



Oyster Restoration Station (ORS) Basic Training

What is an Oyster Restoration Station?

- The ORS is an in-situ experimental platform at the end of a line used for monitoring **oyster growth**, **biodiversity**, **and succession of sessile organisms** in New York Harbor.
- The standard ORS measures approximately 24" wide x 22" high x 10" deep
- The ORS is made of 14-gauge vinyl coated galvanized steel mesh.





• The three components of the ORS are, from top to bottom:

Oyster cage=10"x10"x24"



Mobile Trap=6"x6"x23"



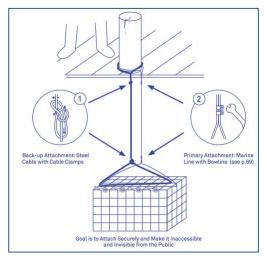
(2) Settlement panels=6"x23"

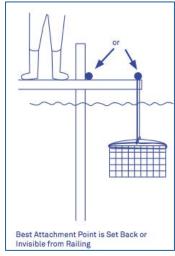


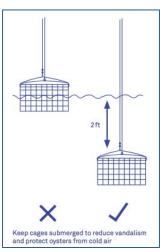
- There are exactly 10 tagged substrate shells in the oyster cage and some additional number more of untagged substrate shells. There will be any number of individual live oysters growing on these shells. The number of live oysters growing on each shell will diminish over time due to competition for space, environmental factors, and natural mortality.
- There are two substrate types inside the mobile trap soft mesh and cured oyster shell used for monitoring biodiversity.
- There are four ceramic tiles on the settlement panels. These are used for monitoring sessile organisms.

How do I install my ORS?

An ORS can be installed on any vertical shoreline (piers, bulkheads, floating docks) with more than three feet of depth at mean low tide. The ORS should be attached at such a depth that it is fully submerged at all times. The ORS is attached by two separate ropes or lines – one of these should be taught and one should be slack such that the slack line serves as back-up in case the taught line frays and breaks. The attachment point is usually at the base of the railing, through an eye bolt or cleat. The attachment should be neat and discreet and preferably out of view from the public. The ORS is NOT suitable for installation on rocky shoreline or beach.







Always attach with two lines

Out of public reach/view

Always submerged

ORS installation sites should be well supervised and not prone to vandalism. A site coordinator must take responsibility for periodically checking on the ORS. A site coordinator can be an individual ORS owner who lives nearby or the local property owner, park manager, or stewardship group. All ORS installation sites must be pre-approved by Billion Oyster Project, who holds all requisite NYS DEC licenses, NYC Parks permits, and use agreements from local property owners as needed. BOP does not operate in NJ waters at this time.

