

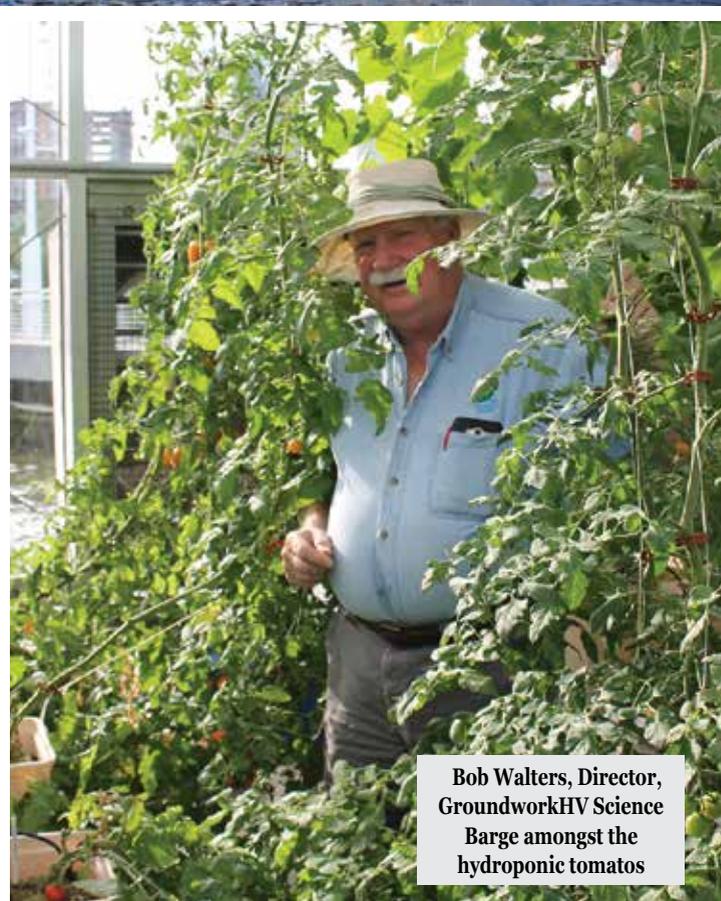
GROUNDWORK HUDSON VALLEY SCIENCE BARGE



by Jack Strong



Ms Jennifer Sloan, Director of Education, with Cherry Tomatos grown in a hydroponic system.



Bob Walters, Director, GroundworkHV Science Barge amongst the hydroponic tomatos

Over ten thousand people, school children, adults and foreign visitors test the various components of Groundwork's Science Barge, on the downtown Yonkers' waterfront, each year.

It is a huge success in every aspect of its being. The Science Barge is a prototype sustainable urban farm developed by NY Sun Works and acquired by Groundwork Hudson Valley in October 2008 to be operated as an environmental education center. The Science Barge greenhouse, floating on the Hudson River, grows an abundance of fresh produce including tomatoes, melons, popcorn, peppers, eggplant, and lettuce with zero net carbon emissions, zero pesticides, and zero runoff. All of the energy needed to power the Barge is generated by solar panels, wind turbines, and biofuels while the hydroponic greenhouse is irrigated solely by collected rainwater thus operating completely "off the grid." It is the only fully functioning demonstration of renewable energy supporting sustainable food production in New York. It is now docked in downtown Yonkers just north of the Yonkers Pier.

The Science Barge is open for weekday educational programs and field trips for schools, camps, and other groups from mid-April through the beginning of November. Programs range from 1-3 hours and cost \$250-\$525. They are currently scheduling field trips for the summer and fall! Call 914-375-2151 or e-mail sciencebarge@groundworkhv.org if you are interested in booking.

Many homes have the capacity and sunlight to emulate what the Science Barge is demonstrating. I strongly suggest that if you an interest in Hydroponic Gardening

Plants and healthy living you visit the Science Barge, in Yonkers, NY



Aeroponic System, growing plants with Hydroponics vertically.

For weekend walk-ons, The Science Barge suggests a 5-dollar donation. Free for children 10 years old and younger.

Mid-April-November Weekend Hours:
Saturday & Sundays 12-6 pm
For specific information call the dynamic Mr. Bob Walters, Director of the GroundworkHV at 914-375-2151.



As seen in NY River Programs Sustainability Education.