



Photos from top to bottom: CRMC's David Beutel holding oysters, floating oyster bags in Point Judith Pond, and an aerial view of East Beach aquaculture farm (photos courtesy of Aylla Fox)

2019 RI Aquaculture Report shows steady growth in industry

The aquaculture industry in Rhode Island experienced upward growth in 2019, according to the R.I. Coastal Resources Management Council's annual status report, "Aquaculture in Rhode Island."

In 2019, the farm gate value (the value for the product paid to the farmer) of the state's aquaculture products experienced a small decrease, from \$5.8 million in 2018 to \$5.74 million in 2019, likely due to the 2018/2019 winter conditions, which resulted in high mortality for a number of farms. An oyster disease also affected four of the state's farms.

The number of farms increased from 76 to 81, and acres farmed grew by 19.78 acres to a total of 339.08 acres farmed. Oysters remain the aquaculture product of choice in the state, with more than 8.3 million sold for consumption, a slight decrease from last year.

[Read more here](#)

Rose Larisa living shoreline project breaks ground

The Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council (CRMC), The Nature Conservancy (TNC), and the City of East Providence will test the effectiveness of "living shoreline" erosion controls at Rose Larisa Park. Construction is scheduled to begin on April 27, 2020.

The steep coastal bluffs at the site of the former Crescent Park and the adjacent shoreline rise 20 to 30 feet above the narrow beach. Erosion has carved out the lower third of the bluff in several areas. Fallen trees, whose root systems have been undermined, are common features at the base of the bluff. Previous efforts to reduce erosion through traditional practices, such as the placement of riprap and seawalls, have failed.

At the northern end of Rose Larisa Park, the bank will be cut away to reduce the slope. Stone will be placed at the base of the bluff and logs made of coconut fiber will be installed farther up the slope. The bluff will be planted with native vegetation. Near the southern boundary of the park, small intertidal sills will be constructed, consisting of three low stone structures. They will be designed to be topped by seawater at high tide. Sand will be added between the sill and the base of the bluff and planted with native salt marsh plants.



[Read more here about the project and view construction videos and photos](#)

From the CRMC: How are we doing?

The last months have been difficult and strange for all of us. The CRMC has worked hard to maintain daily operations as normal, with the following procedures in place.

We have also created an online poll for anyone interested in providing feedback: https://www.allcounted.com/s?did=cflbv6phib8d7&lang=en_US

CRMC staff continue to conduct business via phone/conference calls, email, and virtual meetings, as well as continue field work and enforcement as needed. We continue to process applications as normal, with remote technology. Enforcement is on-call along with the rest of staff, so if you see something, please contact us as you normally would. Complaints can be phoned into our main number (401-783-3370) or emailed to our main account (cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov).

Documentation should be emailed or sent through the US Postal Service, unless different arrangements have been made with specific staff. Information on our Sand Trail Passes (formerly Beach Vehicle Permits) can be found here - <http://www.crmc.ri.gov/offroadvehicles.html>. Please email us your documentation if you'd like to purchase a pass and we will work with you to schedule a time to bring your vehicle to CRMC for sticker application and fee submittal. For information on the status of an application, please refer to our online database - <http://www.crmcpermitdatabase.org/pads>.

During this time, the CRMC remains committed to meeting the needs of our constituents, applicants, project partners, consultants, and other stakeholders. Thank you for your cooperation.

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