

Coastweeks 2019: hands-on learning

The CRMC, and Rhode Island Sea Grant and the University of Rhode Island’s Coastal Resources Center invite all interested environmentalists-in-training to take part in hands-on environmental education and stewardship as part of this year’s Coastweeks events.

Coastweeks 2019: A Celebration of the Coast, which runs from September 20 until October 10, is dedicated to fostering awareness, understanding and improved management of the coast.

Events begin on September 20, when CRMC’s Marine Resources Specialist Kevin Cute leads a training session on aquatic invasive species monitoring at Fort Adams in Newport at 9:30 a.m. The public is invited to collect, identify, and record the variety of species present at this monitoring site, and learn more about CRMC’s efforts to track and prevent the introduction and spread of aquatic invaders.

URI’s Providence campus will feature a panel presentation on the university’s climate science research on September 26 at 7 p.m. at Ocean Access and the City of Newport will be giving a trash skimmer tour on Monday, Oct. 7 at 5:30 p.m. at Perrotti Park in Newport.

URI’s Providence campus will feature a panel presentation on the university’s climate science research on September 26 at 7 p.m. at Ocean Access and the City of Newport will be giving a trash skimmer tour on Monday, Oct. 7 at 5:30 p.m. at Perrotti Park in Newport.

URI’s Providence campus will feature a panel presentation on the university’s climate science research on September 26 at 7 p.m. at Ocean Access and the City of Newport will be giving a trash skimmer tour on Monday, Oct. 7 at 5:30 p.m. at Perrotti Park in Newport.

URI’s Providence campus will feature a panel presentation on the university’s climate science research on September 26 at 7 p.m. at Ocean Access and the City of Newport will be giving a trash skimmer tour on Monday, Oct. 7 at 5:30 p.m. at Perrotti Park in Newport.



CRMC’s Kevin Cute examines a species of shrimp at last year’s AIS training as part of Coastweeks.

invited to collect, identify of species present at and learn more about track and prevent the spread of aquatic in-

dependence campus will presentation on the uni- cence research on Sep- Paff Auditorium. Clean City of Newport will be tour on Monday, Oct. 7 Park in Newport. chontaug salt marsh in ber 2 at 9 a.m. with Chaffee, policy analyst for the habitat restora-

Draft CRMC freshwater wetland rules released

In accordance with state legislation, amendments have been drafted to the state’s general laws regarding freshwater wetlands to strengthen their protection, and to streamline statewide permitting of projects and activities in proximity to freshwater wetlands with state standards for freshwater wetland buffers and setbacks. The process required the collaboration of the CRMC and RI Department of Environmental Management, each of which have jurisdiction over freshwater wetland areas in the state. These draft amendments were driven by state law and the recommendations of a legislative task force established by amendments to the Freshwater Wetlands Act in 2015.

The revised law recognized the important functions and values of freshwater wetlands and their buffers, the need to strengthen their protection and the need to also protect and regulate adjacent areas, and the value of having a singular set of state wetland protection regulations administered at the state level. Key provisions include:

- ◆ Strengthening protection at the state level and eliminating duplication of effort at the municipal level;
- ◆ Expanding state agency jurisdiction and requires standards for wetland buffers and setbacks;
- ◆ Regulations providing flexibility to assign varied levels of protection via standards; and
- ◆ Promoting cooperation and communication between state agencies and municipalities, and clarifying terminology within the regulations

[Learn More](#)

To remove your name from our mailing list, please [click here](#). Questions or comments can be sent to ldwyer@crmc.ri.gov.

Want to receive our improved Coastal Features printed newsletter? Email ldwyer@crmc.ri.gov.