

Join Us For Coast Day NJ

Coastal legislators and their staffers are cordially invited to attend Coast Day NJ, NJMSC's annual "Celebration of the Sea" on October 14 at Cape May. The award-winning event focuses on commercial and recreational fishing, but has grown into a showcase for much of New Jersey's \$50 billion coastal economy.

Each year, thousands of visitors participate in research demonstrations, vessel tours, eco-tours and other interactive exhibits. In addition to its award-winning, stand-alone success, Coast Day NJ serves as an anchor for stimulating local business and the shore region economy by generating interest in educational marine activities, coastal attractions and nature-based tourism throughout New Jersey. Now in its ninth year, Coast Day NJ has become a major tourism event for the entire shore region and a primary vehicle for celebrating New Jersey's vast coastal wealth. For information, contact cantonucci@njmsc.org or visit njmsc.org



COASTodيان

A Newsletter for New Jersey Legislators

CRITICAL ISSUE FOR YOUR CONSTITUENTS: Strategies for a Healthy Coastal Future

In developing its 2008-2013 Strategic Plan, the New Jersey Marine Sciences Consortium's *New Jersey Sea Grant College Program* (NJSGCP) worked "top down" with the Governor's Office, key State officials and legislators, and county and local officials and "bottom up" with stakeholders from all walks of life including those who fish commercially and recreationally, educators who enlighten the next generation of environmental stewards, boaters, beachgoers, coastal businesses, and waterfront property owners. The fact-finding initiative generated valuable information which enabled the program to formulate strategies based on carefully integrated elements for sustaining the state and the region's economic vitality and quality of life.

In the past year and a half, a series of workshops and information-gathering efforts focusing on three critical coastal issue areas were held to formally solicit stakeholder interests, concerns and recommendations for directing the focus and future efforts of New Jersey Sea Grant. They have contributed significantly to the program's plans for the future.

By sharing these stakeholder insights, concerns and needs, NJMSC and New Jersey Sea Grant are fulfilling their mission to make a substantial contribution to coastal decision-making and policy formulation and help *you* better serve your constituency and the State in this election year and as the new legislative session begins.



New Jersey
Marine Sciences
Consortium

From the President's Desk

Honorable Governor Corzine and
Members of the New Jersey Senate:

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, staff and its many supporters, NJMSC extends its sincerest thanks to the New Jersey Senate for its support of Bill S2537 to establish the New Jersey Marine Sciences Consortium. Sponsored by Senators Ellen Karcher and Joseph Palaia, S2537 was introduced on February 8, 2007 and passed unanimously on June 21, 2007.

Companion Bill A4022, sponsored by Assemblymen Louis Greenwald, Michael Panter and Douglas Fisher was amended favorably at the final legislative session in June, and will be re-introduced for a vote in the new legislative session. Several legislators will add their names to the current co-sponsorship list of eleven, and at least one assemblyman has indicated that he will sign on as a Primary Sponsor. I take this opportunity to ask for even stronger support of this legislation!

NJMSC provides leadership in marine affairs in New Jersey and the region by contributing to improved science literacy and by promoting sustainable New Jersey communities through balanced economic growth and environmental stewardship. Your ongoing support will help strengthen NJMSC's ability to conduct research, education and outreach that will contribute substantially to coastal decision-making and policy formulation underpinning the economic vitality of the New Jersey coast and the quality of life of all its citizens.


Yours truly,

Michael P. Weinstein, Ph.D.
President & CEO

Director, *New Jersey Sea Grant College Program*



Continued on Next Page



NEW JERSEY
MARINE SCIENCES
CONSORTIUM

Building #22
Fort Hancock
NJ 07732

Tel. 732-872-1300
Fax 732-291-4483

or visit
www.njmsc.org



Critical Issue for Your Constituents

From Page One

Sustainable Coastal Communities

Sustainable Coastal Communities (SCC) stakeholders want and need a reliable information portal to obtain scientific and policy documents, examples of success stories and lessons learned and available tool kits. Additionally, each SCC will need economic baseline data and the value of ecosystem services to develop master plans that meet State requirements and sustainability goals and offer flexibility in their methods to meet state requirements. One major area of concern is public access since impending state statutes will limit flexibility in planning. Community leaders are interested in supporting informal education on sustainable communities to increase buy-in by their constituents and believe that a SCC certification and recognition program would encourage communities across coastal New Jersey to participate.

Coastal Processes

Coastal community leaders and state and local agencies are also concerned about the impact of coastal processes on their beaches, back bays and bayshore regions. Municipalities want the flexibility to make their own decisions on how to meet State laws and regulations, particularly decisions regarding beaches and dunes. Both community and agency managers require improved, reliable forecasting models to make decisions on a variety of coastal

processes, including coastal flooding from storms, inundation from sea level rise and water quality related to beach closures. Data, model output and early warning systems should be made available on an easy-to-use website that fits all user types with most products displayed graphically.

Fisheries and Aquaculture

The two main issues for recreational and commercial fishing industries are fishing regulations and waterfront value. Both groups want a more flexible system of regulation based on better science and economic analysis and would like to see an economic impact study of both fishing industries in New Jersey. These stakeholders would like to see an increased awareness and stronger support on the State's part of the importance of fisheries to New Jersey's economy and coastal heritage. Commercial fishing ports, marinas and other working waterfronts are also concerned about increasing property values and taxes that may make individual businesses economically unviable.

Aquaculturists in New Jersey believe they cannot prosper until pending aquaculture legislation is passed. Start-up aquaculture businesses cannot assess the economic potential of aquaculture in New Jersey without it. Even with the legislation aquaculturists will face higher costs in New Jersey than in other states. Businesses are looking for guidance on marketing and branding their products through continued and increased support from the State (NJDOA). Many aquaculturists also support the development of a reliable single-source website in order to retrieve aquaculture information.

Sea Grant Extension

Conference Creates a Flood of Interest

Dr. Thomas Herrington, Director of the Stevens Institute – New Jersey Sea Grant Cooperative Extension Program in Coastal Processes was invited by New Jersey Senator Robert Menendez to address Hazard Mitigation Planning at a recent conference organized by the Senator to help resolve the growing issue of flooding in our state. *Stemming the Tide-Helping New Jersey Cope with Past and Future Floods* was held in early August in New Brunswick. In addition to Senator Menendez, keynote speakers included NJDEP Commissioner Lisa Jackson and Colonel Nello Tortora, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Other topics covered at the well attended conference were: USACE Projects and Funding; From the North to the South – Global Picture of our Waterways; Global Warming and the Future of our Waterways and Economic Impact of Federal Disaster – Cost Analysis and a final session, Thinking Outside the Box – Creative Solutions to Difficult Problems. For additional information about the conference, follow-up publications and future flood-related outreach efforts, contact Carolyn Fefferman at Carolyn_Fefferman@menendez.senate.gov.

Planting the Seed for New Jersey's Fisheries Future

The New Jersey Marine Sciences Consortium and its New Jersey Sea Grant Extension Program are in the final stages of establishing a special scholarship fund to honor Stew Tweed, a long-time Marine Extension Agent for New Jersey who passed away in February 2007.

The project will perpetuate Stew's memory, his passion for shellfish culture and his commitment to commercial fisheries by establishing a scholarship fund in his name. It will assist both graduating high-school seniors and undergraduate/graduate students pursuing studies and careers in aquaculture and fisheries.

There are a number of special events and unique fundraisers planned to honor Stew and fuel the scholarship fund, including a special ceremony at this year's Coast Day NJ event in Cape May (where Stew lived for many years) on October 14th, a fundraising T-Shirt and a Culinary Seafood Challenge. For more information about the Stew Tweed Scholarship Fund or

Remember Tweed



& Plant the Seed!

*The Stew Tweed
Fisheries & Aquaculture
Scholarship Fund*

any of the special events, visit the News and Events Page at njmsc.org.



2008 Knauss Fellowship Finalists Selected

New Jersey will be represented in the National Knauss Fellowship Program for the fourth consecutive year. Established in 1979 and named in honor of former NOAA Administrator John Knauss, one of Sea Grant's founders, the Knauss Fellowship gives students with an interest in marine sciences the opportunity to be directly involved in the national policy-making process for oceanic, coastal and Great Lakes resources. The program pairs selected graduate students with mentors in the legislative and executive branches of government in Washington, D.C.

Applicants from twenty-five of the thirty Sea Grant programs were judged by a rigorous and competitive selection process based on a number of criteria: the recommendations of superiors, the strength of their academic records, and relevant work experience in marine- or aquatic-related fields. Selected from the pool of applicants from New Jersey Sea Grant, Jaclyn Taylor is a Master's candidate at Rutgers University.

A native of Pennsylvania, Jaclyn's earliest memories

include family vacations on Long Beach Island and visits to the New Jersey State Aquarium at Camden, a combination which fed her interest in the ocean and marine life. It was no surprise that when she matriculated at Southampton College in Long Island, she chose to pursue at bachelor's degree in Marine Biology.

During her final year of undergraduate study at Southampton, Jaclyn enrolled in a fisheries biology course which she credits with focusing her professional interests. "It made me realize what I wanted to do." With this focus in mind, she applied to Rutgers' Masters Program in Ecology and Evolution. Currently working at the Haskin Shellfish Laboratory, Jaclyn ultimately sees herself working within a government agency and in more of a policy and management role than in academics. She will be officially designated as a Knauss Fellow and receive her assignment during placement week, slated to take place in Washington, D.C. during the week of December 2-7, 2007.



JACLYN
TAYLOR

Current Events

Symposium to Address Urban Impacts of Sea Level Rise

To help urban coastal stakeholders understand the impacts and risks of global climate change, the New Jersey Marine Sciences Consortium, New Jersey Sea Grant and Stevens Institute of Technology will be hosting an International Symposium on the *Chronic Risk of Global Climate Change to Urban Coasts and Economies*. The symposium will take place November 15-16, 2007 at Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken, New Jersey. International experts in science, engineering, planning, and policy are expected to participate. Topics to be addressed include: flood control planning, risk



assessment, navigation safety issues, and erosion control.

Global climate change is as much an issue for urban coasts as it is for other portions of the shore. Planners, decision-makers and insurance providers will require new and better tools to link storm events (frequency, extent, duration and magnitude) and/or rates of sea level rise with specific probabilities of occurrence. This will enable realistic response thresholds to be established, relating the potential for harm with various levels of action. For more information about the symposium, visit njmsc.org.