



JAN-FEB

Restoration sites selection based on information such as historic and current oyster beds and site conditions.

MAR-MAY

Complete permitting for restoration and pre-site assessments such as video monitoring and bathymetric mapping.



JUNE

Construct reef base with clam shell at restoration sites utilizing barge operations.

EARLY JULY

Grow ~12 million oyster larvae on oyster shell in remote setting tanks at UNH Jackson Estuarine Lab. After 1 week, move spat on shell out to a raft.



JULY-SEPT

TNC's Oyster Conservationists (85+ sites) and UNH staff (oysters on raft) raise oyster spat to juvenile size. In September, deposit live spat from raft onto the reef base.

NOV-DEC

Conduct post-restoration monitoring and write report.

JAN FEB MARCH APRIL MAY JUNE JULY AUG SEPT OCT NOV DEC

HOW ARE OYSTERS RESTORED IN GREAT BAY?

It Takes a Village to Raise an Oyster

The Nature Conservancy and The University of New Hampshire, together with our partners, are working to restore and rebuild degraded oyster reef habitat. But that's only part of the story. While reefs are planned and constructed, scores of dedicated volunteers are raising young oysters to prepare them for life in their new home in Great Bay. It's this incredible collaboration between scientists and community members that creates success.

- RESTORATION EFFORTS
- CONSERVATION VOLUNTEER EFFORTS

MAY-JUNE

Volunteers help with cage preparation and move oyster shell into cages.



JULY

After ~2 weeks of growing on the raft, volunteers count spat for the program's first spat counting week.

MID JULY-EARLY SEPT

Young oysters are put into cages and delivered to Oyster Conservationist (OC) volunteers. OC's take care of spat and record data for 10 weeks.

MID SEPT

Collect cages from OC's. Volunteers count and measure spat for the program's second spat counting week.

EARLY OCT

OC's and TNC staff take the Gundalow, a historic replica vessel, out to place oysters (more than 90,000) grown by the volunteers all summer on top of the oyster restoration sites.

