

RETURN the FAVOR



www.returnthefavornj.org

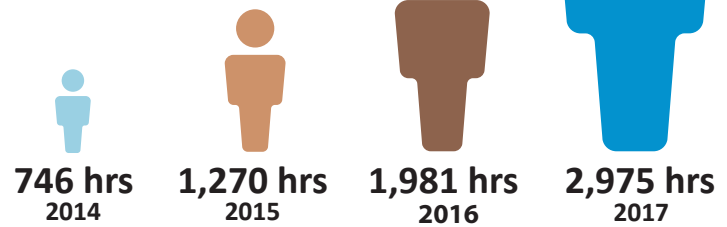
2017 Results

Every spring, Delaware Bay hosts the largest concentration spawning horseshoe crabs on the Atlantic Coast. With their population significantly reduced from overharvesting in the 1990s, thousands more die every year after being overturned by waves or becoming stuck in bulkheads or other hazards.

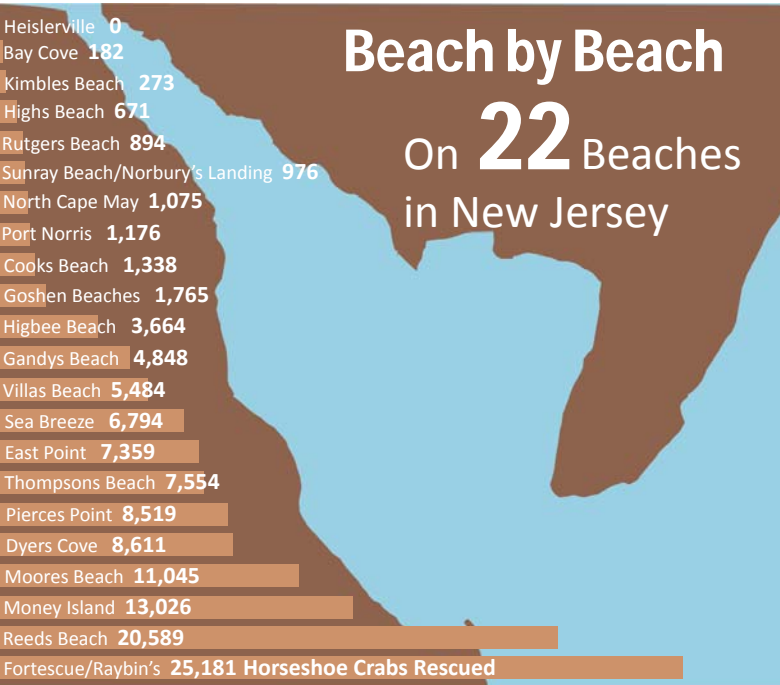
Since 2013, reTURN the Favor partners have organized volunteers to lead walks to rescue stranded crabs in New Jersey, aiding in efforts to recover the Delaware Bay horseshoe crabs.

131,024 Horseshoe Crabs Rescued
118 Walk Leaders
2,975 Volunteer Hours
847 Rescue Walks

Volunteer hours
 ↑ **4X** in four years



More people rescuing crabs = More horseshoe crabs rescued = Over 131,000 crabs rescued in 2017



Volunteers Spring into Action

On Memorial Day weekend, a perfect storm of full moon high tides, extraordinary numbers of spawning crabs, and storm surge, stranded thousands of crabs in the marsh, overwash areas, and rubble.



This extreme event highlighted hotspot areas, which led volunteers to give them extra attention the rest of the season.

Steering Committee

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

Program Funding

New Jersey Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership

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.