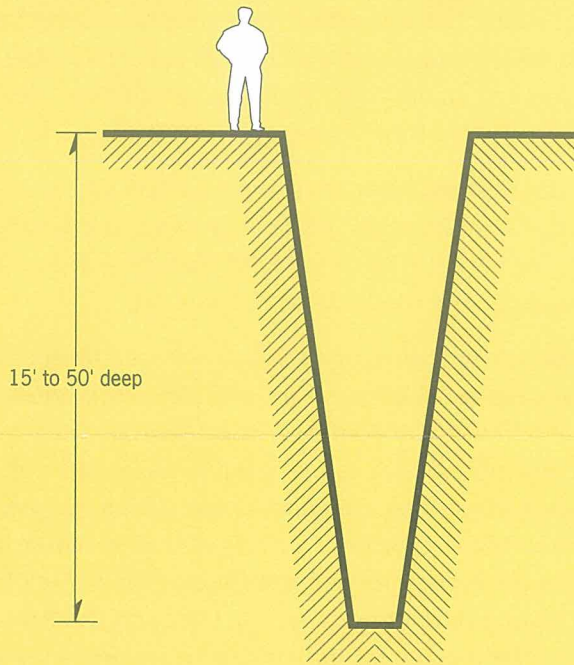
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Hudson River Park Trust



CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Testing, Testing . . .



The Hudson River Park is in the middle of furrowing parts of the land to create test pits, which help determine the qualities and sustainability of the park terrain. Information and details regarding soil characteristics also give us an indication of the land's previous capabilities and history.

If you choose to visit the Hudson River Park for a pleasurable stroll amid the picturesque autumn foliage, you may notice some strategically burrowed excavations in parts of the Park. These purposeful land

cavities, or "test pits" are important in the context of the Park's construction efforts. Test pits are used to determine the high level of the water table, as well as the permeability of the soil underneath the ground. Test

As we dig down, the buried debris we find helps delineate the history of the land that is currently considered the Hudson River Park.

pit results affect our planning considerations, so that we develop projects and buildings that the land can sustain. Test pits are crucial to the successful planning of the Hudson River Park, especially because of its riverfront location and its relationship to the water. But these test pits provide researchers with a much greater assessment than just water levels and permeability. As we dig down, the buried debris we find helps delineate the history of the land that is currently considered the Hudson River Park.

Test pits exhibit the stratified, or naturally occurring layers of material under the Earth's surface. The pits range from 15 to 50 feet deep, two feet in diameter, and show a cross section of the Earth's layers, which are naturally arranged by composition, to these respective depths. The different layers contain

different types of soil deposits. Each detail uncovered within the soil has the potential to contribute to our account of the waterfront's pivotal role in the development of New York City. Also, by understanding the Park's history in tandem with its current soil and land characteristics, we can discern the evolution of the Park's terrain. This is particularly helpful in building appropriate habitats for vegetation and marine life at the Hudson River Park, which the Park has named as one of its primary objectives.

You may see these test pits at many segments in the Park while it is under construction. They will provide the valuable information that will guide the development of the wonderful facilities, enjoyable recreation, abundant vegetation and marine life at one of New York's greatest treasures: the Hudson River Park.