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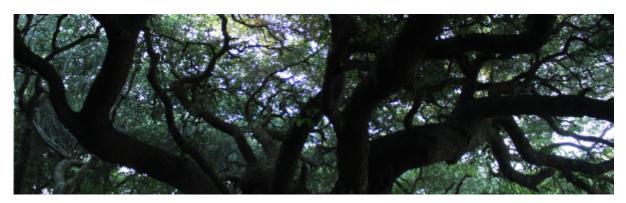
Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Partnership (APNEP) August 2018 View this email in your browser



#### **The Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Partnership**

## **Sound Stories**

August 2018



It may be the dog days of summer, but that doesn't mean that our partners in the Albemarle-Pamlico region are slowing down! This past month, partners unveiled initiatives tackling issues from shellfish restoration to coastal resiliency. At the launch of North Carolina's Shellfish Initiative on August second, speakers from the NC Department of Environmental Quality, NC Sea Grant, NC Coastal Federation, and other organizations emphasized how shellfish restoration benefits the state both economically and environmentally. Up in the Virginia portion of our region, the City of Virginia Beach is in the midst of a series of presentations about sea level rise and flooding issues. The series will include talks by APNEP Leadership Council member Dr. Tom Allen and APNEP Policy & Engagement Manager Stacey Feken on September 19th. Videos of past talks are available on the city's website.

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natural and cultural resources our estuaries provide during National Estuaries Week. North Carolina is lucky to have the second-largest estuary in the lower 48 states, so take a moment to appreciate the beauty and diversity of our sounds and, if you can, get out on the water! Check out Estuaries Week events near you or join the conversation on social media using #EstuariesWeek.

Sincerely,

Dr. Bill Crowell

APNEP Director

### **APNEP News**





# APNEP says farewell to Communications & GIS Intern Abigail Brewer!

At the end of July, we said goodbye to our <u>Communications and GIS intern Abigail</u> <u>Brewer</u>. Over the summer Abigail completed not one, but two projects: an ArcGIS Online map highlighting past and present APNEP sponsored projects and initiatives, and a ESRI Storymap that showcases our estuarine ecosystem, from the river headwaters to the sea! We are still making some final tweaks, edits and adjustments, but will soon feature them on our website!

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## VIMS project aims to increase use of nature-based features by local planners

APNEP staff traveled to Virginia this month to participate in a team meeting for a NOAA Coastal Community Resilience Grant led by the Virginia Institute of Marine Sciences (VIMS). The goal of the project is to increase coastal resilience by developing tools that will allow local planners and officials better understand the benefits of natural and nature-based features, as well as determine how projects should be designed and reported. Over the next year, APNEP will initiate discussions with stakeholders to determine the feasibility of the approach in North Carolina, so stay tuned for updates!

### Learn about Virginia's Southern Watersheds at Summer Symposium Series

This summer, the City of Virginia Beach is hosting a series of presentations about sea level rise and flooding issues. Join us on September 19th, when Leadership Council member Dr. Tom Allen of Old Dominion University and APNEP Policy and Engagement Manager Stacey Feken will be speaking about issues impacting the Southern Rivers Watershed. The Southern Rivers Watershed, which includes 65% of Virginia Beach and the North Landing, Northwest River, and Back Bay, ultimately flows into Albemarle Sound and is part of the APNEP region. All talks are free, and the public is encouraged to attend.

**Learn more about the Summer Symposium Series** 

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**August 17th -** The <u>Terrestrial Resources Monitoring and Assessment Team</u> convened to finalize their list of ecological indicators for APNEP's next <u>Ecosystem Assessment</u>.



#### **Upcoming Events & Meetings**

All meetings associated with APNEP's committees, Action Teams, and Monitoring & Assessment Teams are free and open to the public. For more information, please contact <a href="mailto:apnep@ncdenr.gov">apnep@ncdenr.gov</a>.

- September 6th, 2:30pm 4:00pm | <u>APNEP Human Dimensions Monitoring & Assessment Team</u> Meeting (Teleconference)
- September 12th, 10:00am 3:00pm | <u>APNEP Science & Technical Advisory</u>
   Committee Meeting (Piver's Island, Beaufort NC)
- September 15th 22nd | National Estuaries Week (nationwide)
- September 19th, 6:00pm 8:00pm | <u>Stewards of the Southern Rivers</u>
   <u>Watershed Talk by APNEP staff</u>, VA Beach Summer Symposium Series
   (Advanced Technology Center, 1800 College Crescent, Virginia Beach)
- September 20th, 5:30pm 8:30pm | SciREN Triangle & Educator Open House (Raleigh, NC)
- October 23rd, 10:00am 3:00pm | <u>APNEP Engagement & Stewardship Action</u>
   Team Meeting (Location TBD)
- November 20th, 9:00am 4:00pm | <u>APNEP Leadership Council Meeting</u> (Corolla, NC)

### **Current Grant Opportunities**

August 31 - <u>Virginia Agricultural Conservation Easement</u>

<u>Program</u>

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September 14 - NC Division of Coastal Management

Planning and Management Grants

September 15 - NC Aquarium Scholars Partnership

**Grants** 

September 25 - FY19 Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat

Partnership Applications

February 4 - 2019 Healthy Watersheds Consortium

**Grants** 

**Grant Details** 

## **Partner Spotlight**



#### Multimedia 'Rising' exhibit leads to community discussion of coastal change

"Whatever you want to call it, coastal communities are losing ground." From local residents with roots dating back generations, to electric companies and local governments working to maintain community infrastructure, multiple perspectives on resilience and adaptation were represented during "Change: A Community Conversation," held on August 14th in conjunction with the NC Sea Grant-funded 'Rising' exhibition at the Core Sound Waterfowl Museum & Heritage Center.

During the event, APNEP's Jimmy Johnson facilitated a discussion about the changes

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to rising sea levels, flooding, and storms. 'Rising' will be on display at the Museum through September 30th before moving to the Coastal Studies Institute in Wanchese.

Learn more

#### What We're Reading

- <u>Farming Coastal Waters: Applied Research Supports Oyster Growers</u>
   (Coastwatch)
- Mysterious eels travel thousands of miles. A NC scientist wants to uncover their secrets (News & Observer)
- <u>Teachers get their feet wet in NC shorelines classroom</u> (UNC Institute for the Environment)











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