

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County's Marine Program is proud to showcase the following unique opportunities for you to connect to our bays by Learning, Doing, Enjoying, and Giving Back- all in support of our local marine environment. We hope you will join us at some of these events and look forward to inspiring you to help us protect and enhance our marine resources for the enjoyment of generations to come.



## BECOME AN OFFICIAL BACK TO THE BAYS MEMBER

Membership registration forms are available on our website and at all of our facilities. Your support will help us to continue our important work! In addition to providing programmatic support, Back to the Bays Members will receive discounted event tickets to select special events and educational programming, a subscription to our newsletter and On The Water & In The Field magazine, and more. Sign up today!

## LET'S GIVE BACK, AND GET BACK TO THE BAYS!

For more information about our Ways to Give Back to the Bays campaign, including sponsorship and volunteer opportunities, please contact Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County's Marine Program Outreach Manager, Kimberly Barbour at 631-727-7850 ext. 329 or kp237@cornell.edu. Dates, times and locations are subject to change; please visit our website www.ccesuffolk.org/marine/back-to-the-bays, follow us on social media, and check our our Eventbrite listings.

Stay Connected!

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# Ways to Give Back to the Bays 2016

## Presented by Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County's Marine Program

#### **LEARN**

Join Us At Our Open House and Family Fun Day at Suffolk County Marine Environmental Learning Center in Southold May 14th, 2016. This free event will feature opportunities for you to tour our shellfish hatcheries, explore our coastal plant growing operation, get to know our educators and researchers, and learn how to get involved with our efforts!

Become a Sea Star, Sea Adventurer, Sea Explorer or Marine Discoverer by enrolling in our summer camp programs at Cranberry Hill Environmental Center at Fuchs' Preserve in Northport, SCMELC in Southold, and St. John's Campus in Oakdale. Weekly sessions held from July 5<sup>th</sup> through August 26<sup>th</sup> for children ages 6-12. Registration links and more info at ccesuffolk.org/marine/youth-education.

Check Out On the Water & In the Field to learn more about the projects and programs of CCE's Marine Program. New for 2016, we're re-launching On the Water & In The Field Magazine, publishing a new Blog, and of course will continue to bring you episodes of our On the Water & In the Field news magazine show. Check your local listings for air times on HamptonsTV and public access networks across Suffolk County, and visit cceonthewater.com.

Get Informed About Coastal Habitat Restoration at the Shinnecock Indian Reservation CCE has been working with the Shinnecock Indian Nation on a large-scale, multifaceted restoration project which received funding from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation through the Department of the Interior's Hurricane Sandy Coastal Resliency grant opportunity. We'll be offering numerous workshops, lectures, and hands-on involvement opportunities in support of this project. Learn more at ccesuffolk.org/marine/habitat.

Participate in our Art + Science Integration Programming Learn, create, and become inspired. Each program in our series will be a reflection of one of the core areas of the CCE Marine Program (Water Quality, Habitat, Aquaculture & Fisheries) and will feature both an educational component and an artistic element. Programming will be held at the Art Barge in Amagansett, and at Tiana Recreational Center in Hampton Bays. More info at theartbarge.org and southamptontownny.gov/353/parks-recreation.

Have Some Fun Learning and Discovering With Your Bay Baby! In Fall 2016 we will be rolling out our first ever early education programming line up designed to reach our littlest future stewards! Through our Bay Babies Program, caregivers and those 6-24 months will have an opportunity to discover and learn through this unique, hands-on educational program series. Programs offered at our facilities, local libraries and childcare centers. Learn more at ccesuffolk.org/marine/youth-education/bay-babies.

#### DO

Run our Back to the Bays 5K. As we prepare for another summer of enjoying our beautiful beaches and bays, help give back by joining us on May 14th at 9am for our 2nd Annual Back to the Bays 5K, followed by our Open House and Family Fun Day at SCMELC. Registration information at http://BacktotheBays5K.itsyourrace.com.

Help our Marine Meadows Program Restore Eelgrass Meadows and Coastal Plant Populations by participating in one of our numerous hands-on workshops throughout the year. We'll offer many opportunities to get involved with this work thanks to our growing partners Shinnecock Indian Nation, Peconic Land Trust, South Fork Natural History Museum, and Avalon Park & Preserve. More information at marinemeadows.org.

Participate In Our Horseshoe Crab Monitoring Program We invite you to get involved with our annual horseshoe crab monitoring program throughout the region from May through July. Participants assist with the collection of scientific data that is used to assess the status of horseshoe crabs in NY State, and will help determine the management and conservation of this important species throughout the region. See nyhorseshoecrab.org for more info!

Paddle for the Bays Whether you are a novice or expert, we welcome you to participate in the Race for the Bays (May 7<sup>th</sup>), and the Great Peconic Race (September 10<sup>th</sup>), two paddling events that will benefit our Back to the Bays Initiative. Both races offer recreational and elite courses, prizes and giveaways, and CCE's Marine Program will be on hand providing demonstrations and workshops. More information at mainbeach.com and greatpeconicrace.com.

Grow Your Own Shellfish With Our SPAT Program Over the past 15 years, CCE's SPAT Program has taught thousands of people how to grow their own shellfish, leading to enhancements of local populations and improvements in water quality of our bays. Get on board with this hands-on, rewarding program today by calling 631-852-8660 or checking out the SPAT pages on our website at ccesuffolk.org/marine/aquaculture/spat-program.

Join In the Fun At The Merry Merfolk Parade in Greenport March with CCE during the Maritime Festival parade on September 26<sup>th</sup> at 11am and help us raise awareness of the importance of our marine habitat! During the parade participants of all ages, from 1 to 100, dress as their favorite sea creature and march down Main Street to Mitchell Park for awards and refreshments. Pre-registration required, more info at ccesuffolk.org/marine/merfolk-parade.

Enroll in Our Healthy Bodies, Healthy Bays Sessions We offer numerous outdoor adventures designed to educate our participants on local ecology while encouraging healthy activity. Youth and adult programs include Moonlight Kayak Paddles, Yoga By The Bay, SUP Tours, and more. Full schedule and booking information at ccesuffolk.org/marine/hbhb.

#### **ENJOY**

Jazz Under the Moonlight CCE's Annual Cocktail Party will be held at St. George's Golf & Country Club in Setauket on June 16th at 6pm. Guests will enjoy cocktails, appetizers, live jazz and auctions. Proceeds will support all program areas of Cornell Cooperative Extension, including the Marine Program! More information at ccesuffolk.org.

Back to the Bays Day at Shuckers in Hampton Bays Learn about how you can get involved with our efforts to protect and enhance the quality of our local bays, all while enjoying live music by Project Vibe, a local shellfish raw bar, auctions, fish printing, and a special live art performance by Carolyn Munaco and Bedford (aka Steve Brown). July 30<sup>th</sup> 5-8pm Free admission, all are welcome!

Beach BBQ for the Bays at Wades Beach Cheer on the paddlers of the Great Peconic Race and watch them cross the finish line while enjoying a Tim Burke Productions catered BBQ, selections from Montauk Brewing Company, and more! September 10th 12:30-3:30pm on Wades Beach. Tickets and sponsorship opportunities on Eventbrite.

Brush Strokes for the Bays Paint Night Series Take part in an evening of painting instruction lead by artist Carolyn Munaco, who will teach even the most novice of painters how to create a beautiful piece of artwork inspired by our marine environment! Each session features a local species found in our bays, or a local coastal landscape. CCE Educators are on hand at each session to provide information and answer questions about the topic of artistic focus! Full schedule at ccesuffolk.org/marine/brush-strokes-for-the-bays.

Taste + Tour at our Marine Center Join us for a behind the scenes tour of our shellfish hatcheries housed at our Suffolk County Marine Environmental Learning Center in Southold. See where we produce millions of scallops, clams and oysters for resource enhancement projects each year, then enjoy a sampling of some of the best shellfish our region has to offer. Dates and ticket information at ccesuffolk.org/marine.

Check Out Hops for Habitat Art + Awareness Event Each year we team up with local artists and local breweries to help draw attention to the importance of preserving our underwater and coastal habitats. Artists create work inspired by these essential habitats, and the marine creatures that rely on them, for exhibit and sale. Exhibit Opening Celebrations are held at local breweries and galleries throughout the year and proceeds from all sales will support local artists and the habitat restoration efforts of our Marine Meadows Program. More information at marinemeadows.org.

Shellabrate! At Greenport Shellabration In partnership with the Greenport Business Improvement District, we invite you to partake in a unique culinary exploration featuring exquisite shellfish and beverage pairings on December 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>. Purchase of a wristband gets you access to this restaurant walk throughout Greenport Village where you will enjoy small plates and pairings featuring local shellfish and libations. Proceeds from wristband sales will be directed to our Back to the Bays Initiative and our SPAT Program! Learn more at Shellabration.LI.

### **GIVE BACK**

Become An Official Back to the Bays Member Membership registration form enclosed and available on our website and at all of our facilities. Your support will help us continue our important work, get you a subscription to our newsletter, and discounts to select programming and special events! Individual, family, and business levels available. More info at ccesuffolk.org/back-to-the-bays/membership.

Support Our Facility Improvement Fundraising Campaign We educate and inspire thousands of youth and adults annually through our programming based at our flagship location, the Suffolk County Marine Environmental Learning Center in Southold. Your support will allow us to continue, and further enhance, our public programming by helping us make needed upgrades to our Center and exhibits. Learn more about the campaign and how you can help at goodcircle.org/CCEMarineCenter or ccesuffolk.org/marine/facility-fund.

Shop Our Marketplace Show your support of our programs by purchasing CCE Marine Program apparel and swag, or give the gift of marine science education by purchasing a gift certificate for select programming offered by our Youth Education Program. Visit the marketplace section of our website for more information ccesuffolk.org/marine/marketplace.

Contribute To Our Back to the Bays Good Circle Campaign We've partnered with Main Beach Surf + Sport and the local paddling community to establish a new Back to the Bays Stewardship Site in the Sag Harbor/Shelter Island area. Funds from this campaign will result in re-establishment of eelgrass meadows, seeding of shellfish and establishment of oyster beds. You or your business can play an important part in helping us reach our restoration goals. Learn more at goodcircle.org/projects/back-to-the-bays.