

New England Estuarine Research Society

HOME

SOCIETY ▾

MEETINGS ▾

MEMBERS ▾

STUDENTS ▾

RESOURCES ▾

Fall 2014 Meeting

~12:30 p.m. Thursday, October 16 to ~12 p.m. Saturday, October 18

[University of Connecticut's Avery Point Campus](#)

Groton, Connecticut

Post-meeting field trips will be offered Saturday afternoon.



Important Due Dates:

August 26 - abstracts due

September 10 - student travel award application due

September 25 - last day for conference rate at the hotel

October 1 - online meeting registration due

October 8 - registration payment due to Treasurer



Hosts

University of Connecticut, Avery Point campus

local organizers: Jamie Vaudrey, Faith Raymond, Craig Tobias, Amanda Viellard, Michael Whitney

Join us as we venture to the shores of Long Island Sound in Connecticut! We will discuss science, management, and education issues concerning estuarine and coastal ecosystems. Avery Point's location, surrounded on three sides by water, fits well with the campus' marine and maritime mission. This mission includes fulfilling UConn's responsibilities as a Sea Grant institution. Avery Point contributes to the understanding – and solution – of problems relating to the intersection of oceans and people, both through the expertise of the faculty and the education of its students who will help ensure sustainable uses of marine resources and coastal regions and cities.

Gold Supporters



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Silver Supporters



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Organizations are always welcome to be meeting sponsors and support is greatly appreciated. Please contact NEERS treasurer, [Cindy Delpapa](#), to learn about our sponsorship levels and how to support the NEERS meeting.

Meeting Details

[Special Symposium](#) - Coastal Resilience to Climate Change: Emerging Strategies

[Call For Papers](#) - presentation guidelines and submission form.

[Registration](#) - fee schedule and submission form.

[Program](#) - final version with abstracts

Society

Accommodations

[Students](#) - Presentation prizes and student travel awards.

Business Meeting - The NEERS Business Meeting will be held after the last presentation on Friday afternoon. All meeting participants are encouraged to attend and participate in the discussion.

Abstracts - On-line access to abstracts *is not yet available*

[Accommodations](#) - Hotel information.

[Meeting Site](#) - meeting venue and local attractions

[Field Trips](#)

[Meals and Social Events](#)

[Directions](#)

Contacts

General Information - [Jamie Vaudrey](#)

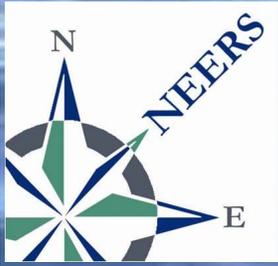
Abstracts or Other Program Concerns - [Hilary Neckles](#)

Registration, Student Travel Awards - [Cindy Delpapa](#)

Website Issues - [Jamie Vaudrey](#)

Having trouble accessing the email addresses? Download a .pdf of the [Team NEERS](#) contact information.

contact us: [Team NEERS](#)



New England Estuarine Research Society

[HOME](#)[SOCIETY ▼](#)[MEETINGS ▼](#)[MEMBERS ▼](#)[STUDENTS ▼](#)[RESOURCES ▼](#)

Special Symposium

Thursday, October 16, 12:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Symposium Title - Coastal Resilience to Climate Change: Emerging Strategies

The symposium will take place on Thursday and will "kick-off" the NEERS meeting.

Oral presentations will be followed by a social hour.

Symposium speakers will be invited by the local planning committee.

Background and Goals:

"Resilience" is a noun, meaning "the capacity to recover quickly from difficulties; toughness." In the coastal community, this may refer to the resilience of the natural community, the man-made infrastructure, or the ability of communities of people to remain intact following disasters. Scientists and managers have been focusing on the resilience of our coastal zones for years, but it often takes a notable event, such as Hurricane Sandy, to focus the attention of the public and politicians. Speakers will describe their views on the concept of coastal resilience and the approach their organizations are using to advance our understanding of building more resilient communities. We have asked the speakers to suggest what specific scientific products exist or need to be generated to further guide shoreline resilience.

Location - [main meeting venue](#)

Symposium Program

Chair: Craig Tobias

Robert R. Twilley, Ph.D.

Professor, Department of Oceanography and Coastal Sciences, LSU

Executive Director, Louisiana Sea Grant College Program

Title: "Challenges to Bold New Ideas of River Basin Management: Complex Interactions of Land Use and Climate Changes to Restoring the Deltaic Coast of Louisiana"

Elizabeth Turner, Ph.D.

Oceanographer, National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science, NOAA National Ocean Service

Title: "Coastal resiliency: more than infrastructure"

Christine Feurt, Ph.D.

Department of Environmental Studies, University of New England

Coastal Training Program Coordinator, Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve

Title: "Resilience is the New Sustainability - Implications for Research, Practice and Policy"

Brett F. Branco, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor, Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, Brooklyn College and the CUNY Graduate Center

Title: "Before the Storm: The Rush towards Resilience in Jamaica Bay, NY"

Alexander J. Felson, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor, School of Forestry and Environmental Studies & School of Architecture, Yale University

Director of the Urban Ecology and Design Lab, <http://uedlab.yale.edu/>

Title: "Urban Ecological Design and Coastal Adaptation for a Resilient Future"

James O'Donnell, Ph.D.

Professor, Department of Marine Sciences, University of Connecticut

Executive Director, Connecticut Institute for Resilience and Climate Adaptation

Title: "Effect of Sea Level Rise on the Communities and Ecosystems in Long Island Sound"

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New England Estuarine Research Society

[HOME](#)[SOCIETY ▼](#)[MEETINGS ▼](#)[MEMBERS ▼](#)[STUDENTS ▼](#)[RESOURCES ▼](#)

Call For Papers

Abstracts are due August 26, 2014



[Abstract Submission Form](#)

If you experience problems with submitting your abstract, contact the webmaster, [Jamie Vaudrey](#) .

Abstracts will be accepted starting July 29.



Abstract submissions for contributed oral and poster presentations are invited on any subject related to estuaries or coastal environments. Reports of work in progress as well as work in advanced stages and reviews of relevant topics are encouraged. Contributed oral and poster presentations will be scheduled for Friday morning and afternoon and Saturday morning.

You have a choice!

NEERS offers a few choices for presentation styles...

Standard Oral - Regale us with an oral presentation of your work. These talks will be limited to 12 minutes with an additional 3 minutes for discussion. The meeting begins with a [Thursday Special Symposium](#) within a specified thematic area. The meeting continues on Friday and Saturday with the **Regular Session**. Related topics are usually grouped together in the schedule.

Ignite -This fast-paced presentation style is a chance for speakers to really focus on their main message. Each speaker has 5 minutes to present 20 slides that advance automatically every 15 seconds – when your slides are done, so are you! Ignite sessions provide an opportunity to share information that might not fit into a standard oral or poster session -- the more concise speaking slot and quick slide transitions lend themselves to a more conversational and storytelling presentation style. Please check the [Ignite](#) page for more information.

Poster - Poster presentations are a great way to get up close and personal with your audience. Poster presentations will be displayed throughout the meeting and dedicated time for poster viewing is built into the schedule.

A few details...

Abstracts must be submitted online (link above).

All presenters must be or become a NEERS member. Information on becoming a member is included on the pre-registration form, or at [Join NEERS](#).

Prizes

Students will compete for the **Ketchum** and **Rankin** Prizes for oral presentations or the **Dean** and **Warren** Prizes for posters ([prize information](#)). Presentation prizes will be awarded at the end of the meeting on Saturday. Students are automatically entered into the prize competition. Students who have won an award are ineligible to win that award again, though they may still compete for the other awards.

All poster presenters (students and non-students) will compete for the **3-3 Award**, which includes a cash award of \$33 (judged by students). The "3-3 Rule" generally states that the main point of the poster can be understood by a viewer from 3 feet away, in 3 minutes. This award was conceived to encourage scientists to convey information more clearly to other scientists and the public. Please see the Poster Guidelines section below for more information. Many thanks to the folks at SEERS for the idea and judging form.

All attendees may compete in the **Poster Trivia Contest**, which includes an award of a \$20 NEERS membership. Details will be provided at the poster session. Meeting attendees answer a series of trivia questions based on the poster presentations. A winner is chosen by lottery from complete and correct submissions.

Instructions for Preparing Abstracts

Please select your first, second, and third choice for presentation format. Although we will try very hard to accommodate everyone's first choice, selecting multiple options increases the likelihood of securing a spot in the program. Options will include: Standard Oral Presentation - Regular Session; [Ignite](#) Oral Presentation; Poster; and Invited Oral Presentation - Thursday Special Symposium.

If you are submitting your abstract for presentation in the special symposium, select "Invited Oral Presentation, Thursday Special Symposium", which appears under First Choice only. For this meeting, all symposium speakers will be invited by the meeting hosts, see the [Special Symposium](#) page for more details.

A confirmation page will be emailed to you upon successful submission of your abstract to the NEERS website. If you do not receive this confirmation email, please resubmit your abstract. Contact the web master, [Jamie Vaudrey](#), with recurring problems. Following the deadline for submitting abstracts, all submissions will be confirmed by the program chair and the lead author will be notified of his/her scheduled time. Contact the Program Chair, [Hilary Neckles](#), with questions.

1. Abstracts are to be submitted electronically. If you are having problems with the submission form, contact the webmaster ([Jamie Vaudrey](#)).
2. All abstracts have a 1750-character limit (about 250 words). The character limit includes spaces, and applies to the body of the abstract only; the authors and title are excluded from the character limit. Web page submissions are constrained automatically to the allotted amount of text, you will be prompted if your abstract exceeds 1750 characters. You may determine your character count with your word processing program.
3. Author/Address field. Author names have last names spelled out and initials for first (and middle if appropriate) names. If there are multiple authors, list all authors first followed by all addresses in the Sample Abstract format, and place an asterisk following the last name of the presenter. If authors are from different institutions, use numbers in parentheses to associate individuals with the correct address (no numbers are necessary if all authors are from the same institution). Addresses should include the institution, town, and state -- no streets, no zip codes. Separate addresses with semicolons.

4. The presentation title must be in capital letters.

5. Special characters. Do not use your Word Processing program for special fonts such as underlining, italics, superscripts, or subscripts, as these font codes will not be transmitted correctly via the web form. Rather, use the following codes for special fonts. For example, for the genus *Zostera* to appear in italics it should be surrounded by the "start italics" and "end italics" codes as follows:

<i>Zostera</i>

Codes:

<i></i> for italics

<u></u> for underlining

 for superscript

 for subscript

For the following symbol to appear

δ

μ

α

Δ

®

Insert this code online

&delta

&mu

&alpha

&Delta

®

Note that these special codes are counted towards the total number of characters in your abstract.

*** SAMPLE ABSTRACT FORMAT***

Cadillac*, M. T.(1) and I. M. A. Hiker (2).

(1) Department of Environmental Sociology and Outdoor Recreation, Coastal College, State-of-Mind, ME; (2) Department of Trail Maintenance, For Est College, ME.

A SYSTEMATIC SAMPLING OF THE ALLURE OF ACADIA NATIONAL PARK

Acadia National Park boasts many dazzling spectacles, including the pounding surf of Thunder Hole, stunning views of Somes Sound and Frenchman Bay, and the first glimpse of sunrise in the US. Evidence suggests, however, that the park's true charm lies in its quiet beauty. We hiked ten trails from sea level to mountain summit, paddled eight 5-km stretches of island shoreline, and biked along 100 km of carriage roads, recording observations at regular intervals. Results confirm the importance of cumulative, small pleasures to the park's allure, such as sights of cliffs tumbling into the sea, islands emerging from the fog, pristine marshes, 300+ species of birds including breeding peregrine falcons, dense <i>Ruppia</i> and eelgrass beds, and diverse woodlands. We conclude that excursions off the loop road will enhance visitor experiences.

PowerPoint Presentations

The conference computer (PC) will use PowerPoint 2010. Please be sure to check your presentation for compatibility with this version.

We will load all PowerPoint presentations onto an IBM-compatible laptop well before each session. Please bring your PowerPoint presentation on a USB thumb drive to the projection desk at the NEERS meeting. We will load your presentations the evening before your talk. Please make sure your file can be read by another computer before you hand it in. Speakers should not plan to use their own computers for their presentations.

For presentations that include graphics or media other than standard PowerPoint slides (e.g., complicated animations or embedded

video clips; photographic slides or overheads), authors will need to make additional arrangements. Please contact the webmaster, [Jamie Vaudrey](#) , for more information.

Poster Guidelines

There will be a poster session on Friday afternoon. Presenters are expected to be present during the dedicated poster viewing sessions. Posters may be mounted beginning Thursday evening. All posters will remain on display through Saturday morning.

In designing your poster, keep content simple and provide a clear message in text that is large enough to read from a distance. Further details can be provided in discussions with attendees or via a handout that also includes your contact information. Good resources for preparing posters can be found at: <http://www.ncsu.edu/project/posters/>

NEERS will have available our foam-core mounting boards, pushpins, and tape to display posters. The maximum poster dimensions are 36" x 48". For those of you who prefer conversational discussion of your work, this may be the most appropriate presentation style. Please check the poster option on your abstract form. If you have special needs (a power outlet, etc.) contact the webmaster, [Jamie Vaudrey](#).

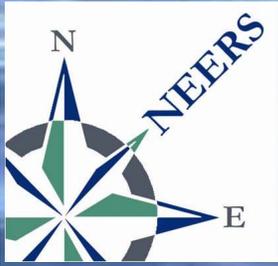
All posters will be eligible for the **3-3 Award**, which includes a \$33 cash prize (judged by the students). The "3-3 Rule" generally states that the main point of the poster can be understood by a viewer from 3 feet away, in 3 minutes. This award was conceived to encourage scientists to convey their information clearly to the public. The award is not meant to trivialize presentations into just "pretty" formats without serious content. Rather, the award is sincerely intended to urge presentation of data and information in a simple, understandable format – a "story" – without large blocks of text. The intent is for the presenter to think like the viewer – is the story clearly presented with only its essential elements? "Viewer" includes not only fellow scientists in your field – rather, the entire NEERS audience, from physiologist to geologist, and perhaps, ultimately, the general public. Streamlining makes the storyline easy to understand. This understanding facilitates interaction. (Many thanks to the folks at SEERS who provided the original 3-3 idea and the [judging form](#).) Three resources to help get you thinking are provided below...

[Creating Effective Poster Presentations](#) from NC State University

[Designing an Effective Research Poster](#) from UC Merced

[Good Poster Presentation Practices](#) from Eastern Michigan University

contact us: [Team NEERS](#)



New England Estuarine Research Society

HOME

SOCIETY ▾

MEETINGS ▾

MEMBERS ▾

STUDENTS ▾

RESOURCES ▾

Registration

Registration opens on August 23, 2014.

Early registration closes on October 1, 2014.

After October 1, walk-in registration rates apply.



[Registration Form](#)

If you experience problems submitting your registration, contact the webmaster, [Jamie Vaudrey](#)



Have you already registered but still need to pay? Visit the [registration site](#), login, "View Profile" and check your Invoices.



Payment accepted by check, money order, PayPal, or credit card (via PayPal).

Registration Fee Schedule - Spring 2014

	Early Registration Rate	Walk-in Rate
student	\$30	\$45
member	\$65	\$85
non-member	\$85	\$105
one-day student	\$10 (Th); \$15 (Fr); \$4 (Sa)	\$20 (Th); \$25 (Fr); \$10 (Sa)
one-day member	\$30 (Th); \$35 (Fr); \$8 (Sa)	\$40 (Th); \$45 (Fr); \$18 (Sa)
one-day non-member	\$40 (Th); \$45 (Fr); \$15 (Sa)	\$50 (Th); \$55 (Fr); \$25 (Sa)

Registration includes lunch on Friday, the Thursday and Friday Socials, and all coffee breaks. One-day registration is for a specific day. See the [Meals and Social Events](#) page for details on the options being offered.

Additional Fees - Spring 2014

NEERS Membership - student*

\$5

NEERS Membership - regular*	\$20
Friday lunch & social for people not registered for the meeting	\$20
Saturday Box Lunch	order on-site
Field Trip	free

* The registration form includes the option to join NEERS ([membership details](#)). Loyal members, annual dues are collected at the spring meeting.

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New England Estuarine Research Society

[HOME](#)

[SOCIETY](#) ▼

[MEETINGS](#) ▼

[MEMBERS](#) ▼

[STUDENTS](#) ▼

[RESOURCES](#) ▼

Conference Accommodations

[Quality Inn, Groton](#)

404 Bridge Street

Groton, CT 06340

Phone: 860-445-8141 (hotel)

NEERS rooms are reserved until September 25th (after this date, standard rates apply).

Please identify yourself as registering for the NEERS conference rate. Check in time is 3 p.m.

conference room rate = \$76.50 + tax

Other Options

This city boasts a multitude of hotels and bed & breakfasts. Most options are viewable by searching the web.

contact us: [Team NEERS](#)



New England Estuarine Research Society

[HOME](#)[SOCIETY ▼](#)[MEETINGS ▼](#)[MEMBERS ▼](#)[STUDENTS ▼](#)[RESOURCES ▼](#)

Meeting Venue

The Fall 2014 meeting of the New England Estuarine Research Society (NEERS) will be held at the University of Connecticut's Avery Point Campus.

Avery Point's location, surrounded on three sides by water, fits well with the campus' marine and maritime mission. This mission includes fulfilling UConn's responsibilities as a Sea Grant institution. Avery Point contributes to the understanding – and solution – of problems relating to the intersection of oceans and people, both through the expertise of the faculty and the education of its students who will help ensure sustainable uses of marine resources and coastal regions and cities.

[DIRECTIONS](#)[Campus Map](#)

[UConn Avery Point, Academic Building Auditorium](#)

1084 Shennecossett Road
Groton, CT 06340

The meeting will be held in the auditorium located on the second floor of the academic building (at the end of the long hallway).

Park in the student lot, lot P. A parking permit is not required.

Night Life

New London evening [attractions](#).

Groton evening [attractions](#).

Mystic evening [attractions](#).

Local Attractions

[Suggestions from Trip Advisor](#)

contact us: [Team NEERS](#)



New England Estuarine Research Society

[HOME](#)[SOCIETY ▼](#)[MEETINGS ▼](#)[MEMBERS ▼](#)[STUDENTS ▼](#)[RESOURCES ▼](#)

Field Trips - Saturday afternoon

Barn Island Marsh Field Trip

hosted by Ron Rozsa

Miller & Egler (1950: <http://tinyurl.com/mobzjyr>) conducted various studies in 1947 of the tidal wetlands of the Barn Island marshes, Stonington, CT. Future researchers and students would replicate these studies in order to document vegetation change and build a long-term monitoring record. The *Panicum* belt is actually a rare freshwater community associated with seepage areas known as a sea level fens. In response to sea level rise these fens are migrating uphill but disappear when they encounter an equally rare seepage community that is a forested wetland dominated by *Nyssa sylvatica*. The *Juncus* belt, is a band of vegetation that lies seaward of the seepage communities and mesohaline soil conditions suggest that the *Juncus* belt is a companion seepage community that lies in the tidal wetland. The *Juncus* belt erodes ~20 years - last erosion event was 2008 and in 2014 *Juncus* has moved uphill into and is displacing the *Panicum* belt or forming the understory of the *Nyssa* forests. Various trees in the seepage communities are dying from increased soil wetlands as the water table rises in elevation from sea level rise. The *Panicum* belt is also the critical habitat for a plant that is rare in many New England states.

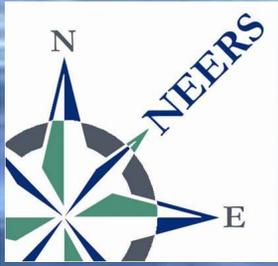


The tour will use the elevated dikes to visit the Barn Island marshes with quick side trips into the marshes to see the seepage communities. Barn Island also has a long history of tidal marsh restoration beginning in 1978. See the progress of these marshes which are yet adapting to changes in sea level rise.

Knee high boots are recommended.

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New England Estuarine Research Society

[HOME](#)[SOCIETY ▾](#)[MEETINGS ▾](#)[MEMBERS ▾](#)[STUDENTS ▾](#)[RESOURCES ▾](#)

Meals and Social Events

NEERS Welcoming Social - Thursday, 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Location: TBA, Avery Point campus, UConn

Time: 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

The Welcoming Social will be held immediately following the Symposium. There will be light refreshments served and a cash bar. Join us for a chance to mingle and chat about topics of estuarine and coastal significance with the astute and erudite NEERSians gathered for this special meeting.

Thursday dinner is not offered as part of the conference. A list of restaurants in the area will be provided at the registration desk.

The social is included with the cost of registration. The menu for this meeting includes cheese and crackers, chips and salsa, and a veggie platter.

NEERS Social - Friday, 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Location: Student Center, Avery Point campus, UConn

Time: 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

NEERS is attempting a paradigm shift and we'll be waiting with bated breath for your opinion on the change! Instead of the often overpriced banquet, we will have a more elaborate social. Hardier refreshments will be served along with access to a cash bar. We hope you view this as a chance to connect, socialize and make plans for the evening.

The social is included with the cost of registration. The menu for this meeting includes coconut shrimp, pork sliders, chicken bites, veggie platter with hummus and ranch dressing, and cheese and crackers.

As always we will be on the lookout for the next Stickleback Award winner, so dance late and make sure you're physically (if not mentally) present at the first talk the next morning.

Other Meals

Meeting registration includes mid-morning and mid-afternoon breaks, the Thursday and Friday socials, and lunch on Friday. No dinners are included with registration.

Breakfasts

Check with your hotel for the availability of breakfast options. UConn offers a dining option at Mort's, located in the student center, conveniently located just downstairs from our meeting venue.

Thursday Lunch

Thursday lunch is not included with registration. A number of restaurants can be found in the local area by searching on-line. UConn offers a dining option at Mort's, located in the student center, conveniently located just downstairs from our meeting venue.

Friday Lunch

Friday lunch is included with the meeting registration cost. Lunch will be sandwiches, salad, and soup.

If a guest of an attendee would like to join us for lunch without attending the meeting, the cost of the lunch is \$10 (\$20 if you would also like to join us for the Friday social). Please contact the treasurer directly to register a guest.

Saturday Lunch

A box lunch will be available for an additional cost. This is highly recommended for folks joining a field trip. The lunch will be ordered from a local sandwich shop - please check for details at the registration desk.

Thursday and Friday Dinners

Thursday and Friday dinners are not offered as part of the conference, though food will be available at the socials. A list of local restaurants will be available at the registration desk.

Dietary Concerns?

Please contact [Jamie Vaudrey](#) with any dietary concerns.

contact us: [Team NEERS](#)