



Massachusetts
Bays Program



June 5-6 [Cape Cod Coastal Conference](#) Barnstable

June 8 [Run for the Beach 5k](#) Beverly

June 16-18 [Sustaining Coastal Cities Climate Change Symposium](#) Cambridge

Job Posting: MA Division of Ecological Restoration seeks [Stream Continuity Specialist](#) Closes June 10



MassBays Welcomes Summer Intern

We are pleased to welcome [Sarah Stanley](#) to our team. Sarah will be supporting a number of central office projects as well as getting out to see work in the regions. Sarah joins us in between finishing her undergraduate degree in May and beginning her graduate work in August at Clark University. Welcome Sarah!

News from the Bays

Spring 2014

Sea Level Rise Workshop Draws Full House

The [Association to Preserve Cape Cod](#) sponsored a day-long workshop on May 29 to examine the interaction between sea level rise and groundwater resources on the Cape. The event was a huge success with 50 attendees, including private citizens, planners, conservation agents, coastal geologists, representatives of local and state agencies, and non-profit organizations. Thanks to project partners - the U.S. Geological Survey, Cape Cod Commission, Barnstable County Coastal Resources Committee, and The Nature Conservancy - and our fellow funders, including the Massachusetts Environmental Trust. Video of the workshop will be posted to the APCC [website](#) soon.

Horseshoe Crab Survey Marks Seventh Year

The South Shore's annual horseshoe crab survey, conducted in partnership with the MA Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF), kicked off in late April. MassBays Boston staff joined project manager Sara Grady to wade along the edge of Duxbury Bay to mark the occasion. No crabs had arrived yet to spawn, but surveys will continue around the new and full moons in May and June. MassBays contributes to a statewide effort to better understand local horseshoe crab populations and the effectiveness of current management regulations for the species. The Duxbury site is one of four long-term sites in the state. For more information about the survey, contact [Sara Grady](#).



Conservation Moorings in Salem Sound

MassBays' regional partner, [Salem Sound Coastwatch](#), and the Manchester Yacht Club hosted 40 people on May 8 for a presentation about [eelgrass](#) and [conservation moorings](#). Tay Evans, DMF biologist, spoke to the importance of eelgrass as nursery habitat and shoreline stabilization. Evans showed images of local healthy eelgrass beds and eelgrass beds degraded by conventional moorings. Bion Pike, Manchester's harbormaster, explained how conventional moorings in two town mooring fields will soon be replaced with conservation moorings as part of an eelgrass mitigation project. To learn more about conservation moorings, check out this [report](#) funded by MassBays. To learn more about the Salem Sound project, contact [Barbara Warren](#).



Regions Remix

MassBays has reconfigured the Salem Sound and Metro Boston regions to make sure that all municipalities in our large [planning area](#) (from Salisbury to Provincetown) have ready access to technical support. As of July 1, the new Lower North Shore Region, serve by Barbara Warren at [Salem Sound Coastwatch](#), will encompass Salem Sound municipalities as well as Lynn, Nahant, and Swampscott. Metro Boston Regional Coordinator [Lisa Engler](#) continues to serve municipalities from Revere to Cohasset.

Regional Coordinators & Service Providers

Upper North Shore:
[Peter Phippen](#), [Merrimack Valley Planning Commission](#)

Salem Sound:
[Barbara Warren](#), [Salem Sound Coastwatch](#)

Metropolitan Boston:
[Lisa Berry Engler](#),
[Massachusetts Bays Program](#)

South Shore:
[Sara Grady](#), [North and South Rivers Watershed Association](#)

Cape Cod:
[Jo Ann Muramoto](#), [Association to Preserve Cape Cod](#)

Tidmarsh Farms - Fish Passage Improvements

Fish passage assessment for the [Tidmarsh Farms restoration project](#) is underway at Plymouth's Fresh Pond, with help from MassBays. MassBays' Sara Grady helped install two water level loggers to monitor existing hydrology in the system. This information will inform potential fish passage improvements. Sara is also educating local students about the greater Tidmarsh Farms restoration effort. In early May she spoke with students from Rising Tide Charter School in Plymouth. Partners for the fish passage part of the project include the [MA Division of Ecological Restoration](#) and the [National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration](#), although the larger project has many other partners.

Great Marsh Eelgrass Restoration Continues

Following up on research completed last year through a [MassBays Research and Planning Grant](#), eelgrass restoration work on the Upper North Shore continues. On April 22, MassBays staff, North Shore high school students, and other volunteers helped researchers tie eelgrass shoots to biodegradable grids in preparation for transplanting. The shoots had been harvested the previous day from two healthy eelgrass beds in Boston Harbor and Cape Cod Bay. The grids were then placed at restoration sites within Essex Bay and Plum Island Sound. Monitoring of the transplants will occur over the summer. Contact [Peter Phippen](#) if you'd like to get involved.



The MassBays Program is an EPA National Estuary Program dedicated to protecting, restoring, and enhancing the estuarine resources of Massachusetts and Cape Cod Bays. We facilitate partnerships to prompt local, state, and federal action and stewardship, convening stakeholders on the local and regional level, providing scientific basis for management decisions, and educating decision makers about problems and solutions.

The Massachusetts Bays National Estuary Program is a cooperative venture of the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, the Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

[Commonwealth of Massachusetts](#) - Deval L. Patrick, Governor
[Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs](#) - Maeve Vallely Bartlett, Secretary
[Office of Coastal Zone Management](#) - Bruce K. Carlisle, Director
[Massachusetts Bays National Estuary Program](#) - Pam DiBona, Executive Director



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