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## Spring 2014 Meeting

~12 p.m. Thursday, May 1 to ~12 p.m. Saturday, May 3

[Salem Waterfront Hotel](#)

Post-meeting field trips will be offered Saturday afternoon.



### Important Due Dates:

March 7 - abstracts due

March 26 - student travel award application due

April 1 - last day for conference rate at the hotel

April 10 - online meeting registration due

April 23 - registration payment due to Treasurer



## Hosts

Mass Division of Marine Fisheries & Mass Audubon & Salem Sound Coastwatch

### Local Organizers

Tay Evans (Mass Division of Marine Fisheries), Robert Buchsbaum (Mass Audubon), John Brawley (Woods Hole Group), Barbara Warren (Salem Sound Coastwatch), Robert Vincent (NOAA), Alan Young (Salem State University)

The Spring 2014 NEERS meeting will be held in historic Salem, Massachusetts, at the Salem Waterfront Hotel at Pickering Wharf on Salem Harbor. Historically, Salem was one of the wealthiest and most important seaports in the country. The first European settlers arrived in the early 1600s to discover abundant natural resources. Salem Sound and associated rivers were described as teeming with estuarine and anadromous fish, including such species as sturgeon, salmon, halibut, shad, river herring, cod and haddock (to name a few). Although Salem Sound marine resources have clearly changed since those early days, this estuary still inspires with its magic of beautiful rocky islands, intertidal flats, kelp beds, eelgrass meadows, and salt marshes.

The City of Salem itself is a great place to visit. The Salem Waterfront Hotel is located just steps away from many famed historic sites including Hawthorne's House of the Seven Gables and Derby Wharf as well as the beautiful and intriguing collections of maritime art

and history found at the Peabody Essex Museum. The Visitor Center of the Salem Maritime National Historic Site is just across the street, as are many houses that date back to colonial times. If you want to have your palm read, gaze into a crystal ball, visit a wax museum, or ride on an authentic merry-go-round, there are plenty of opportunities for that too.

### Platinum Supporter



### Gold Supporter



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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](#) - Salt Marsh Restoration in the Northeast: where we've been and where we're going.

[Saturday Morning Ignite](#) - Involving Citizens in Coastal Resource Science and Management

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

[Registration](#) - fee schedule and submission form. Due April 10. After this date, please register on-site.

## Society

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[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.

[Program](#) - draft version

[Abstracts](#) - on-line access

[Meeting Evaluation Form](#) - Please respond, we'd like your input! (This is a .docx download.)

## Accommodations & Activities

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[Accommodations](#) - Hotel information. Register by April 1 for the conference rate.

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

[Field Trips](#)

[Meals and Social Events](#)

[Directions](#)

## Contacts

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**General Information** - [Tay Evans](#) 978-282-0308 x168

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

**Registration, Student Travel Awards** - [Sara Grady](#)

**Website Issues** - [Jamie Vaudrey](#)

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

contact us: [Team NEERS](#)



## Student Awards

### Travel Awards

Three \$100 travel-awards will be awarded by NEERS, plus additional awards have been donated by our sponsors.

Graduate and undergraduate students who are giving presentations at this meeting and are members of NEERS (by the meeting date) may apply. Travel awards may also be offered to non-presenting students if sufficient funds are available; students are welcome to contact the NEERS Treasurer about availability of such support for general student travel. Selection will be made by lottery and will not affect eligibility for student presentation prizes.

To apply for a travel award, send an email with your abstract attached to the NEERS treasurer, [Cindy Delpapa](#), by March 26. Provide your name, address, college or university, email, and telephone number. In addition, please have your faculty advisor send the treasurer an email certifying that you are a student in good standing. Award applicants will be notified of award status by April 2.

As always, NEERS greatly appreciates donations to the Bill Niering Student Travel Endowment fund (student endowment contributions can be made when you pre-register).

### Presentation Prizes

Prizes will be awarded at the end of the meeting to students chosen by the judging panel in four categories: graduate student oral presentation (Buck Ketchum Prize, \$100), undergraduate student oral presentations (Stubby Rankin Prize, \$100), graduate student poster presentation (David Dean Prize, \$100) and undergraduate student poster presentation (Scott Warren Prize, \$100). All eligible students will be automatically entered into the appropriate presentation prize competition.

Papers and posters are judged by a committee in terms of overall effectiveness, scientific content, and quality of the presentation. Students are strongly encouraged to review the [scoring criteria](#) in advance.

To be eligible for one of the student presentation prizes, a student must:

- be first author on the presentation and be responsible for carrying out most of the work;
- present the oral or poster presentation in person;
- be matriculated in a degree program at the time of the meeting;
- be a NEERS member; and
- not have won the same presentation prize previously

NEERS appreciates contributions towards the endowment fund for these prizes, so give generously when you pre-register. Banquet tickets are available to students at a reduced cost. Please see the [Registration](#) page for pricing.

contact us: [Team NEERS](#)



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## Conference Accommodations

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### [Salem Waterfront Hotel and Marina](#)

225 Derby Street

Salem, MA 01970

Phone: 978-740-8788 (hotel); 888-33-SALEM (reservations)

NEERS rooms are reserved until April 1st (after this date, standard rates apply).

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

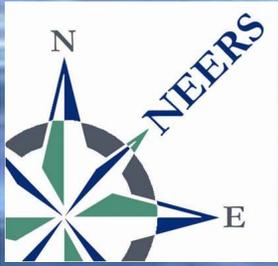
conference room rate = \$129 + tax

## Other Options

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

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## Meeting Venue

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The Spring 2014 meeting of the New England Estuarine Research Society (NEERS) will be held at the Salem Waterfront Hotel and Marina, Salem, MA.

The Salem Waterfront Hotel is located on historic Pickering Wharf, with views of Salem Harbor and just steps away from historic sites, shops, restaurants, museums and harbor walks. Hotel amenities include high speed internet, an indoor heated swimming pool, fully-equipped fitness center and an on-site restaurant, the "Regatta Pub."

### [Salem Waterfront Hotel and Marina](#)

225 Derby Street

Salem, MA 01970

Phone: 978-740-8788 (hotel); 888-33-SALEM (reservations)

[DIRECTIONS](#)

## Night Life

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Salem provides plenty of options for evening and daytime [entertainment](#).

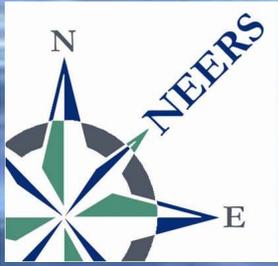
## Local Attractions

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[Suggestions from Destination Salem](#)

[Suggestions from Trip Advisor](#)

contact us: [Team NEERS](#)



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## Field Trips - Saturday afternoon

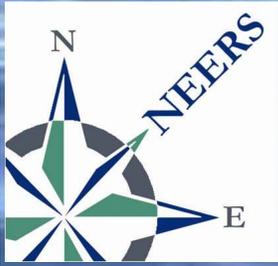
Immediately following this year's NEERS conference, come relax with your friends on a 1.5 hour field trip aboard the 45 foot motor catamaran, Endeavour, leaving from Salem Willows Park. The trip will be hosted by [Sea Station](#), a local non-profit, who regularly conducts on-the-water marine education in Salem Sound. Watch the 42" HD LED TV display real time pictures of the eelgrass underneath the boat. Pull a lobster trap with us near Eagle Island. Libations and light snacks available for purchase. Students and children under 12 y/o \$10. All others \$15.

This trip requires a minimum of 30 participants and registration closes at 45 participants. Please indicate your interest in attending on the registration form. The fee will be collected at the time of the field trip.



(photo copied from [SeaStation.org](#))

contact us: [Team NEERS](#)



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## Meals and Social Events

### **NEERS Welcoming Social - Thursday, 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

Location: Compass Room, Salem Waterfront Hotel

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 and 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. The hotel can offer suggestions for restaurants.

### **NEERS Social, Banquet, and Evening Festivities - Friday, 6:30 p.m.**

Location: Grand Ballroom, Salem Waterfront Hotel

SOCIAL: 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. for the social. The social is included with the cost of registration.

BANQUET: 7:30 until we are done. Members and friends are invited to sign up for the banquet when they register (cost is listed on the [Registration](#) page). The banquet will be a buffet with salads, chicken, fish, pasta, vegetable dish, rice pilaf and dessert with coffee and tea selection.

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.

PRE-REGISTRATION IS ESSENTIAL FOR THE BANQUET, only those that pre-register for the banquet can be guaranteed a meal due to space limitations. Please indicate whether you will attend on the meeting registration form. The caterers are aware of dietary restrictions. If you would like to discuss any accommodations for dietary restrictions, contact [Jay Evans](#).

## Other Meals

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

### **Breakfast**

A continental breakfast is included with the meeting registration cost.

### **Friday Lunch**

Friday lunch is included with the meeting registration cost. If a guest of an attendee would like to join us for lunch without attending the meeting, the cost of the lunch is \$24. Please register the guest on a separate registration form.

### **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.

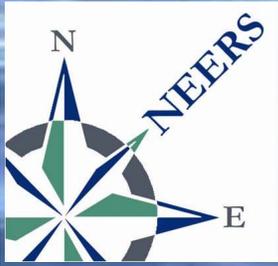
### **Thursday Dinner**

Thursday dinner is not offered as part of the conference. The hotel can offer suggestions for restaurants.

### **Dietary Concerns?**

Please contact [Tay Evans](#) with any dietary concerns.

contact us: [Team NEERS](#)



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## Special Symposium

**Thursday, May 1, 12:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.**

**Symposium Title - Salt Marsh restoration in New England: Where have we been and where are we going?**

The symposium will take place on Thursday, May 1 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:**

The first attempts at salt marsh restoration in New England began over 40 years ago in Connecticut. Since that time, marsh restoration projects have been conducted throughout New England to address impacts from anthropogenic alterations (e.g., filling; hydrological alterations), invasive species (e.g., *Phragmites* control), and effects on marsh processes. As a result, restoration has been a major focus of state and federal environmental agencies, NGO's and academic research for many years. This symposium, inspired by the recently published volume edited by Charles Roman and Dave Burdick, will take a long term look at salt marsh restoration in New England. Speakers will discuss what has worked well, what has not, what we still need to know, the results of long term monitoring, and what restoration projects have contributed to our knowledge of salt marsh ecology. A number of talks will look toward the future within the context of climate change and sea level rise. The symposium will conclude with a panel discussion synthesizing issues covered in the symposium presentations.

**Location - [main meeting venue](#)**

### **Symposium Program**

Chairs: Robert Buchsbaum and Rob Vincent

contact us: [Team NEERS](#)





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## Ignite Sessions

Ignite sessions provide a unique way to share ideas and experiences related to a common theme in a fun, animated forum. This fast-paced presentation style is a chance for speakers to really focus on their main message. Each Ignite talk features 20 slides that advance automatically every 15 seconds. There are no questions during the talks, but there will be time for discussion afterwards. This format forces the speakers to be prepared and really think about what they want to say about each slide, and to work on their timing. See examples of Ignite talks at <http://igniteshow.com>.

### **Saturday Morning: Involving Citizens in Coastal Resource Science and Management**

The Saturday Morning Ignite session will focus on the question, "How can we effectively involve more citizens in studying, conserving and restoring our coastal resources?" Many of us have worked with local "citizen scientists", whether using volunteers to assist with a habitat restoration, or working with a local group that collects water quality data. This Ignite session will be a time to share your thoughts and experience on this topic and brainstorm new ideas. Some questions to think about include: How can we ensure the quality of data collection and help citizens become more engaged? Where does this fit in to our role as scientists? What are the best ways to foster local stewardship? What are your goals in using citizen volunteers and are these goals being met? What parameters can be effectively measured by citizens and which have you found are better left to the professionals? We are looking for talks that will share examples and successes in employing citizen scientists, as well as discussion of lessons learned. We are hoping to solicit 6 presenters for a 30-minute session that will be followed by a 30-minute panel discussion.

### **Friday: Hot Topics**

Don't despair if your paper doesn't fall into the specified theme! If a sufficient number of abstract submitters opt for this format, we will add a Friday Ignite Session on a hot topic that emerges as a common theme among submitters.

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## Call For Papers

### Abstracts are due March 7, 2014

**Abstract Submission Form is Inactive**

The deadline for submitting abstracts has passed.

Contact the Program Chair, [Hilary Neckles](#), with questions.

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. There will be a **Saturday Morning Ignite** session within a specified thematic area followed by a panel discussion. But don't despair if your paper doesn't fall into the specified theme - If a sufficient number of abstract submitters opt for this format, we will add a **Friday Ignite Session** on a topic that emerges as a common theme among submitters. 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 question based on the poster presentations. A winner is chosen by lottery from complete and correct submissions.

### Instructions for Preparing Abstracts

All abstracts have a 1750-character limit (about 250 words) including spaces. The character limit applies to the body of the abstract only, the authors and titles are excluded from the limit. All words in the title should be CAPITALIZED. Author(s), address(es), and presentation title must appear in the proper format. Use footnotes to minimize the space for addresses when multiple authors are from more than one institution. Include full name, e-mail address, and telephone number of presenting author.

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.

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 printed immediately upon successful submission of your abstract to the NEERS website. If you do not receive this confirmation page 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.

### PowerPoint Presentations

The conference computer (PC) will use PowerPoint 2010. Please be sure to check your presentation for compatability 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](#).

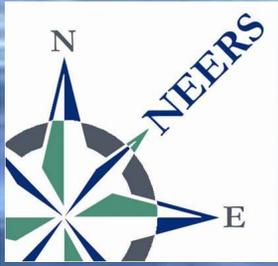
All posters will be eligible for the **3-3 Award**, which includes a \$33 cash prize (judged by the students). The "3-3 Rule" generally states that the main point of the poster can be understood by a viewer from 3 feet away, in 3 minutes. This award was conceived to encourage scientists to convey their 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](#)



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## Registration

Registration opens on Monday, March 17, 2014.

Registration closes on Thursday, April 10, 2014.

**Registration Form is Inactive**

The deadline for pre-registration has passed.

You may register on-site or by contacting the treasurer. Banquet tickets may not be available. Contact the treasurer, [Cindy Delpapa](#), with questions.

Have you already registered but forgot to use the PayPal button? Click [here](#) for help...

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

## Registration Fee Schedule - Spring 2014

	Registration Rate	Walk-in Rate
student	\$35.00	\$55.00
member	\$80.00	\$110.00
non-member	\$100.00	\$130.00
one-day student	\$15.00	\$30.00
one-day member	\$30.00	\$45.00
one-day non-member	\$40.00	\$55.00

Registration includes lunch on Friday, the Thursday and Friday Social, and all coffee breaks. One-day registration is for either Thursday or Friday or Saturday. Members and friends are invited to sign up for the Friday banquet when they register. Pre-registration is required for the banquet. See the [Meals and Social Events](#) page for details on the options being offered.

## Additional Fees - Spring 2014

NEERS Membership - student*	\$5.00
NEERS Membership - regular*	\$20.00
<a href="#">Friday lunch for people not registered for the meeting</a>	\$24.00
<a href="#">Friday Banquet Ticket**</a> - regular	\$40.00
<a href="#">Friday Banquet Ticket**</a> - student	\$20.00
<a href="#">Saturday Box Lunch</a>	order on-site
<a href="#">Field Trip</a> (\$15/adult, \$10/children 12 and under)	\$15.00

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

\*\* For everyone, pre-registration is highly recommended, tickets are usually not available for walk-in registrations.

contact us: [Team NEERS](#)