

# New England Estuarine Research Society

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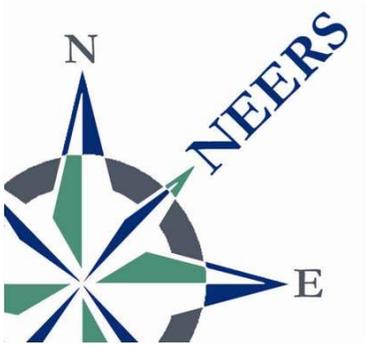
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## Spring 2015 Meeting



co-hosted by **NEERS** and  
**The Coastal Society**



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

[DeWolf Tavern](#) and [Bristol Harbor Inn](#), 259 Thames St., Bristol, RI

Post-meeting field trips will be offered Saturday afternoon.

[Click Here for a Printable Meeting Poster](#)



### Important Due Dates:

March 5 - abstracts due

March 12 - student travel award application due

April 1 - online meeting registration due

April 8 - registration payment due to Treasurer



### Hosts

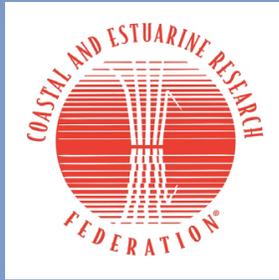
**Autumn Oczkowski** (US EPA, Atlantic Ecology Division), **Kenny Raposa** (Narragansett Bay NERR)

**Elizabeth Brannon** (University of Rhode Island) and **Rose Martin** (University of Rhode Island)

Join us as we venture to a new NEERS site, Bristol, Rhode Island. Bristol is a charming town on a peninsula of land that separates

Mt. Hope Bay from Narragansett Bay. The town is full of small shops and restaurants and the meeting venue, while right on water, is also within easy walking distance to all that Bristol has to offer.

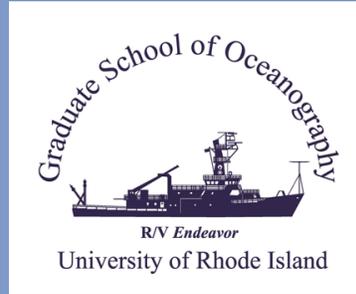
### Platinum Supporters



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### Gold Supporters



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### Silver Supporters



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### Bronze Supporters



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

## Meeting Details

[Special Symposium](#) - Emerging Issues and Novel Technologies in Coastal Ecosystem Science

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

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

[Program](#) - final version, no abstracts

A printed copy of the program is provided at the meeting, but **new this year - abstracts will not be included**. If you want a paper copy of the abstracts, please print your own copy prior to the meeting. Thanks for making NEERS more sustainable, both ecologically and economically!

[Abstracts](#) - If you would like a hard copy of the abstracts at the meeting, please print your own copy prior to the meeting. A review copy will be available at the registration desk.

## Society

[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

[Accommodations](#) - Hotel information.

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

[Field Trips](#)

[Meals and Social Events](#)

[Directions](#)

## Contacts

General Information - [Autumn Oczkowski](#), 401-782-9677

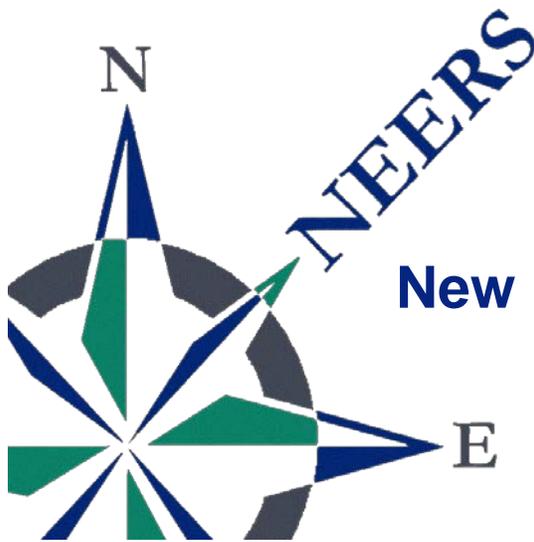
Abstracts or Other Program Concerns - [Cathy Wigand](#)

Registration, Student Travel Awards - [Courtney Schmidt](#)

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  
and  
The Coastal Society**

Joint 2015 Spring Meeting

**April 16 - 18**

DeWolf Tavern, Bristol, RI

**Visit [NEERS.org](http://NEERS.org) to register!**

Single day or three day registrations are available.

**hosted by:**

Autumn Oczkowski (US EPA,  
Atlantic Ecology Division)  
Kenny Raposa (Narragansett Bay  
NERR)  
Elizabeth Brannon (URI)  
Rose Martin (URI)

**Important Due Dates**

March 5 - abstracts due

March 12 - student travel award  
application due

April 1 - meeting registration due

April 8 - registration payment due to  
Treasurer

**Thursday Symposium: Emerging Issues and Novel Technologies  
in Coastal Ecosystem Science**

Our hosts have invited speakers to this symposium who will introduce us to cutting edge concepts and technologies. The intention is to enhance our understanding of some of these new and emerging ideas and learn how they can be useful in our own research, thus expanding our capacity to protect and manage coastal and estuarine ecosystems.

- NEERS accepts papers on all topics related to estuarine science.
- We welcome all disciplines, including natural and social sciences.
- Presenters are from a wide range of organizations.
- We provide a welcoming environment for students.
- To peruse previous programs, visit [NEERS.org](http://NEERS.org) > Meetings > Past Meetings (<http://neers.org/MEETINGS/PastMeetingsDocuments.html>)



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## Conference Accommodations

### Bristol Harbor Inn

259 Thames St., Bristol, RI 02809

(866) 254-1444 or (401) 254-1444

Our hosts have blocked 24 rooms at the Inn and 4 additional rooms at a bed and breakfast owned by the Inn and within walking distance.

Please identify yourself as registering for the NEERS conference rate.

conference room rate = \$105 / night + tax

### **And for a lucky group of 12 (students have priority)...**

The Narragansett Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve is pleased to offer housing for the spring 2015 NEERS meeting. The housing is located at the Reserve on the south end of Prudence Island, which is reached via a 30-minute ferry ride from Bristol (the ferry landing is a 5-minute walk from the Bristol Harbor Inn). The Reserve has a fully furnished cottage with 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, and overnight space for up to 12 people. Those who stay at the Reserve will have use of a 12-passenger van for self transport to/from the ferry landing on Prudence. Although there is a fully functional kitchen, there are limited services on the island and guests must bring over all food, bedding, and other personal items from the mainland and prepare all food for themselves. Over 85% of Prudence Island is protected as open space; this provides ample opportunities for walking, hiking, beachcombing, and exploring, but other amenities such as restaurants, stores, and shopping are not present on the island.

Please note that guests who stay at the Reserve will have to set their schedules for the NEERS meeting based on the Prudence Island ferry schedule (e.g., the morning ferry will arrive in Bristol at 9:00 AM; the last ferry returning to Prudence leaves Bristol at 5:30 PM Thursday and 7:00 PM on Friday). Also note that guests are responsible for their own ferry tickets to/from the Island and that alcohol is not allowed at the Reserve.

While the housing is free, there is a nominal cleaning fee (\$5 per person). Priority will be given to students or groups of students.

For more information, please visit the ferry and Reserve websites:

<http://www.prudencebayislandstransport.com/>

<http://nbnerr.org>

Please contact Kenny Raposa, Reserve Research Coordinator, for more information:

[Kenny@nbnerr.org](mailto:Kenny@nbnerr.org)

## Other Options

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### Bed and Breakfasts

Bradford Dimond Norris House, 474 Hope Street, Bristol (This is owned by the company that owns the meeting venue)

401.253.6338

Mt. Hope Farm, 250 Metacom Avenue, Bristol

401.254.1745

Point Pleasant, 333 Poppasquash Road, Bristol

401.253.0627

William's Grant Inn, 154 High Street, Bristol

401.253.4222

### Hotels

Courtyard Marriott, Middletown, RI

401.849.8000

Holiday Inn Express, Middletown, RI

401.849.5666

Hampton Inn, Middletown, RI

401.848-6555

Ramada Inn, Middletown, RI

401.846.7600

Howard Johnson's, Middletown, RI

401.849.2000

Hampton Inn, Seekonk, MA

508.336.9000

Ramada Inn, Seekonk, MA

508.336.730

Quality Inn, Somerset, MA

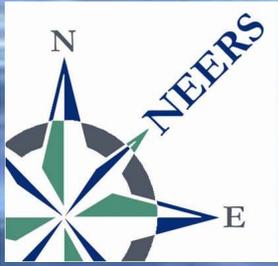
508.678.4545

Hampton Inn, Westport, MA

508.675-8500

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contact us: [Team NEERS](#)



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## Meeting Venue

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The Spring 2015 meeting of the New England Estuarine Research Society (NEERS) will be held at the [DeWolf Tavern](#) in Bristol, Rhode Island.

Bristol is a charming town on a peninsula of land that separates Mt. Hope Bay from Narragansett Bay. Bristol is full of small shops and restaurants and the meeting venue, while right on water, is also within easy walking distance to all that Bristol has to offer.

### DIRECTIONS

Parking is available at the hotel as well as ~100 yards down the road (south) by the ferry. Additionally, more detailed parking information is available at: [http://www.nbnerr.org/to\\_prudence.htm](http://www.nbnerr.org/to_prudence.htm).

## Local Attractions

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<http://bristolri.us/>

<http://www.explorebristolri.com/>

### In Town/Walking Distance:

Dozens of restaurants/pubs

Shopping on/around Hope Street

East Bay Bike Path/Independence Park

<http://www.riparks.com/Locations/LocationEastBay.html>

<http://www.dot.ri.gov/community/bikeri/eastbay.php>

Pedego electric bike rentals

<http://pedegorhodeisland.com/>

Herreshoff Marine Museum/America's Cup Hall of Fame

<http://www.herreshoff.org/>

Linden Place Mansion/Bristol Art Museum

<http://lindenplace.org/>

Prudence Island Ferry (bicycles required)

<http://www.prudencebayislandstransport.com/>

<http://www.nbnerr.org/>

**Short drive**

Colt State Park

<http://www.riparks.com/Locations/LocationColt.html>

Blithewold Mansion, Gardens, and Arboretum

<http://www.blithewold.org/>

Coggeshall Farm Museum

<http://coggeshallfarm.org/>

Mount Hope Farm

<http://www.mounthopfarm.org/>

Audubon Society of RI Environmental Education Center

<http://www.asri.org/environmental-education-center/environmental-education-center.html>

contact us: [Team NEERS](#)



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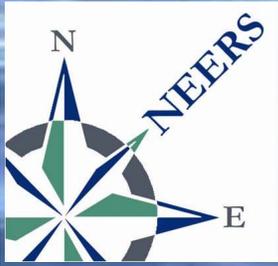
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## Field Trips - Saturday afternoon

Southern New England salt marshes are showing multiple signs of degradation associated with accelerating rates of sea-level rise. Efforts are now underway to quantify the ecological and economic effects resulting from these ongoing changes and to initiate projects aimed at enhancing marsh resilience to sea-level rise and other stressors. Please join us for a field trip Saturday morning to the nearby Colt State Park salt marsh where regional salt marsh ecologists will discuss these issues and where Dr. Gregg Moore (UNH) will demonstrate the EM-38 MK2 groundwater conductivity mapper (<http://www.geonics.com/html/em38.html>), which can be used to non-destructively quantify high-resolution spatial patterns in marsh salinity. Participants will receive an overview of the instrument in the field, collect data, and return to the meeting venue to review the results.

Pre-registration will be required and we will have vans to transport participants to the field site. We will be visiting a local salt marsh so appropriate field dress will be important—this includes **rubber boots**. If participants don't have rubber boots, please let us know in advance (along with shoe size) and we can provide some.

contact us: [Team NEERS](#)



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## Meals and Social Events

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### **NEERS Welcoming Social - Thursday, 5:15 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

Location: Dinman Room at the DeWolf Tavern

Time: 5:15 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.*

### **NEERS Social - Friday**

Location: at the Poster Session - location TBA

Time: TBA, will be listed on the meeting program

There will be a Friday Social at the Poster Session that will include a cash bar and heavier snacks. Many thanks to URI's Graduate School of Oceanography for sponsoring this event!

*The social is included with the cost of registration.* The menu for this meeting includes a Mediterranean Display of olives, grilled vegetables, hummus, cheeses, and breads as well as an assortment of naan pizzas.

We are then organizing a social event at a nearby bar that will include live music (danceable) and a *signature cocktail*. 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, and the Thursday and Friday socials, and Friday lunch. No dinners are included with registration.

### **Breakfasts**

Breakfast is not provided as part of the conference. Breakfast is included with the hotel room, for guests of the Bristol Inn. If staying elsewhere, please check with your hotel.

## **Thursday Lunch**

Thursday lunch is not included with registration. A number of restaurants can be found in the local area by searching on-line. A list of restaurant will be available at the registration desk.

## **Friday Lunch**

Friday lunch is included with the meeting registration cost. You must pre-register for your lunch selection. All sandwiches come with chips and fruit.

Choices include:

### **Chicken Sandwich**

*Pulled chicken, avocado, mango sour cream, onion, iceberg, cheddar*

### **Vegetable Wrap**

*Spinach, sun dried tomato, English peas, Brussels sprouts, potato & fresh mozzarella cheese*

### **"Philly" Filet Mignon Sandwich**

*Swiss cheese, caramelized onion & horseradish sauce*

### **Lobster, Shrimp, Salmon & Scallop Sandwich**

*lemon pickle tartar sauce, onion, iceberg, carrots*

### **Dietary Restrictions**

*If you have a dietary restriction, please contact the conference organizers directly (see below).*

If a guest of an attendee would like to join us for lunch without attending the meeting, there may be a small additional charge. Please contact the treasurer directly to register a guest.

## **Saturday Lunch**

A box lunch will be available for \$11. This is highly recommended for folks joining a field trip. Lunch options are the same as Friday lunch (above) and you must pre-register for your lunch selection.

## **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 [Autumn Oczkowski](#) with any dietary concerns.



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## Special Symposium

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**Thursday, April 16, 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.**

### **Symposium Title - Emerging Issues and Novel Technologies in Coastal Ecosystem Science**

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:**

We have invited speakers to this symposium who will introduce us to cutting edge concepts and technologies. The intention is to enhance our understanding of some of these new and emerging ideas and learn how they can be useful in our own research, thus expanding our capacity to protect and manage coastal and estuarine ecosystems.

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

### **Symposium Program**

Chair:

**Speaker Name**

Position, Affiliation

Title: "X"

contact us: [Team NEERS](#)



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## Call For Papers

**Abstracts are due March 5, 2015**

  
[Abstract Submission Form](#)

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

Abstracts will be accepted starting February 11.

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 question 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, [Cathy Wigand](#), 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 exceed 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

`<sup></sup>` for superscript

`<sub></sub>` for subscript

For the following symbol to appear

δ

μ

α

Δ

®

Insert this code online

`&delta`

`&mu`

`&alpha`

`&Delta`

`&reg`

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 *Ruppia* 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](#).

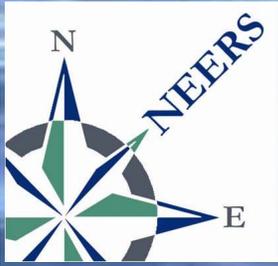
All posters will be eligible for the **3-3 Award**, which includes a \$33 cash prize (judged by the students). The "3-3 Rule" generally states that the main point of the poster can be understood by a viewer from 3 feet away, in 3 minutes. This award was conceived to encourage scientists to convey their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



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## Registration

Registration opens on February 16, 2015.

Early registration closes on April 1, 2015.

After April 1, walk-in registration rates apply. You may still register on-line.



[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 2015

	Early Registration Rate	Walk-in Rate
student	\$40	\$55
member	\$85	\$105
non-member	\$105	\$125
one-day student	\$20 (Th); \$25 (Fr); \$15 (Sa)	\$30 (Th); \$35 (Fr); \$25 (Sa)
one-day member	\$35 (Th); \$55 (Fr); \$15 (Sa)	\$45 (Th); \$65 (Fr); \$25 (Sa)
one-day non-member	\$55 (Th); \$75 (Fr); \$35 (Sa)	\$65 (Th); \$85 (Fr); \$45 (Sa)

Registration includes the Thursday and Friday Socials, Friday lunch, 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 2015

[NEERS Membership](#) - student\* \$5

<a href="#">NEERS Membership</a> - regular*	\$20
<a href="#">The Coastal Society Membership</a>	\$30 to \$100
<a href="#">Saturday Box Lunch</a>	\$11
<a href="#">Field Trip</a>	free

\* The registration form includes a link to join NEERS ([membership details](#)) and a link to join [The Coastal Society](#), our co-host for the spring 2015 meeting. Loyal NEERS members, annual dues are collected at the spring meeting.

contact us: [Team NEERS](#)