



New England Estuarine Research Society

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

Spring 2017 Meeting

1:30 p.m. Thursday, March 16 to ~12 p.m. Saturday, March 18

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

Groton, Connecticut



Important Due Dates:

January 19 - abstracts due

February 9 - student travel award application due

March 2- early meeting registration due

none, for this meeting - last day for conference rate at the hotel

March 9 - registration payment due to Treasurer



Hosts

University of Connecticut, Avery Point campus

local organizers: Jamie Vaudrey, Craig Tobias, Michael Whitney of UCONN; Sarah Crosby of Harbor Watch

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.

Platinum Supporters



Gold Supporters



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Silver Supporters



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Organizations and individuals 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](#) - Science in Support of Nitrogen Reductions to Long Island Sound

Special Event, a **Friday Night Movie!** - [Ocean Frontiers III](#)

Join us for a special evening viewing of the newly released third installation of this movie. The movie will start immediately following the end of the Friday social and will include a post-movie discussion. Pizza, salad and drinks will be provided as part of registration; please register so we know how much pizza to order. Location - Marine Science Building, room 103, just steps away from the social.

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

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

[Program](#) - .pdf of the program

[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.

Accommodations

[Accommodations](#) - Hotel information.

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

[Field Trips](#) - Living Shorelines Workshop

[Meals and Social Events](#)

[Directions](#)

Contacts

General Information - [Jamie Vaudrey](#) ; 860-405-9149

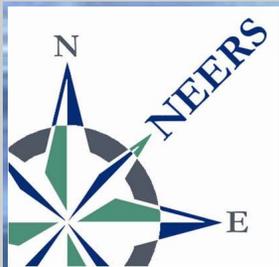
Abstracts or Other Program Concerns - [N. Tay Evans](#) or [Cathy Wigand](#)

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

Website Issues - [Brett Branco](#)

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, 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Location - [main meeting venue](#)

Symposium Title - Science in Support of Nitrogen Reductions to Long Island Sound

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, Goals and Speakers:

The Long Island Sound watershed is home to more than 8.93 million people, ~3% of the total number of people in the USA. New York and Connecticut contribute 80% of that population, with 43% of the 8.93 million people concentrated in the coastal boundary of the Western Sound (LIS watershed located in Westchester, Bronx, Queens, and Nassau Counties). The impacts of this dense population make Long Island Sound truly an “Urban Sea.” With an annual economic value estimated at \$17 billion to \$36.6 billion, people are invested in preserving Long Island Sound as a resource (Kocian et al. 2015).

From CTDEEP: *“In 2001, Connecticut DEEP and New York DEC, in concert with US EPA, completed plans for nitrogen control that identifies the maximum amount, or the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL), of nitrogen that can be discharged to Long Island Sound without significantly impairing the health of the Sound. One of DEEP’s management strategies to reduce nitrogen loading was to develop an innovative nitrogen-trading program among 79 sewage treatment plants located throughout the state. Through the Nitrogen Credit Exchange, established in 2002, Connecticut has reduced the nitrogen load from that source by nearly 65% by 2014.”*

The recent release of the Long Island Sound Study’s Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP) and the revisiting of nitrogen plans for Long Island Sound make this a key time in communicating the science behind nitrogen loading, exploring the ecological impacts of nitrogen loading and coincident hypoxia, and identifying potential mitigation strategies and areas where efforts should be focused.

[Jim Ammerman](#), Long Island Sound Study Science Coordinator

topic: Long Island Sound nitrogen strategy

[Jamie Vaudrey](#), Assistant Research Professor, Department of Marine Sciences, UCONN

"Nitrogen loading to Long Island Sound's 110 embayments"

Stuart Lowrie, Conservation Finance and Policy Advisor, The Nature Conservancy on Long Island

topic: Long Island and nitrogen, a social science perspective

[Xinwei Mao](#), Assistant Professor, Department of Civil Engineering and The Center for Clean Water Technology, SUNY Stony Brook
and

[Stuart Waugh](#), Postdoctoral Scholar, The Center for Clean Water Technology, SUNY Stony Brook

topic: emerging technology for nitrogen reduction

Melanie Hayn, Research Support Specialist, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Cornell University, and Ecosystems Center at the Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole, MA

"Understanding the Response of Eelgrass to Eutrophication in West Falmouth Harbor, Cape Cod, MA"

[Rachel Jakuba](#), Science Director, Buzzards Bay Coalition

topic: nitrogen impacts on marshes

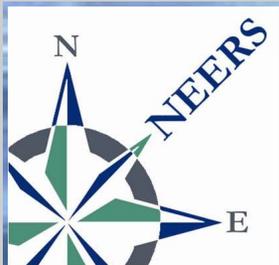
[Hans Dam](#), Professor, Department of Marine Sciences, UCONN

"Interaction of eutrophication and climate change on the zooplankton of Long Island Sound"

Work Cited -

Kocian, M., A. Fletcher, G. Schundler, D. Batker, A. Schwartz, and T. Briceno. 2015. [The Trillion Dollar Asset](#): The Economic Value of the Long Island Sound Basin. Tacoma, WA: Earth Economics. *last accessed*: 14 May 2015.

contact us: [Team NEERS](#)



New England Estuarine Research Society

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

Conference Accommodations

No designated conference hotel has been chosen for this meeting - we do not get a break on rooms because we are not using any of their facilities.

Groton has a number of hotels with a range of prices. We also have many Bed and Breakfasts in the area. Please check online. The following are not endorsements, but a partial list of options with an estimate of prices and distance from UCONN...

Hilltop Express Inn - Groton, 580 Poquonnock Rd, Groton, CT 06340; 866-599-6674

\$65/night + tax; 1.9 miles from UCONN; 3 stars

This hotel has the benefit of being next door to the bar recommended to Stickleback competitors.

Hampton Inn, 300 Long Hill Rd, Groton, CT 06340; (860) 405-1585

\$99/night + tax; 3.5 miles from UCONN; 4 stars

UCONN sends visiting speakers to this hotel.

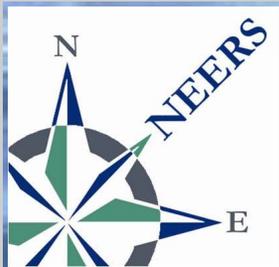
Motel 6, 404 Bridge Street, Groton, CT 06340; 860-445-8141

\$48/night + tax; 3.5 miles from UCONN; 3 stars

The hotel NEERS used at the last meeting.

MORE INFORMATION COMING SOON

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

[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). An elevator is available at the southern end of the Academic Bbuilding, which is teh side closest to Long Island Sound.

Parking information coming soon - we will need parking passes. These will be included as part of registration.

Night Life

New London evening [attractions](#).

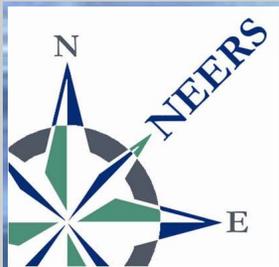
Groton evening [attractions](#).

Mystic evening [attractions](#).

Local Attractions

[Suggestions from Trip Advisor](#)

contact us: [Team NEERS](#)



New England Estuarine Research Society

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

Workshop - Saturday afternoon - Living Shorelines

Given the vagaries of March weather, our Saturday afternoon event will be a ***workshop on living shorelines***.

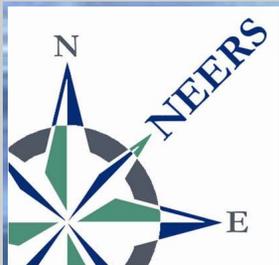
Interested in learning more about living shorelines? Have some ideas on improving the ecosystem services provided by these type of installations? Please join us for 2-hours to get an introduction to living shorelines and join a discussion led by Juliana Barrett of Connecticut Sea Grant College Program and Jonathan Fogelson of Michael Singer Studio..

Juliana will provide a brief introduction to living shorelines. Jonathan, a Design and PLanning Associate from an industrial design company, will discuss current advances in living shoreline installations. The brief introductions will be followed by a guided discussion on the benefits of living shorelines, how they can be used (and misused) and how the attendees think ecosystem services could be improved.

The workshop will be held in the Marine Science Building, room TBD.

Please register for a box lunch, we plan to start at 1 p.m.; participants are welcome to bring lunch to the workshop.

contact us: [Team NEERS](#)



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: UCONN's Marine Science Building

Time: bar and appetizers open at XX p.m. (included in registration)

The Welcoming Social will be held immediately following the Symposium. There will be light refreshments served, 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.

A list of local restaurants will be provided.

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

Location: UCONN's Marine Science Building

Time: bar and appetizers open at XX p.m. (included in registration)

The Friday social will be held following the business meeting. There will be light refreshments served, 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. Those wishing to extend the evening can meet up at a local bar for live music and dancing - Happy St. Patrick's Day!!

NEERS Friday Special Event - Pizza and a Movie, 7:30 to 9:00

Location: UCONN's Marine Science Building

Join us for a screening of [Ocean Frontiers III](#), followed by a discussion. Pizza, salad and drinks will be provided and are included with the cost of registration.

Other Meals

Meeting registration includes lunch on Friday, the socials on Thursday and Friday, and mid-morning and afternoon breaks. Breakfast is included with hotel room at many local hotels.

LUNCH

Friday lunch - included in registration fee, but additional fee applies if extra person wants to join us

Assorted sandwiches, salad, and soups.

Saturday box lunch - available for an additional fee

Classic Sandwich Boxed Lunch...\$10.50

Meals include a bag of regular or baked Lays chips, whole fruit, chocolate chip cookies, assorted soda (Coke, Diet, and Sprite) or UConn natural spring water.

Classic Turkey & American

Served on a white Kaiser Roll or wheat wrap with American cheese, lettuce and tomato

Classic Ham & Swiss

Served on a white Kaiser Roll or wheat wrap with Swiss cheese, lettuce and tomato

Classic Tuna salad

Served on a white Kaiser Roll or wheat wrap with lettuce and tomato

Vegetarian/Vegan

Served on a wheat wrap with red pepper hummus, shredded lettuce, tomato, cucumber and shredded carrots

Premium Wrap Boxed Lunch...\$12.50

Meals include a bag of regular or baked Lays chips, whole fruit, chocolate chip cookies, assorted soda (Coke, Diet, and Sprite) or UConn natural spring water.

Southwest Turkey Bacon Wrap

American cheese, lettuce & tomato with chipotle ranch

Ham and Swiss Wrap

Swiss cheese, lettuce & tomato with honey mustard

Turkey Pesto

Swiss cheese, lettuce & tomato with sundried tomato pesto

Chicken Caesar Wrap

Julienne chicken breast, chopped Romaine, shredded parmesan cheese with Caesar dressing

Gazpacho Wrap

Grape tomatoes, cucumbers, red onion, mozzarella cheese, lettuce with red wine vinegar & oil *(vegan option without cheese)*

DINNER

A list of restaurants will be available at the registration desk.

BREAKFAST

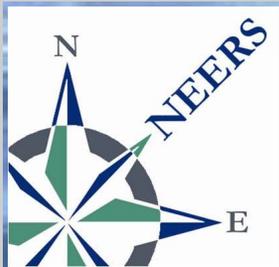
Many hotels in the area have a breakfast option. UCONN's campus food service is closed, so other than our coffee breaks, lunch and socials, other food options are not available on campus.

Dietary Concerns?

Please contact [Brett Branco](#) with any dietary concerns.

contact us: [Team NEERS](#)





New England Estuarine Research Society

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

Call For Papers

Abstracts are due January 19, 2017

Abstract Submissions Accepted After December 22, 2016



[Abstract Submission Form](#)

If you experience problems with submitting your abstract, contact the co-webmaster, [Brett Branco](#) .



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 co-webmaster, [Brett Branco](#), 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 one of the co-Program Chairs, [N. Tay Evans](#) or [Cathy Wigand](#), with questions.

1. Abstracts are to be submitted electronically. If you are having problems with the submission form, contact the co-webmaster ([Brett Branco](#)).
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

 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 co-webmaster, [Brett Branco](#) , 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/>

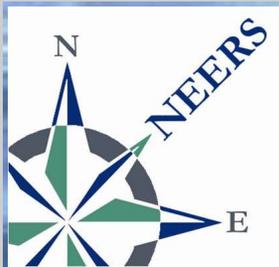
NEERS will have available our foam-core mounting boards, pushpins, and tape to display posters. The maximum poster dimensions are 36" x 48". For those of you who prefer conversational discussion of your work, this may be the most appropriate presentation style. Please check the poster option on your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

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](#).) Two additional 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

contact us: [Team NEERS](#)



New England Estuarine Research Society

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

Registration

Registration will open in January, 2017.

Early registration closes on March 2, 2017.

After March 2, walk-in registration rates apply. You may still register on-line after this date.



[Registration Form](#)

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



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

| | Early Registration Rate | Walk-in Rate |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| student | \$35 | \$50 |
| member | \$65 | \$85 |
| non-member | \$85 | \$105 |
| one-day student | \$15 (Th); \$20 (Fr); \$10 (Sa) | \$25 (Th); \$30 (Fr); \$20 (Sa) |
| one-day member | \$30 (Th); \$40 (Fr); \$20 (Sa) | \$40 (Th); \$50 (Fr); \$30 (Sa) |
| one-day non-member | \$50 (Th); \$60 (Fr); \$40 (Sa) | \$60 (Th); \$70 (Fr); \$50 (Sa) |

Registration includes the Thursday and Friday Socials, Friday lunches, 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

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

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| NEERS Membership - regular* | \$20 |
| Saturday Box Lunch | \$10.50 or \$12.50 |
| Parking | \$3/Th + \$3/Fr |
| Field Trip | \$0 |

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

** Students who are lead presenters and entered into the Undergraduate or Graduate prize competitions receive a complimentary banquet ticket. For everyone, pre-registration is highly recommended, tickets are usually not available for walk-in registrations.

contact us: [Team NEERS](#)