

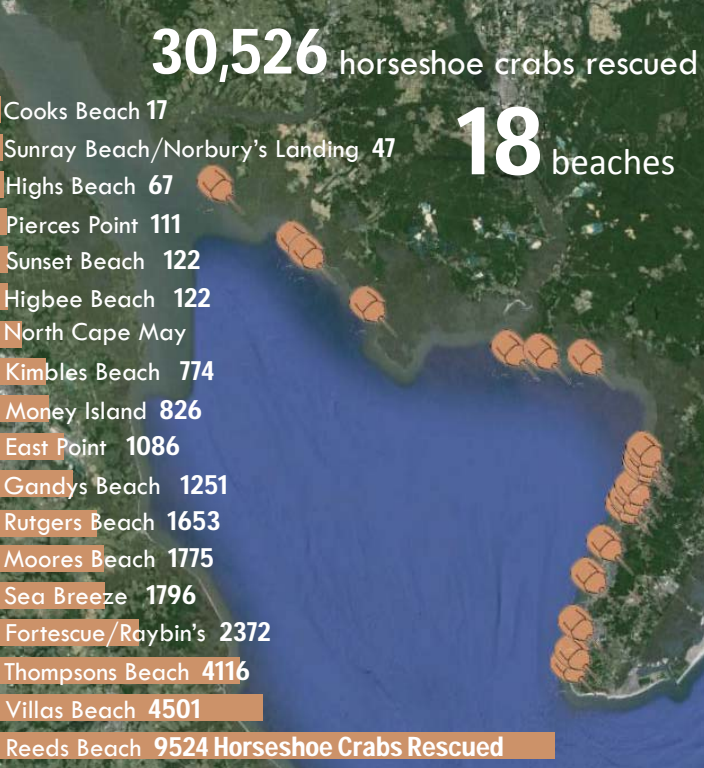
# reTURN the FAVOR



[www.returnthefavornj.org](http://www.returnthefavornj.org)

## 2015 Season Results

### Beaches Covered, Crabs Rescued

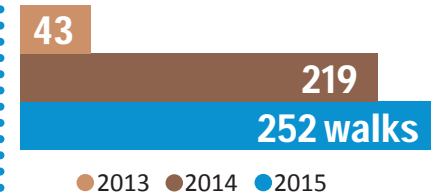


Every spring, Delaware Bay hosts the largest concentration of breeding horseshoe crabs on the Atlantic Coast. Already in decline due to overharvest in the 1990s, thousands more die every year after being overturned by waves or becoming stuck in bulkheads or other hazards.

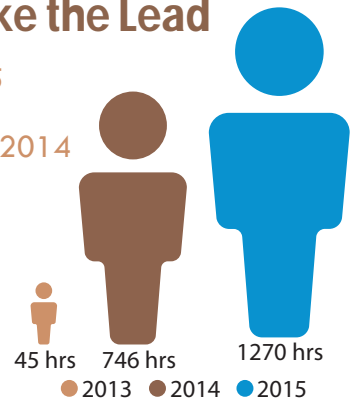
Since 2013, reTURN the Favor partners have organized volunteers to lead walks to rescue stranded crabs, helping efforts to recover the Delaware Bay horseshoe crabs.



### More Rescue Walks

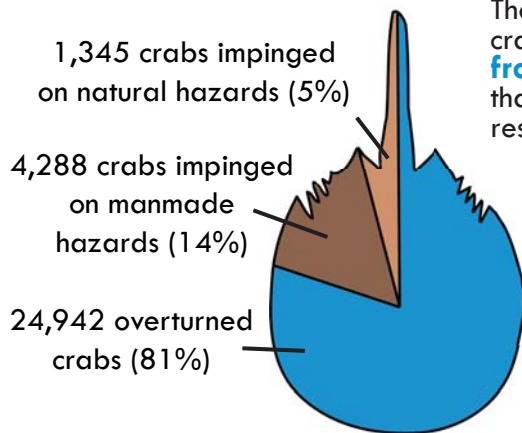


### More People Take the Lead



Volunteer hours up nearly **2X** from 2014 to 2015

### Fewer Horseshoe Crabs Impinged



The number of impinged crabs fell by **30%** from 2014, evidence that ongoing beach restoration projects work.

A small project at East Point Lighthouse resulted in a drop from **77 impinged crabs/walk in 2014 to 10 crabs/walk in 2015.**



### Steering Committee

- Conserve Wildlife Foundation of New Jersey
- New Jersey Department of Fish and Wildlife
- The Wetlands Institute
- Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network

### Partners

- Bayshore Center at Bivalve
- Citizens United to Protect the Maurice River and its Tributaries, Inc
- Friends of Cape May National Wildlife Refuge
- The Nature Conservancy- New Jersey Chapter
- New Jersey Audubon
- Rutgers University



Want to help save New Jersey's horseshoe crabs? Get involved at [returnthefavornj.org](http://returnthefavornj.org).