



PARTNERSHIP FOR THE DELAWARE ESTUARY IN THE NEWS

\$7.9M MUSSEL HATCHERY AT BARTAM'S GARDEN WILL HELP WATER QUALITY IN DELAWARE RIVER

The Partnership for the Delaware Estuary says it has signed a \$7.9 million funding agreement with the Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority (PENNVEST) to plan, design, and begin building the hatchery and mussel program starting in 2020. The goal is to begin producing mussels at the Southwest Philadelphia location by 2023.

The Partnership for the Delaware Estuary said the facility "may be the first of its kind in the world - a large-scale freshwater mussel hatchery ultimately designed for the promotion of clean water."

Native mussels have been in decline for years in the waterways. Mussels function as mini-wastewater treatment plants, with one capable of filtering fine pollutants from 10 gallons of water a day.

The Inquirer
DAILY NEWS philly.com



By Frank Kummer, Philly.com - January 16, 2019

PARTNERSHIP FOR DEL. ESTUARY ROLLS OUT PLAN THAT INCLUDES WIDER USE OF WATER-FILTERING MUSSELS

As part of the process of designating the Delaware Estuary a National Estuary Program, hundreds of stakeholders worked together to develop a Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP) that was approved in September, 1996. The original plan was intended to guide the collective efforts of environmental agencies and organizations in the region to protect and enhance the Delaware River and Bay, including the surrounding watersheds.

"Delaware stands strong with PDE partners, including our good neighbors in Pennsylvania and New Jersey, on our shared goals of ensuring clean water, strong communities, and healthy habitats throughout the estuary," said Delaware Department of Natural Resources Secretary Shawn M. Garvin. "By collaborating with state and federal agencies, municipalities, businesses, community groups, non-profits, and tri-state residents through this new comprehensive management plan, we are unified in working toward a vibrant and fiercely-protected future for our beautiful, fragile, and vitally important Delaware Estuary and its precious resources."



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