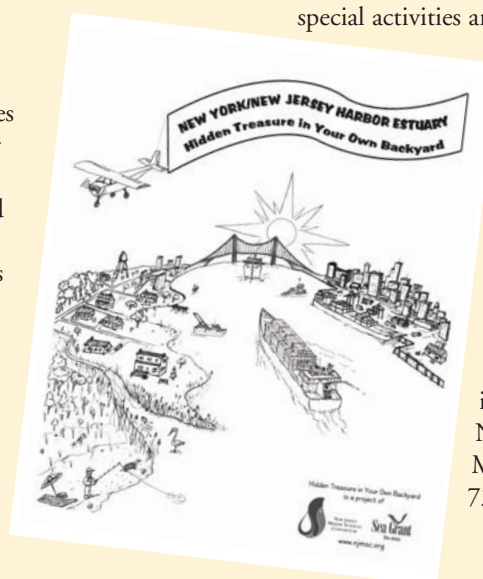


Education Department Undergoes Harbor Expansion

Several years ago, NJMSC developed *All Hands on Deck* (AHOD) a project designed to inform students and citizens about the value of the port of NY/NJ and the harbor ecosystem. The program features narrated class trips aboard a commuter ferry visiting both the commercial and natural areas of the Port of NY/NJ and opportunities to meet scientists and other professionals working within this vital Port.

Due to the program's overwhelming success the NJMSC Education Department has launched plans to expand its Harbor Education outreach efforts by providing teachers and students with additional



resources, including harbor-based lesson plans and special activities and resources for youngsters drawn from the recently published NJMSC "NY/NJ Harbor Estuary: Hidden Treasures in Your Own Backyard" booklet. These resources will be featured in a new section located on the Education Department pages on the NJMSC web site. For more information visit njmsc.org.

Legislators from the harbor area districts or their designated staffers are invited and encouraged to join an NJMSC AHOD excursion. Contact Mindy Voss at mvoss@njmsc.org or call 732-872-1300 ext 30.

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A Newsletter for New Jersey Legislators

State of the Shore & More

The New Jersey Marine Sciences Consortium's 5th Annual *State of the Shore* media event on May 21st was blessed with the kind of picture-perfect sunshine and blue skies that were hopefully a harbinger of good summer weather to come. According to the 5th Annual *State of the Shore Report* issued by NJMSC, New Jersey's beaches are in excellent physical condition and ready for the 2007 summer tourism season, with plenty of sand and space for residents and visitors to find their place in the sand.

Dr. Jon Miller, the Coastal Process Specialist for the NJMSC/NJ Sea Grant Program, presented the 5th Annual *State of the Shore Report* on the condition of New Jersey beaches, which he produced in collaboration with Dr. Thomas Herrington of Stevens Institute of Technology. Featured speakers included NJDEP



Commissioner Lisa Jackson, Secretary Charles Kuperus and Executive Director Nancy Byrne listening to Dr. Jon Miller's remarks.

Commissioner Lisa Jackson, who addressed a number of coastal issues with a special focus on beach access and Secretary of Agriculture Charles Kuperus, who talked about the State's seafood industry and the future of aquaculture. Remarks were also provided by Dr. Michael P. Weinstein, President and CEO of the New Jersey Marine Sciences Consortium and Nancy Byrne, Executive Director of NJ Travel and Tourism.

The 2007 *NJ: The State of the Shore Report* itself was expanded considerably this year to include abstract updates on "hot button" coastal issues including water



Speakers were (L to R) Dr. Thomas Herrington, Dr. Michael P. Weinstein, Executive Director Nancy Byrne, Commissioner Lisa Jackson, Secretary Charles Kuperus and Dr. Jon Miller.

quality, public access, dunes and beach replenishment and reducing rip current fatalities.


Representatives from two dozen television, radio, wire service, and newspapers outlets covered the event. They took advantage of a unique opportunity to interview the speakers as well as invited experts who were positioned at "topical issue stations" to answer questions and provide handouts on their areas of expertise.

The press event, sponsored by the New Jersey Marine Sciences Consortium and Stevens Institute of Technology now has an annual perch on the beach at The Sea Gull's Nest, Beach Bar and Restaurant at Sandy Hook, NJ. Copies of the NJMSC Annual 2007 *State of the Shore Report* are available at njmsc.org, on the News and Events page.



Dr. Jon Miller answered questions from members of the press.

Copies of the issue-oriented publications and resource materials developed for the event are available by calling NJMSC Communications at 732-872-1300 ext. 18.

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NJ Hosts National Rip Current Awareness Effort

New Jersey Sea Grant was a key player in assisting the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) kick off the National Rip Current Awareness Week campaign June 3-9, 2007. NJ Sea Grant provided resource materials and support services to help coordinate a beachside press conference on June 5th at the Sandy Hook Unit of the Gateway National Recreation Area. This year's awareness effort focused on the new partnership between NOAA and the National Park System to help alert beachgoers to the threat of rip currents and how to escape their strong and potentially fatal grip. Rip current signs and educational materials were developed for this year's campaign to include the National Park Service logos. The event included a demonstration by Sandy Hook lifeguards of what people should do if they find themselves caught in a rip current.

"Everyone should learn how to identify rip currents and take the time to assess the surf conditions before diving in," advises Tom Herrington, Ph.D, Director of the Stevens - New Jersey Sea Grant Cooperative Extension. "If caught in a rip current, don't fight it! Swim parallel to the shore and back to land at an angle." Sea Grant is NOAA's primary university-based program, located in each coastal state, to promote better understanding, conservation and use of

America's coastal resources.

"The National Park Service has had a long partnership with NOAA and its National Weather Service to enhance our ability to provide visitors with the latest information on water safety," said Mary Bomar, director of the National Park Service. "We are thrilled to partner with NOAA for this important awareness campaign to bring scientific-based information to the public about the dangers of rips currents and safety measures that will save lives in waterways throughout our parks."

For links to the NOAA Rip Current Awareness web site, visit the News and Events page at njmsc.org



Speakers at the press conference included (L to R) Tom McLaughlin, Chief Lifeguard at Sandy Hook; Dr. Tom Herrington, Director of the Stevens - New Jersey Sea Grant Cooperative Extension; Gary Szatkowski, Meteorologist in Charge, National Weather Service at Mt. Holly; and Superintendent Barry Sullivan of the National Park Service.

Current Events

Groundbreaking Signals Green Light for NJMSC Renovation



Participating in the groundbreaking were (L to R) Mr. Peter Lawrence; Admiral Paul Gaffney; Superintendent Barry Sullivan, Dr. Howard Parish, Assemblyman Louis Greenwald, Mr. Dennis Kearney, Senator Ellen Karcher, Dr. Michael P. Weinstein, Assemblywoman Amy Handlin, Ms. Linda Kellner and Mr. Gregory T. Aikins.

The New Jersey Marine Sciences Consortium officially broke ground on May 2, 2007 for a \$1.8 million renovation project to its

Sandy Hook Headquarters in the Fort Hancock historic district.

A score of state and federal officials and invited guests attended the project groundbreaking ceremony. In recent months, the preservation plan received approval from federal and state historic preservation officials, allowing the project to move forward.

Officials in attendance included Senator Ellen Karcher and Assemblyman Louis Greenwald, who offered remarks and presented NJMSC President and CEO Dr. Michael Weinstein with a joint legislative resolution commemorating the event, and Assemblywoman Amy Handlin. Many of the officials at the event grabbed golden shovels and ceremonially broke ground on the project.

The Consortium has been based at Building #22 in Sandy Hook for 33 years. With funding provided in part by a grant from the New Jersey Historic Trust, the project will restore the building's integrity and appearance to how it looked when it was constructed in 1898, with a new roof and front porch. Inside, the building will get modern touches, such as sprinklers on its tin ceilings and a central air conditioning system.

Sea Grant Extension

New Jersey Working Waterfronts Provide Insight for the Gulf Coast

When Hurricane Katrina devastated the Gulf Coast region in late 2005, Mississippi's vital marine fisheries industry was crippled and, although almost two years have passed, the restoration process has been slow and difficult. Marine fisheries is one of Mississippi's most important industries and the impacts to the state's economy have been great.

Representatives from the Southern Mississippi Planning and Development District (SMPDD) and the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources (MDMR) were hosted by the New Jersey Sea Grant Extension Program (NJSJGEP) from May 31 to June 1 for an East Coast tour as part of a proposed project to reestablish seafood as a viable



Pictured: (L to R), Allison Beasley, Planning Director, SMPDD; Ernie Panacek, General Manager, Viking Village; Regina Melton, Project Coordinator, SMPDD; Peter Rowe, Director, NJ Sea Grant Extension; Beth Ousley, Program Specialist, SMPDD; Dorina Frizzera, Environmental Scientist, NJ Department of Environmental Protection; Linda O'Dierno, Seafood Program Coordinator, NJ Department of Agriculture; Art Brown, Senior Associate Dean of Rutgers Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources; Curt Larsen, Mayor, Barnegat Light.

component of the Mississippi Gulf Coast economy and to strengthen the linkages between the history and culture of the local seafood industry and the economic development community. The two days were spent at various locations on the New Jersey shoreline, touring commercial waterfront cooperative facilities in the hope that the vast pool of experience found in New Jersey's working waterfronts might be transferred to Mississippi's ailing industry. During a tour of the facilities, the visitors spoke with facility officials and were offered a glimpse of daily operations. New Jersey stops included the Belford Seafood Co-op in Belford, Fishermen's Dock Co-op in Point Pleasant Beach, and Viking Village in Barnegat Light on Long Beach Island.

Sea Grant Extension

New Stormwater Regulations Reviewed

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) recently proposed revisions to its Basic Industrial Stormwater General Permit to address elevated levels of metals at marinas resulting from power washing activities. To help marinas understand the new regulations and offer wash water treatment options and funding opportunities, the New Jersey Marine Sciences Consortium (NJMSC), in collaboration with New Jersey Sea Grant Extension Program (NJSJGEP), NJDEP and the New Jersey Department of Transportation's (NJDOT) Coastal Management Office sponsored the *New Jersey Clean Marina Program Workshop: Update on Stormwater Regulations*.

Held on April 25th at Sea Oaks Country Club in Little Egg Harbor, the workshop drew more than one hundred attendees, making it the most well-attended event of the Clean Marina Workshop Series.

Presenters included Chris Mehan from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's (NJDEP) Community

Right to Know Office; Tara Wood, Stormwater Outreach Case Manager with the NJDEP Division of Water Quality; Joe DiLorenzo, Ph.D., Senior Scientist at Najarian Associates; Mike Danko of NJMSC/NJSJGEP and Chair of the New Jersey Clean Vessel Program; and Genevieve Boehm-Clifton, Program Manager of New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) Coastal Management Office's *I BOAT NJ* Program.

Topics covered a myriad of issues related to the changes in the upcoming regulations. According to post-workshop surveys, one of the most helpful aspects of the workshop was the presence of invited wash water treatment system manufacturers who brought their equipment to demonstrate the various options open to marina owners and operators in light of the new rules. The New Jersey Clean Marina Program is using input from the surveys to keep marinas informed of changes as the regulations move forward.

