

June 29, 2011 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT INFO:

Roland Lewis (c) 917-696-3139; (w) 935-9831x101; rlewis@waterfrontalliance.org Ian Douglas (c) 917-684-9890; (w) 212-935-9831 x103; idouglas@waterfrontalliance.org

OVER 3,000 FREE BOAT TOUR TICKETS AVAILABLE THIS FRIDAY FOR THE 4^{TH} ANNUAL CITY OF WATER DAY FESTIVAL

Reserve your tickets at www.cityofwaterday.org

New York, NY & Jersey City, NJ: On July 16 over 3,000 people will have the opportunity to take a free, in-depth tour of the New York – New Jersey Harbor on some of the region's most unique and noteworthy vessels, the Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance today announced. Tickets for the free tours will be available starting July 1st at www.cityofwaterday.org.

Held at Governors Island and Liberty State Park, the one-of-a-kind festival offers over twenty free tours on vessels like the John J. Harvey, a historic fireboat, Hudson Sloop Clearwater, Schooner Adirondack, and New York City's only Tall Ship, Clipper City, operated by Manhattan by Sail.

From maritime history, to harbor ecology, to the working waterfront, tours will each emphasize one critical facet of the harbor. Local experts from New York City Audubon, the Newtown Creek Alliance, the Jersey City Division of City Planning, and others will provide narration for the approximately hour-long tours. Biodiesel for participating vessels is being provided by Metro Fuel.

"It's easy to forget, but this is a tremendous waterfront region," said MWA President and CEO Roland Lewis. "The City of Water Day Festival and these free tours help remind everyone that the New York – New Jersey Harbor is a truly amazing resource open to everyone and that we need to promote and protect it. I want to thank our sponsors and boat tour operators for making the festival and these tours possible."

Aside from the free boat tours, the City of Water Day Festival offers an exciting schedule of waterfront activities. Highlights include:

- A flotilla of hundreds of kayakers, canoers, and sailors converging on Governors Island from launch points throughout the region
- Free kayaking, paddle-boarding, and sailing opportunities
- Special children's activities, like the harbor critters touch tank, fishing, arts and crafts, rides, and a Kids' Race sponsored by New York Road Runners
- The Waterfront Activity Fair and Speaker Series where participants can learn how to do their part for the waterfront
- Live music, delicious food, and more!

For a complete schedule and description of the day's activities, please visit www.cityofwaterday.org.

About the Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance (www.waterfrontalliance.org)

The Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance works to transform the New York and New Jersey harbor and waterways to make them clean and accessible, vibrant places to play, learn and work, with great parks, great jobs and great transportation for all.

###