



New England Estuarine Research Society

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Fall 2016 Meeting

1:30 p.m. Thursday, October 20 to ~12 p.m. Saturday, October 22

(Thursday lunch begins at 12:15.)

[Spring House Hotel](#)

Block Island, Rhode Island



Important Due Dates:

September 2 - abstracts due

September 15 - student travel award application due

October 6 - early meeting registration due

until full - last day for conference rate at the hotel

October 13 - registration payment due to Treasurer



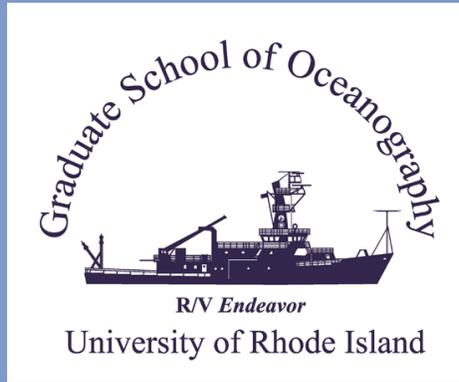
Hosts

University of Rhode Island, Graduate School of Oceanography

Veronica Berounsky, University of Rhode Island, Graduate School of Oceanography; Walter Berry, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; Autumn Oczkowski, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; Charles Roman, University of Rhode Island, Graduate School of Oceanography

Please return to Block Island with us this October! As many of you know, Block Island is a very special place (the Nature Conservancy calls it "one of the world's last great places") and October is a great time to visit this island 12 miles out from the Rhode Island mainland. As is tradition, we will be renting out the whole [Spring House Hotel](#), where the meeting will also be held. This meeting is akin to a NEERS retreat and there will be plenty of opportunities to network with other meeting attendees. Just a 15 minute walk from the ferry landing, Block Island's oldest (but renovated) hotel is situated on a 15-acre promontory overlooking Old Harbor, the Atlantic Ocean, and the Block Island foothills.

Platinum Supporters



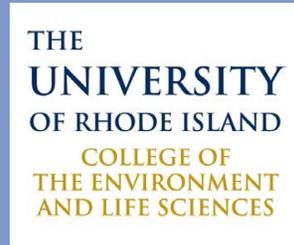
Gold Supporters



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Silver Supporters



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Bronze Supporter



Organizations are always welcome to be meeting sponsors and support is greatly appreciated. Please contact NEERS treasurer, [Courtney Schmidt](#) to learn about our sponsorship levels and how to support the NEERS meeting.

Meeting Details

[Special Symposium](#) - "Next questions and future directions: Emerging perspectives in Estuarine and Coastal Marine Science."

[Call For Papers](#) - presentation guidelines and submission form.

[Registration](#) - fee schedule and submission form.

[Program](#) - .pdf of the program

[Abstracts](#) - If you would like a hard copy of the abstracts at the meeting, please print your own copy prior to the meeting. A review copy will be available at the registration desk.

Society

[Students](#) - Presentation prizes and student travel awards.

Business Meeting - The NEERS Business Meeting will be held after the last presentation on Friday afternoon. All meeting participants are encouraged to attend and participate in the discussion.

Reminder - Fall 2016 is an election meeting for NEERS!
Please view the [position statements](#) of our candidates.

Accommodations

[Accommodations](#) - Hotel information.

[Meeting Site](#) - meeting venue and local attractions

[Field Trips](#)

[Meals and Social Events](#)

[Directions](#)

Contacts

General Information - [Veronica Berounsky](#) ; 401-783-8437 --or-- [Walter Berry](#) ; 401-782-3101

Abstracts or Other Program Concerns - [N. Tay Evans](#) or [Cathy Wigand](#)

Registration, Student Travel Awards - [Courtney Schmidt](#)

Website Issues - [Brett Branco](#)

Having trouble accessing the email addresses? Download a .pdf of the [Team NEERS](#) contact information.

contact us: [Team NEERS](#)



NEERS 2016 Election – Position Statements

Two candidates for President-Elect (→ President → Past-President):

Sue Adamowicz

Jim Latimer

Our current Secretary and Treasurer are up for re-election, running unopposed:

Autumn Oczkowski – Secretary

Courtney Schmidt – Treasurer

We will take nominations from the floor during the business meeting.

Elections will be held at the business meeting on Block Island, Fall 2016. Only members present at the business meeting may vote.

At the business meeting, we will discuss and vote on options for online voting moving forward, thus allowing absentee votes in future elections.

Candidate Statements are on the following pages.

President-Elect (→ President → Past-President)

Susan C. Adamowicz, Ph.D.

I grew up in Rhode Island near the shores of the tidal Palmer River. My brothers, the family dog, and I would go wandering through the salt marsh collecting ribbed mussels and digging soft-shelled clams in the mud flats. Rhode Island is a small state, so as was the case for many of my classmates, I fledged upland (B.S. University of VT) and inland (M.S. Envir Science, M.A. Ecology, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN) before realizing the coast was home. I worked for the RI Dept. of Environmental Management/Division of Water Resources and then in the Narragansett Bay Estuary Program for a total of about 8 years. With support and encouragement from some great professors and classmates, I obtained a Ph.D. in Biological Oceanography from URI/Graduate School of Oceanography. Since 2003, I've been with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at the Rachel Carson National Wildlife Refuge. As the US FWS Land Management Research and Demonstration Biologist, I develop (with partners!) innovative salt marsh restoration techniques, co-ordinate the Region's salt marsh integrity (SMI) assessment effort, and consult with refuges from Maine to Virginia. While in this post I've served on national (Conserving the Future) and regional (SMI development) teams.

It seems that NEERS has always been part of my professional life. There are so many attractive aspects of NEERS – the way it welcomes students, its generosity to works in progress, a positive collegial spirit, and its drive to advance estuarine science. After years of attending meetings, I was asked to be a member-at-large and have been fortunate enough to stay on through several NEERSian administrations. Along the way I've been on the local planning committee for 3 NEERS meetings, most recently the spring 2016 (York, Maine). Now that some personal commitments have come to a close, I'm hoping to give back to NEERS in larger way.

As President of NEERS, I would seek to keep our organization strong by supporting existing activities as well as looking toward future generations by:

- encouraging new memberships from across the region (e.g. seeking appropriate cross-pollinations such as with US FWS)
- providing “value-added” experiences for student members – with an aim toward transitioning them to full membership (e.g. job shadowing, mini-workshops)
- increasing membership diversity (e.g. coordinate with organizations that promote youth connections with nature; making connections with additional colleges and universities).

With Hilary Neckles as CERF President Elect, we have a unique opportunity to strengthen both organizations – seeking that perfect CERF-Affiliate balance; supporting a successful meeting in Providence in 2017 and ensuring a resilient future.

President-Elect (→ President → Past-President)

Jim Latimer, Ph.D.

The highlight of my relationship with NEERS was working with all the great NEERSians when I co-chaired, with Giancarlo Cicchetti, the (C)ERF 2007 meeting in Providence, Rhode Island. So many from NEERS collaborated with us on the steering committee and during the meeting, that it really was our own “baby.” It was a great a success and one of the great satisfactions of my career. Who can forget ClubERF, ERFUnplugged, and the incomparable Ms. Nitrogen!



But now as president of NEERS I will be on board to make CERF 2017 even better!

As Pope Francis has stated “We received this world as an inheritance from past generations, but also as a loan from future generations, to whom we will have to return it!” This sums up very simply my philosophy as a scientist and its relevance to NEERS. I take seriously the goal of environmental sustainability. Through my most recent work on ecosystem services, I look for measures to help people quantify the value of the environment. For my children and grandchildren I want a new environmental ethic to take hold, one that started when I was young with the beginnings of the environmental movement and the formation of the EPA, to one that now has produced the Paris agreement on climate change. I think NEERS has a role to play in such a reawakening – through research, yes, but even more so through outreach and education.

I would like to be president of NEERS to advance these concepts with such a dynamic organization. I hope to see NEERS expand its educational and outreach presence throughout New England and would love the opportunity to work with others to expand this horizon. Over the years I have connected with many people both in NEERS and beyond and I believe those connections, both personal and professional, will prove invaluable to furthering the outreach of NEERS to the next generation.

Jim Latimer received his BS and MS in Chemistry from Syracuse University and the University of Rhode Island respectively. He received his PhD in Chemical Oceanography at the Graduate School of Oceanography in the last millennium. He worked as a marine research scientist at the GSO, looking at the organic geochemistry of organic and inorganic pollutants, and later, while at EPA, he worked on paleoecology, watershed-estuary interactions, ecosystem services and citizen science initiatives at the intersection of science, culture, and management at HQ EPA in Washington DC, for the Long Island Sound Study, and the Gulf of Maine Council’s EcoSystem Partnership.

Secretary

Autumn Oczkowski, Ph.D. (running unopposed)

It's been a great two years as NEERS Secretary and I have appreciated the opportunity to help the organization. I am now even more committed to the NEERS community and the important work we do in bringing New England coastal scientists and managers together to share their research and build collaborations. In a field where our work is resource-limited and rejection is the norm, NEERS meetings are a warm and collegial place for constructive scientific discussion and support. I am proud to be a part of that and would like to ensure that it continues. Plus, I think that I've finally learned the ropes of being secretary. Thus, I am running for a second term in office.

As a reminder of my background: I am an ecologist with a particular interest in coastal ecosystems. I have a BS in geology from Washington and Lee University, a Masters in Earth Sciences, Geochemical Systems from the University of New Hampshire, and a Ph.D. in Biological Oceanography from the University of Rhode Island's Graduate School of Oceanography. I am currently a research ecologist at the EPA's Atlantic Ecology Division (AED) in Narragansett, RI. Working at AED provides me with the opportunity to conduct research across a wide range of coastal systems. For example, some of my current research looks at how the Narragansett Bay ecosystem is responding to recent nutrient reductions, the ecological impact of intense urbanization on the San Juan Bay Estuary (Puerto Rico), and the net impact of multiple stressors on coastal salt marshes. I am committed to ensuring that NEERS remains an important network for scientists and managers and that we continue to develop connections among institutions and across systems.

Treasurer

Courtney Schmidt, Ph.D. (running unopposed)

Hello NEERSians! Your neighborhood friendly Treasurer is up for re-election. Being Treasurer of NEERS has been an enlightening experience. I've worked with amazing meeting planning committees, a dedicated executive board who are tireless in their efforts. I've enjoyed learning how this organization works, and how the Treasurer can make members' lives easier. Over the last 2 years, I've worked with the planning and executive committees to move NEERS to be more dependent on our database system, streamlining registration, invoicing, payments, and on-site needs. We reduced our paper by only offering receipts online, and new this year, is an on-site service to pay invoices and accept donations using PayPal's credit card reader. Over the next two years, if elected, I hope to continue streamlining the financial side of NEERS, and create a better experience for members.



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Conference Accommodations

[Spring House Hotel](#)

52 Spring Street

Block Island, Rhode Island

NEERS rooms are reserved until the hotel is full, which could happen soon, so call for reservations.

Please identify yourself as registering for the NEERS conference rate. Check in time is 3 p.m. but you can request early check in for Thursday.

room rate = \$125 per room or \$125 per person, depending on room type (tax not included in this figure)

The Spring House is a short walk (0.5 miles) from the ferry

The **Spring House Hotel**, known to Islanders as “the Jewel” for 160 years, will be familiar to NEERSians since the Fall 2000, 2004, 2008, and 2012 NEERS meetings were held there. It offers Victorian charm and elegance in comfortable accommodations with modern amenities in two adjacent historic buildings and several guest houses. The dining room offers exquisite meals with majestic ocean views. All accommodations, meals, and meeting events will be at the Spring House Hotel, 52 Spring Street, Block Island, RI. Spouses, significant others, friends, and children are welcome.

There are several types of rooms at the Spring House Hotel, so you might want to check out their webpage before you finalize your reservation (<http://www.springhouseblockisland.com/>).

The standard rooms at the Spring House Hotel have a queen bed or two twin beds and are \$125/room plus tax. These rooms are in the main hotel and also the adjacent hotel, the Mott House. All rooms include a private bath and continental breakfast

We would like to encourage everyone to consider sharing a suite at the Spring House Hotel, this option is more economical than a standard room that has one bed. Consider this an opportunity to catch up with NEERS friends that you don't see regularly! Suites have two beds (a regular suite has a queen bed in one room and a full size pull out sofa bed in a separate room, a studio suite has a queen bed and a full size pullout sofa bed in one large room) and are \$125 per suite per night plus taxes. All suites include a private bath and continental breakfast.

The Spring House Guesthouses, the Seaside Homes, are right behind the main building and have very nice views. Because these have 3 bedrooms and three full bathrooms plus a living room, dining area, and kitchen, these would be ideal for colleagues, labs, classes, or families that want to be together. On the second floor, each house has a master bedroom with a king bed and adjoining full bath, another bedroom with a queen bed, a third bedroom with twin beds, and the second full bathroom. The first floor has a third full bath and the common rooms mentioned above, plus dishwasher, and washer & dryer. All this for \$125 plus taxes per bed per

night. Even though there is a kitchen, the room rate includes continental breakfast at the hotel.

New to NEERS at the Spring House are the Barn Apartments. There are three Barn apartments. Barn 1 is similar to the guesthouses with a living room and kitchen and three bedrooms: one has a king bed, one has a queen bed, and one has two twin beds. Barn 2 has a living room and a kitchen and two bedrooms: one with a queen bed and one with a king bed. Barn 3 has a living room and a kitchenette and one bedroom with a king bed. The price in the Barn Apartments is also \$125 / bed plus tax. The room rate includes continental breakfast at the hotel.

As we know, the Spring House Hotel is not your typical hotel with a huge number of rooms of all types. But we hold NEERS there because it is large enough to accommodate the usual NEERS attendance. So help us out by sharing a suite or guest house. And filling up the Spring House with NEERSians is more conducive to the informal discussions and interactions that are a hallmark of NEERS!

If you have other questions, contact [Veronica Berounsky](#) or [Walter Berry](#) .

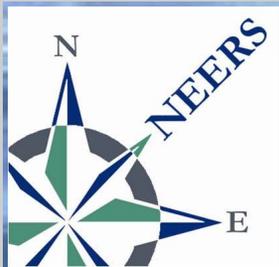
Other Options

Bed and Breakfasts

Unfortunately, our hosts have called around for other options, but all other places are closed for the season. If you want to go but can't find a room, please contact one of the organizers - we will do our best to find someone willing to share a room!

Hotels

contact us: [Team NEERS](#)



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Meeting Venue

The Fall 2016 meeting of the New England Estuarine Research Society (NEERS) will be held at the Spring House Hotel, Block Island, Rhode Island.

Located on scenic Block Island, the Spring House Hotel is just a short walk to the ferry, all attractions, shopping and the breathtaking waterfront.

[Spring House Hotel](#)

52 Spring Street
 Block Island, Rhode Island
 Phone: (401) 466-5844 | (800) 234-9263



You need to either take the ferry or a plane to get to the island. The “Block Island Ferry” runs from Point Judith in Narragansett to Old Harbor, Block Island.

GETTING THERE:

It is important to remember this meeting is on an island! Here’s the schedule for the meeting dates of the only ferry running from Pt. Judith, RI at that time:

	Departs Point Judith	Departs Old Harbor, Block Island	
	Wed 10a, 2:15p	12:30p, 4p	
	Thu 6:30a, 11a, 4:45p	8:15a, 2:30p, 6:30p	
	Fri 9a, 1p, 6p	10:45a, 4p	
	Sat 11a, 4p	8:15a, 2p, 5:30p	
	Sun 11a, 4p	12:45p, 5:30p	
Point Judith Rates	One Way	Same Day Round Trip	Different Day Round Trip
ADULT	13.05	23.75	25.95

SENIOR (65 and Over)	12.55	22.75	24.95
CHILD (Ages 5 - 11)	*6.35	*11.50	*12.70

You should be at the ferry dock a half hour before departure. Missing your ferry is not a legitimate reason for getting your hotel deposit back, so don't be late! The trip to the island takes about an hour and costs \$25.95 round trip for an adult (and \$24.95 for senior citizens, \$12.70 for children, and free for children 4 and under). See also www.blockislandferry.com for more information or to order tickets on line or call toll free 1-866-783-7996 (the local number is 783-7996). (Note that Friday's session will start about 8:00 AM, and the first ferry over to Block Island arrives about 10. So if you are coming by ferry, you must arrive sometime Thursday in order to be there for the beginning of the session on Friday. Note also that if you are arriving Friday for the banquet, you can catch the 6 pm ferry to get to Block Island just in time for dinner.) Parking is available at various lots near the Ferry Dock in Point Judith for \$5-\$20/day. You will NOT need a car for the meeting. A bike is a good idea to bring (only \$3.50 each way on the ferry) or rent on island, one can easily bike most of the island in a few hours (with beautiful views and not too many hills!).

See www.blockislandchamber.com for airplane schedules and other information.

Night Life

Yellow Kittens, pool table, Jimmy Buffet on the juke box – need I say more?

Local Attractions

Since Block Island has been designated as one of the “12 Last Great Places” in the Western Hemisphere by the Nature Conservancy, we would be remiss if we didn't give you time to roam the island or take a field trip.

Come over Wednesday afternoon or if you are an early riser, take the 6:30 am ferry on Thursday to Block Island, and have several hours to explore on your own before the Symposium & lunch at 12:30. Bring your bike to do some sight-seeing or to get to the Island's 28 miles of nature trails. Block Island contains a variety of habitats, such as morainal grasslands, coastal bluffs, 17 miles of sand or cobble beaches (don't forget your swimsuit!), salt & brackish ponds, sand dunes, and various freshwater wetland ecosystems.

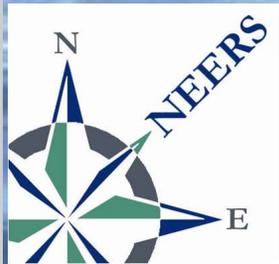
More than one-third of the island's land is now preserved as open space (43%). Block Island is home to over 40 rare or endangered species and natural communities, including the globally endangered American Burying Beetle. There is also a stand of native Phragmites!

Block Island has been called the best birding site in North America during the fall migration so bring your binoculars.

Check out more about Block Island through The Nature Conservancy's web page and search on Block Island. You can find a variety of hiking/biking/sightseeing maps on the internet.

contact us: [Team NEERS](#)





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Field Trips - Saturday afternoon

Block Island Field Trip

New England Estuarine Research Society

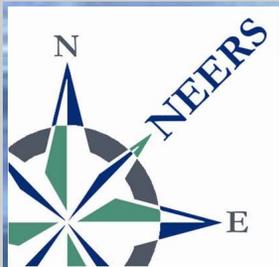
October 22, 2016 (12:30 – 4pm)

The Saturday afternoon Block Island field trip will begin with a visit to Spring House Pond, just a short distance from the Spring House, the venue for the Fall 2016 NEERS meeting. Craig Wood (ESS Group, E. Providence, RI) will lead this portion of the field trip, discussing the historic and ecological relevance of the site, vulnerability of the pond to coastal erosion, and management alternatives to consider.

The field trip will continue to several other sites on Block Island, including Mohegan Bluffs, Crescent Beach, and West Beach, among others. Bryan Oakley, a coastal geologist with Eastern Connecticut State University, will lead the group highlighting the geologic setting of Block Island, discuss bluff erosion and responses to Superstorm Sandy, and demonstrate field techniques used to monitor coastal changes.

We will be traveling around Block Island on a school bus. The field trip will proceed rain or shine. Moderate walking should be expected. The field trip will end with plenty of time to catch the 5:30pm ferry to Point Judith.

contact us: [Team NEERS](#)



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Meals and Social Events

NEERS Welcoming Social and Dinner - Thursday, 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Location: Spring House Hotel, Victoria's Parlor

Time: bar and appetizers open at 5:00 p.m. (included in registration), dinner at 7:00 p.m. (additional fee)

The Welcoming Social will be held immediately following the Symposium. There will be light refreshments served, a cash bar, and a chance to mingle and chat about topics of estuarine and coastal significance with the astute and erudite NEERSians gathered for this special meeting.

Dinner will be served following the social in the Spring House Dining Room. The dinner will be a complete buffet that includes baked chicken and lasagna buffer with veggies and roasted potatoes. Vegetarian and vegan options will be available. Thursday dinner is NOT included in the cost of registration, members and friends are invited to sign up for the Thursday dinner when they register).

PRE-REGISTRATION IS ESSENTIAL FOR THE DINNER, only those that pre-register for the dinner can be guaranteed a meal due to space limitations. Please indicate whether you will attend on the meeting registration form. **There are only a few other restaurants open on the Island during this time of year.**

NEERS Social, Dinner, and Evening Festivities - Friday, 5:00 p.m. to 9:30

Location: Spring House Hotel

Time: bar and appetizers open at 5:00 p.m. (included in registration), dinner at 7:30 p.m. (additional fee)

Members and friends are invited to sign up for the dinner when they register. The Friday evening festivities will begin with a social, included in the meeting registration fee. Light refreshments will be served and drinks will be available from the bar (cash bar).

Dinner will be served following the social in the Spring House Dining Room. The dinner will be a complete buffet that includes baked scrod, rosemary chicken, veggie pasta and assorted desserts. Thursday dinner is NOT included in the cost of registration, members and friends are invited to sign up for the Thursday dinner when they register). Dinner will be followed by awards, fun and games (a Walter Berry specialty, personalized for NEERS). Later pool and dancing...

PRE-REGISTRATION IS ESSENTIAL FOR THE DINNER, only those that pre-register for the dinner can be guaranteed a meal due to space limitations. Please indicate whether you will attend on the meeting registration form. **There are only a few other restaurants open on the Island during this time of year.**

Other Meals

Meeting registration includes lunch on Thursday and Friday, the socials on Thursday and Friday, and mid-morning and afternoon breaks. All meals will be served in the Spring House Dining Room. Breakfast is included with hotel room, for guests of the Spring House Hotel; please check with your hotel if you are staying elsewhere.

LUNCH

Thursday lunch – included in registration fee, but additional fee applies if extra person wants to join us

Pasta, salad, and bread buffet

Friday lunch - included in registration fee, but additional fee applies if extra person wants to join us

Assorted pizzas and salad

Saturday box lunch - \$15 (not included in the registration fee)

A Saturday box-lunch (for field trips or travelers) is available for \$15. Please pre-register for a box-lunch when completing the registration form.

DINNER

You must pre-register for Thursday and Friday dinners. These meals are not included in the registration fee to allow people the flexibility of choosing where they will eat. Members and friends are invited to sign up for the Thursday dinner and the Friday Banquet when they register.

There are only a few other restaurants open on the Island during this time of year.

BREAKFAST

A continental breakfast is included with your Spring House Hotel room registration fee. If you are staying elsewhere, breakfast at the Spring House is not included.

Dietary Concerns?

Please contact [Brett Branco](#) with any dietary concerns.

contact us: [Team NEERS](#)



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Special Symposium

Thursday, 1:00 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.

Location - [main meeting venue](#)

Symposium Title - Next questions and future directions: Emerging perspectives in Estuarine and Coastal Marine Science.

The symposium will take place on Thursday and will “kick-off” the NEERS meeting.

Oral presentations will be followed by a social hour.

Symposium speakers will be invited by the local planning committee.

Symposium Logistics:

The Special Symposium is how we kick off the NEERS meeting on Thursday. At the Block Island meetings that means that most people take the ferry from Galilee at 11 AM, check in and have lunch (included in your meeting registration fee) at the Spring House Hotel at 12:15, and then sit down for the Special Symposium, which runs from 1:30 – 5:15. Discussion continues at the social hour in the same room. People that have come just for the day can then go home on the ferry which leaves the Island at 6:30 PM.

Background and Goals:

Where will we find the answers to the complex environmental problems we are presently facing? A good place to look is to the up and coming scientists that are examining these issues and using approaches, insights, perspectives, and tools new to estuarine and coastal science, especially those that are combining the natural and social sciences. We will be hearing from a number of “science young” researchers and challenging them to speak on some of the big emerging environmental questions they are working on, and propose new research and methods to answer them.

The local planning committee has deliberately invited speakers with a wide range of disciplines, from sediment transport to fisheries biology, and using a variety of techniques ranging from coring to remote sensing. We have asked our speakers to speak for 20 minutes, leaving 5 minutes for discussion. We will do three talks, take a 15 minute break, and then do two talks, leaving 30 minutes for general discussion. The five speakers are:

Neil Ganju, USGS, Woods Hole Coastal and Marine Science Center

Lora Harris, University of Maryland, Chesapeake Biological Laboratory

Austin Humphries, University of Rhode Island, Dept. of Fisheries, Animal, and Veterinary Sciences

Colleen Mouw, University of Rhode Island, Graduate School of Oceanography

Elizabeth Watson, Drexel University, Dept. of Biodiversity, Earth, and Environmental Science

Each speaker will be asked to address the following main themes:

What do you think are the big up and coming problems in Coastal and Estuarine science?

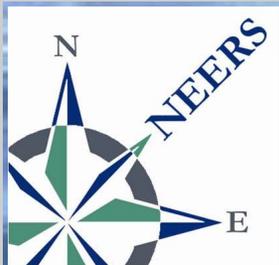
Which of these you working on?

What new techniques, approaches, and perspectives will be required to handle these problems?

What are the management applications of your work, and who would use the information?

Where do we go from here?

contact us: [Team NEERS](#)



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Call For Papers

Abstracts are due September 1, 2016



[Abstract Submission Form](#)

If you experience problems with submitting your abstract, contact the co-webmaster, [Brett Branco](#) .



Abstract submissions for contributed oral and poster presentations are invited on any subject related to estuaries or coastal environments. Reports of work in progress as well as work in advanced stages and reviews of relevant topics are encouraged. Contributed oral and poster presentations will be scheduled for Friday morning and afternoon and Saturday morning.

You have a choice!

NEERS offers a few choices for presentation styles...

Standard Oral - Regale us with an oral presentation of your work. These talks will be limited to 12 minutes with an additional 3 minutes for discussion. The meeting begins with a **Thursday Special Symposium** within a specified thematic area. The meeting continues on Friday and Saturday with the **Regular Session**. Related topics are usually grouped together in the schedule.

Ignite -This fast-paced presentation style is a chance for speakers to really focus on their main message. Each speaker has 5 minutes to present 20 slides that advance automatically every 15 seconds – when your slides are done, so are you! Ignite sessions provide an opportunity to share information that might not fit into a standard oral or poster session -- the more concise speaking slot and quick slide transitions lend themselves to a more conversational and storytelling presentation style. Please check the [Ignite](#) page for more information.

Poster - Poster presentations are a great way to get up close and personal with your audience. Poster presentations will be displayed throughout the meeting and dedicated time for poster viewing is built into the schedule.

A few details...

Abstracts must be submitted online (link above).

All presenters must be or become a NEERS member. Information on becoming a member is included on the pre-registration form, or at [Join NEERS](#).

Prizes

Students will compete for the **Ketchum** and **Rankin** Prizes for oral presentations or the **Dean** and **Warren** Prizes for posters ([prize information](#)). Presentation prizes will be awarded at the end of the meeting on Saturday. Students are automatically entered into the prize competition. Students who have won an award are ineligible to win that award again, though they may still compete for the other awards.

All poster presenters (students and non-students) will compete for the **3-3 Award**, which includes a cash award of \$33 (judged by students). The "3-3 Rule" generally states that the main point of the poster can be understood by a viewer from 3 feet away, in 3 minutes. This award was conceived to encourage scientists to convey information more clearly to other scientists and the public. Please see the Poster Guidelines section below for more information. Many thanks to the folks at SEERS for the idea and judging form.

All attendees may compete in the **Poster Trivia Contest**, which includes an award of a \$20 NEERS membership. Details will be provided at the poster session. Meeting attendees answer a series of trivia question based on the poster presentations. A winner is chosen by lottery from complete and correct submissions.

Instructions for Preparing Abstracts

Please select your first, second, and third choice for presentation format. Although we will try very hard to accommodate everyone's first choice, selecting multiple options increases the likelihood of securing a spot in the program. Options will include: Standard Oral Presentation - Regular Session; [Ignite](#) Oral Presentation; Poster; and Invited Oral Presentation - Thursday Special Symposium.

If you are submitting your abstract for presentation in the special symposium, select "Invited Oral Presentation, Thursday Special Symposium", which appears under First Choice only. For this meeting, all symposium speakers will be invited by the meeting hosts, see the Special Symposium page for more details.

A confirmation page will be emailed to you upon successful submission of your abstract to the NEERS website. If you do not receive this confirmation email, please resubmit your abstract. Contact the co-webmaster, [Brett Branco](#), with recurring problems. Following the deadline for submitting abstracts, all submissions will be confirmed by the program chair and the lead author will be notified of his/her scheduled time. Contact one of the co-Program Chairs, [N. Tay Evans](#) or [Cathy Wigand](#), with questions.

1. Abstracts are to be submitted electronically. If you are having problems with the submission form, contact the co-webmaster ([Brett Branco](#)).
2. All abstracts have a 1750-character limit (about 250 words). The character limit includes spaces, and applies to the body of the abstract only; the authors and title are excluded from the character limit. Web page submissions are constrained automatically to the allotted amount of text, you will be prompted if your abstract exceed 1750 characters. You may determine your character count with your word processing program.
3. Author/Address field. Author names have last names spelled out and initials for first (and middle if appropriate) names. If there are multiple authors, list all authors first followed by all addresses in the Sample Abstract format, and place an asterisk following the last name of the presenter. If authors are from different institutions, use numbers in parentheses to associate individuals with the correct address (no numbers are necessary if all authors are from the same institution). Addresses should include the institution, town, and state -- no streets, no zip codes. Separate addresses with semicolons.
4. The presentation title must be in capital letters.

5. Special characters. Do not use your Word Processing program for special fonts such as underlining, italics, superscripts, or subscripts, as these font codes will not be transmitted correctly via the web form. Rather, use the following codes for special fonts. For example, for the genus *Zostera* to appear in italics it should be surrounded by the "start italics" and "end italics" codes as follows:

<i>Zostera</i>

Codes:

<i></i> for italics

<u></u> for underlining

 for superscript

 for subscript

For the following symbol to appear

δ

μ

α

Δ

®

Insert this code online

&delta

&mu

&alpha

&Delta

®

Note that these special codes are counted towards the total number of characters in your abstract.

*** SAMPLE ABSTRACT FORMAT***

Cadillac*, M. T.(1) and I. M. A. Hiker (2).

(1) Department of Environmental Sociology and Outdoor Recreation, Coastal College, State-of-Mind, ME; (2) Department of Trail Maintenance, For Est College, ME.

A SYSTEMATIC SAMPLING OF THE ALLURE OF ACADIA NATIONAL PARK

Acadia National Park boasts many dazzling spectacles, including the pounding surf of Thunder Hole, stunning views of Somes Sound and Frenchman Bay, and the first glimpse of sunrise in the US. Evidence suggests, however, that the park's true charm lies in its quiet beauty. We hiked ten trails from sea level to mountain summit, paddled eight 5-km stretches of island shoreline, and biked along 100 km of carriage roads, recording observations at regular intervals. Results confirm the importance of cumulative, small pleasures to the park's allure, such as sights of cliffs tumbling into the sea, islands emerging from the fog, pristine marshes, 300+ species of birds including breeding peregrine falcons, dense <i>Ruppia</i> and eelgrass beds, and diverse woodlands. We conclude that excursions off the loop road will enhance visitor experiences.

PowerPoint Presentations

The conference computer (PC) will use PowerPoint 2010. Please be sure to check your presentation for compatibility with this version.

We will load all PowerPoint presentations onto an IBM-compatible laptop well before each session. Please bring your PowerPoint presentation on a USB thumb drive to the projection desk at the NEERS meeting. We will load your presentations the evening before your talk. Please make sure your file can be read by another computer before you hand it in. Speakers should not plan to use their own computers for their presentations.

For presentations that include graphics or media other than standard PowerPoint slides (e.g., complicated animations or embedded video clips; photographic slides or overheads), authors will need to make additional arrangements. Please contact the co-webmaster,

[Brett Branco](#) , for more information.

Poster Guidelines

There will be a poster session on Friday afternoon. Presenters are expected to be present during the dedicated poster viewing sessions. Posters may be mounted beginning Thursday evening. All posters will remain on display through Saturday morning.

In designing your poster, keep content simple and provide a clear message in text that is large enough to read from a distance. Further details can be provided in discussions with attendees or via a handout that also includes your contact information. Good resources for preparing posters can be found at: <http://www.ncsu.edu/project/posters/>

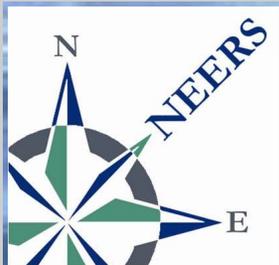
NEERS will have available our foam-core mounting boards, pushpins, and tape to display posters. The maximum poster dimensions are 36" x 48". For those of you who prefer conversational discussion of your work, this may be the most appropriate presentation style. Please check the poster option on your abstract form. If you have special needs (a power outlet, etc.) contact the co-webmaster, [Brett Branco](#) .

All posters will be eligible for the **3-3 Award**, which includes a \$33 cash prize (judged by the students). The "3-3 Rule" generally states that the main point of the poster can be understood by a viewer from 3 feet away, in 3 minutes. This award was conceived to encourage scientists to convey their information clearly to the public. The award is not meant to trivialize presentations into just "pretty" formats without serious content. Rather, the award is sincerely intended to urge presentation of data and information in a simple, understandable format – a "story" – without large blocks of text. The intent is for the presenter to think like the viewer – is the story clearly presented with only its essential elements? "Viewer" includes not only fellow scientists in your field – rather, the entire NEERS audience, from physiologist to geologist, and perhaps, ultimately, the general public. Streamlining makes the storyline easy to understand. This understanding facilitates interaction. (Many thanks to the folks at SEERS who provided the original 3-3 idea and the [judging form](#).) Two resources to help get you thinking are provided below...

[Creating Effective Poster Presentations](#) from NC State University

[Designing an Effective Research Poster](#) from UC Merced

contact us: [Team NEERS](#)



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Registration

Registration is open.

Early registration closes on October 6.

After October 6, walk-in registration rates apply. You may still register on-line after this date.



[Registration Form](#)

If you experience problems submitting your registration, contact the webmaster, [Brett Branco](#)



Have you already registered but still need to pay? Visit the [registration site](#), login, "View Profile" and check your Invoices.



Payment accepted by check, money order, PayPal, or credit card (via PayPal).

Registration Fee Schedule

	Early Registration Rate	Walk-in Rate
student	\$49	\$64
member	\$99	\$119
non-member	\$119	\$139
one-day student	\$24 (Th); \$29 (Fr); \$19 (Sa)	\$34 (Th); \$39 (Fr); \$29 (Sa)
one-day member	\$49 (Th); \$69 (Fr); \$34 (Sa)	\$59 (Th); \$79 (Fr); \$44 (Sa)
one-day non-member	\$69 (Th); \$89 (Fr); \$54 (Sa)	\$79 (Th); \$99 (Fr); \$64 (Sa)

Registration includes the Thursday and Friday Socials, Thursday and Friday lunches, and all coffee breaks. One-day registration is for a specific day. See the [Meals and Social Events](#) page for details on the options being offered.

Additional Fees

[NEERS Membership](#) - student*

\$5

NEERS Membership - regular*	\$20
Thursday Dinner Ticket	\$38
Friday Banquet Ticket ** - regular & non-presenting students	\$40
Friday Banquet Ticket ** - presenting students	free
Saturday Box Lunch	\$15
Field Trip	free

* The registration form includes a link to join NEERS ([membership details](#)). Loyal NEERS members, annual dues are collected at the spring meeting.

** Students who are lead presenters and entered into the Undergraduate or Graduate prize competitions receive a complimentary banquet ticket. For everyone, pre-registration is highly recommended, tickets are usually not available for walk-in registrations.

contact us: [Team NEERS](#)