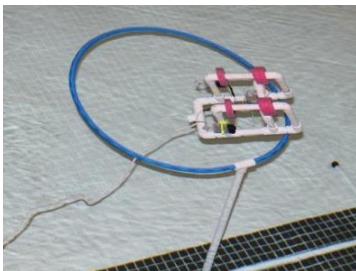


SeaPerch is back for 2024. Schoharie Mohawk Initiative for Science and Technology is offering the **SeaPerch program** (www.seaperch.org) for students in the local community. Students will **build an underwater Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV)** from low-cost and easily accessible parts.

Building a SeaPerch ROV **teaches** basic skills in nautical design and encourages children to explore naval architecture and marine and ocean engineering principles. Throughout the program, students will **learn** basic science and engineering concepts, tool safety, problem solving, and teamwork.



This year's SeaPerch challenge is **inspired by deep-sea exploration.** First discovered in 1977, hydrothermal vents are a critical area of ocean exploration. ROVs aid researchers in exploring the harsh environments that surround hydrothermal vents where extreme temperatures and pressures, toxic chemicals, and reduced visibility are the norm.

Eligible Participants: All students in **Grades 6 through 8** are eligible to participate.

Weekly Meetings: Students will meet every **Thursday** from **6:00-8:00 PM** at the **Delanson United Methodist Church** starting in **February** except for **vacation breaks**. Specific meeting dates are: **2/1, 2/8, 2/15, 2/29, 3/7, 3/14, 3/21, 3/28** and **4/11**. Additional meetings may be held to ensure all teams are ready for the regional challenge. Pool facility locations to test the ROVs (later meeting dates) will be sent out via separate communications.

Regional Challenge: At the end of the program, the students will compete in a regional challenge against other Capitol Region schools and communities. Challenge date is **Saturday, 4/13**. Location is being finalized.

Cost: There is no cost to students who attend the Schoharie Jr/Sr High School as the school district will cover all costs. **Each student will receive a t-shirt and an electronics DIY kit.**

Registration: Please register at <https://www.smistny.org/events/seaperch-underwater-robotics> and then contact **Matt Wright** (mwright@schoharieschools.org).

More Information: Please contact **Walt Silva** (wsilva@smistny.org).