

Candlelight Vigil for a Cleaner Hudson  
Waterfronts up and down the Hudson River  
**July 23, 2015, 7:30 PM**

The Campaign for a Cleaner Hudson has scheduled a vigil in Newburgh and Beacon, working with local officials and volunteers. To join us in doing the same in your community on the evening of July 23, we suggest the following:

**Suggested Schedule:**

6:30 PM: Volunteers and staff arrive to set up

7:30 PM: Public arrives

7:45 PM: Volunteers begin gathering crowd and handing out candles

8:00 PM: Master of ceremonies makes announcement and people gather in song

8:30 PM: Candles are lit and light shared with others.

9:00 PM: Closing

**Pre-event To-Do List:**

- Obtain necessary local permission; alert local emergency personnel about your event (If you have questions, contact your town clerk to find out more about the permits you may need to acquire and whom to notify.)
- Obtain candles, drip guards, and fire-safe receptacles for events.
- Recruit 5-10 volunteers for help during candle-lighting.
- Recruit a Master of Ceremonies (we recommend a local community leader, such as your Mayor or a Councilperson.)
- Send a personalized invitation to your friends and local elected officials, as well as county legislatures, executives and Assembly & Senate representatives (**See below** for a draft invitation).
- Set up a Facebook event and notify your email list.
- Distribute fliers/posters through local churches, community and arts organizations, and civic leaders (contact Campaign for a Cleaner Hudson, [www.cleanerhudson.org](http://www.cleanerhudson.org) for generic posters)
- Send a confirmation email to [joe@cleanerhudson.org](mailto:joe@cleanerhudson.org) and [mannajo@clearwater.org](mailto:mannajo@clearwater.org) so the campaign knows to list your event on their webpage.

DRAFT INVITATION

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

Please join us on July 23 to celebrate our city's most treasured natural and economic resource—the Hudson River—and conduct a candlelight vigil for its full recovery from PCB pollution. People will gather with candles for a stunning display showing the world we haven't forgotten our river.

Please help us light the way to a cleaner Hudson.

**When: Thursday, July 23, at 7:30 PM.**

**Where: (Your local Waterfront Park)**

The Hudson is an American Heritage River, an economic engine for tourism and outdoor recreation, and its waters provide food for fishermen and their families. It's also one of the nation's largest hazardous waste sites. For six years, General Electric has been cleaning up toxic PCBs it dumped upriver. But later this year, GE plans on permanently dismantling its operations, leaving behind thousands of pounds of heavily contaminated sediments that eventually will flow downriver through our community and all the way to New York City. Even in small amounts, these toxic sediments are linked with impaired cognitive development in children, hormonal disorders and cancer.

Federal agencies have made it clear the leftover sediments will pose significant health and economic risks for generations if they are not removed now. The cleanup must continue—for the sake of our river, our children and our children's children.

For more on current efforts to compel GE to do more, check out the Campaign for a Cleaner Hudson Website: [www.cleanerhudson.org](http://www.cleanerhudson.org).

Join us at the Candlelight Vigil for a Cleaner Hudson!