



Massachusetts Bays

NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM

Notices & Events

Don't miss it!

April 11-12, 2017: [Boston Harbor & Islands Science Symposium](#)

Join colleagues from around the region for two days of networking and learning about what we study and how we study the Boston Harbor estuary and islands. The event will feature field trips, a Science Café, keynote presentations, lightning talks, concurrent presentations, and panels. Keynote speakers are [Anne Giblin](#) from the Marine Biological Laboratory and Rich Batiuk from the [Chesapeake Bay Program](#). The event is hosted by the National Parks of Boston and Northeastern University with additional sponsorship from Boston Harbor Now, UMass Boston, and MassBays.

March 21: Lecture, [How do you take your carbon? I'll take mine blue](#), Nahant

March 28: Walk, [Bring in Spring nature walk](#), Dennis

March 30: Conference, [Green Infrastructure for Coastal Resilience](#), Nahant

Restoring Cape Cod habitats

APCC works with towns to move the needle

In 2015, the Association to Preserve Cape Cod (APCC) developed a comprehensive Cape-wide inventory of coastal restoration projects based on input from all 15 towns. This initial list included 140 projects, everything from stormwater remediation to salt marsh and fish run restoration, to improvements to water quality conditions and coastal resilience. Committed to tackling the long list of possible restoration projects, APCC established the [Restoration Coordination Center](#) (RCC). [RCC staff](#) assist towns by providing coordination, project management, technical assistance, outreach, and other services to promote implementation of holistic, cost-effective, and ecologically sound restoration projects.

This past year, MassBays provided RCC with funding under the [Healthy Estuaries Grant Program](#) to update the inventory -- now counting [more than 170 projects](#) -- and conduct a formal prioritization of restoration projects; identify two top priority projects to develop for planning and construction; and partner with municipalities to submit requests for implementation funding through restoration [grant programs](#).

Keep an eye on the RCC's [current projects page](#) to track restoration initiatives around the Cape.



Help count the fishes!

March 30: Workshop, [Let's Build a Garden](#), Dennis

April 1: Expo, [Gardening Green](#), Scituate

April 1, May 10: Volunteer training, [Adopt-a-Beach](#), Salem

April 11: Conference, [Boston Harbor and Islands Science Symposium](#), Boston

April 18: Workshop, [Marine debris](#), Salem

April 20: Workshop, [Intro to fly tying](#), Norwell

April 26: Lecture, [Eelgrass Distribution and Mapping in Salem Sound](#), Marblehead

April 29: Walk, [Brook Trout walk](#), Hanover

April 30, May 6, May 20: [Beach cleanups](#), Marblehead, Swampscott & Salem

May 6: Walk, [Willow Brook Farm family walk and picnic](#), Pembroke

May 13: Workshop, [Clamming the North River](#), Scituate

June 13: Workshop, [Marine invasive species](#), Salem

It's spring in the estuaries, and APCC and NSRWA are seeking volunteers to count herring as they make their way upstream. Shifts are only 10 minutes each, several times a week during the month-long run. While we usually begin to see herring around April 1, migration may begin earlier this year due to warmer spring temperatures.

Results of volunteer counts inform fisheries management, document the need for restoration or improvement of fish runs, and track impacts of restoration projects.

To volunteer on [Cape Cod](#), call or [email](#) Jo Ann (508-619-3185). On the South Shore, visit the [NSRWA website](#) and sign up for training using [this form](#).

Photo: L. Keeran

A new network for coastal volunteer monitoring programs

In September 2016 MassBays convened monitoring coordinators from 17 organizations for a Citizen Monitoring Coordinators' Summit (read the [meeting summary](#)) and to launch a new [Network](#) to support collaboration and provide direct and in-kind resources for their work.

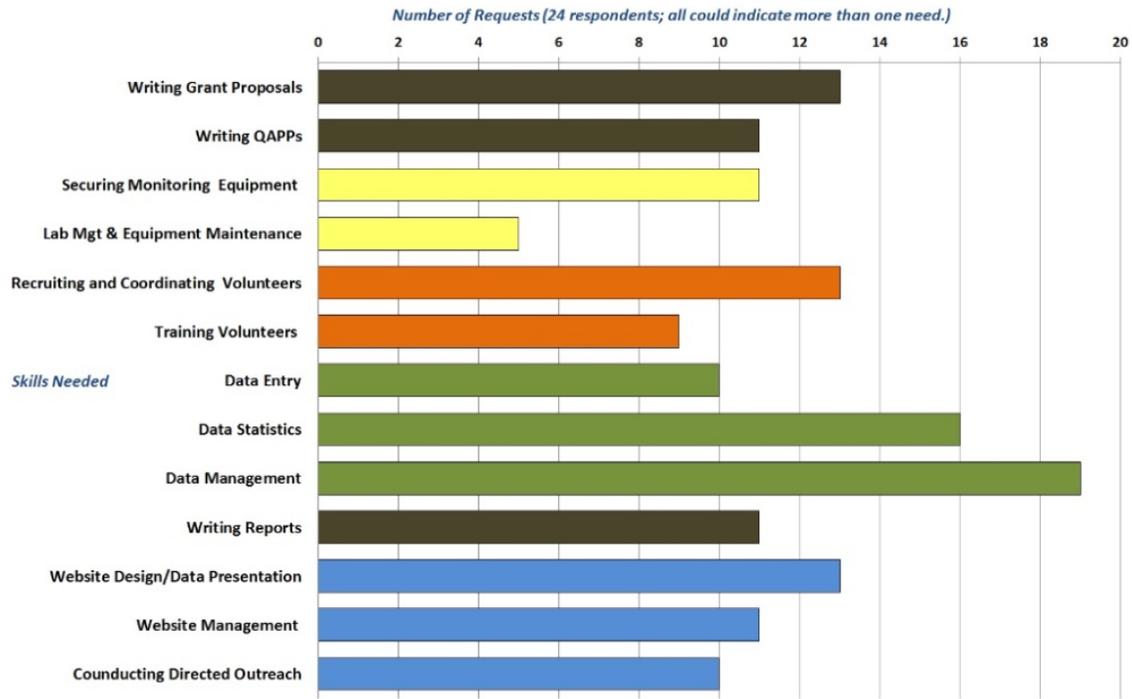
MassBays is committed to building capacity across the Network, not only to improve the extent and quality of data available for our [State of the Bays reporting](#), but to increase partner organizations' ability to generate their own questions and utilize their own data to take local action.

Based on attendees' statement of need (see chart below), MassBays is hosting a Network listserv, producing a [periodic newsletter](#), and actively connecting scientists with local groups for monitoring plan design and sampling protocol QA/QC.

We are seeking funding to take up several other initiatives, including:

- Securing centralized, web-based tools for data management.
- Creating opportunities for equipment exchange and joint training for volunteers.
- Helping to sustain long-term programs and jump-start lapsed ones.

For more information, [contact Pam DiBona](#).



Citizen Monitoring Coordinators' Summit attendees were asked to develop a job description to gain expertise that would bring their citizen monitoring program to the next level. Responses from 24 participants (more than one expertise was possible) are depicted here.

Regional Coordinators & Service Providers

Upper North Shore:

[Peter Phippen](#), [Merrimack Valley Planning Commission](#)

Lower North Shore:

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

Metropolitan Boston:

[Carole McCauley](#), [Northeastern University Marine Science Center](#)

South Shore:

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

Cape Cod:

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

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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.

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[Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs](#) - Matthew A. Beaton, Secretary
[Office of Coastal Zone Management](#) - Bruce K. Carlisle, Director
[Massachusetts Bays National Estuary Program](#) - Pam DiBona, Executive Director

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