



## GRANGEBEL PARK FISH PASSAGE



Construction of the rock ramp / fish ladder system you see here replaced a manmade dam that previously prevented fish passage. This fish passage enables River Herring (Alewife) and American Eels in their quest to swim upstream and spawn, thus effectively opening 24 acres of habitat along over 1.5 miles of river. American eel populations have experienced drastic declines in recent years, and habitat expansion rebuilds the species, as well as the animals in the food chain associated with the fish including wide mouthed bass, striped bass, bluefish, weakfish, pickerel, & yellow perch, as well as birds of prey such as Osprey, Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, and Black Crown Night Heron and even mammals like harbor seals, raccoons and river otter.

- In 2010 the rock ramp was installed, 25,000-45,000 Alewives swam upstream
- In 2011 an estimated 20,000-30,000 Alewives swam upstream
- In 2012 an estimated 50,000-75,000 Alewives swam upstream
- In 2013 an estimated 60,000-85,000 Alewives swam upstream

To see a short Lunkerville film about the Peconic River Fish Restoration Commission (PRFRC) community effort it took to build and the unique passion of locals Bob Conklin & Jim Miller ([http://rockville.tv/FISH\\_PASSAGE/FISH\\_PASSAGE.html](http://rockville.tv/FISH_PASSAGE/FISH_PASSAGE.html))

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