

# RESEARCH AT THE RESERVE

131 WAQUOIT HIGHWAY, WAQUOIT (E. FALMOUTH)

TUESDAY EVENINGS IN APRIL

6:30PM - 8:00PM



## WHAT'S TRENDING IN WAQUOIT BAY?

Tuesday, April 3

Jordan Mora, Research Associate at Waquoit Bay Reserve has been digging into the Reserve's monitoring data on seaweed and eelgrass as well as nutrient (nitrogen and phosphorous) and weather data and she's found some interesting trends and relationships in the Waquoit Bay estuary. How are climate changes (wind speed, temperature, and precipitation) affecting the health and productivity of the estuary? Come join us to find out and perhaps raise a few questions of your own.

*Jordan Mora, Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve*



## CAN HUMANS INCREASE SALT MARSH RESILIENCE IN THE FACE OF SEA LEVEL RISE?

Tuesday, April 10

Due to accelerated sea level rise, the fate of some salt marshes is in jeopardy. The deliberate placement of sediment on a marsh surface can, in selected cases, be used to give the plants an elevation boost to overcome the stresses of prolonged flooding. This technique is relatively new. Come find out what eight National Estuarine Research Reserves, including Waquoit Bay, are researching to contribute to the enhanced understanding of the benefits and potential pitfalls of this technique to aid drowning marshes.

*Dr. Megan Tyrrell, Research Coordinator, Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve*



## THE NATURAL HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN EEL ON CAPE COD

Tuesday, April 17

The American eel has a remarkable life history that is unlike any fish species in North America. They are born in the Sargasso Sea and travel great distances to colonize coastal rivers from Brazil to Greenland. Formerly of high cultural importance in Massachusetts due to their fine taste and availability for sustenance harvest, their populations have declined to historical lows in recent decades. The Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries participates in local, state and interstate management and restoration processes for American eel. This presentation includes restoration and monitoring efforts at nearby Cape Cod coastal rivers.

*Brad Chase, Senior Marine Fisheries Biologist Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries*



## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE MUD AT THE BOTTOM OF THE BAY?

Tuesday, April 24

Ms. Foster has been collecting cores from the bottom of Waquoit Bay to study the impacts of low oxygen on the micro-organisms that live there and the ecosystem processes at work. She'll share results of her experiments and attendees will get a close look at the dynamic microbial world that exists at the bottom of the bay.

*Sarah Foster, PhD Candidate, Earth and Environment Dept., Boston University*

## WAQUOIT BAY RESERVE VISITOR CENTER

### COFFEE HOUSE SERIES

Join us for an informal evening learning about the cutting edge research happening around Waquoit Bay.

Each week you will learn from a different scientist about how they do their research, what they are discovering, and how it applies to today's issues.

*Coffee & dessert provided.*

Doors open at 6:00PM. There is no charge for the series, table seating is limited and available on a first-come, first-serve basis. For additional information please contact Joan Muller at [joan.muller@state.ma.us](mailto:joan.muller@state.ma.us) or visit our website at [www.waquoitbayreserve.org](http://www.waquoitbayreserve.org).

#### Co-Sponsors

*Waquoit Bay Reserve*

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