

Teach at the Beach 2018 Session Descriptions

<p>The Mighty Macro!</p>	<p>Presented by AmeriCorp New Jersey Watershed Ambassador, Loretta Pregartner, you will walk through what a typical classroom presentation will look like as well as get an up close and personal look at macroinvertebrates found in your local streams and rivers. This program is designed to connect students grades: 4th-12th with pollution and the effects it will have on organisms that reside there. The end of this presentation will wrap up with other programs offered by the Watershed Ambassador program.</p>
<p>Exhibits</p>	<p>The Energy & Environmental Resource Center, or EERC, is an exciting learning center focused on building a greater understanding of energy, environmental challenges, and strategies for balancing energy demand with environmental stewardship. Join PSE&G's Outreach Specialist Theresa Widger on a tour of the facility's interactive education exhibits. Themes throughout the exhibit space touch on impacts of technology, lifestyle, and public policy on energy consumption and the environment while challenging visitors to consider their own energy use and carbon footprint.</p>
<p>Share Session</p>	<p>Have an idea? A lesson plan you are proud of? Want to share some tips and tricks that have helped you as an educator? Or maybe you're looking for inspiration? "Share Session" is an informal session all about coming together to share ideas and concepts with your peers. Educators attending this session are encouraged to share an idea but it is not mandatory. Each educator will have 5 minutes to explain their tool, website, or idea with the group. If you need help sharing your idea with a short Power Point, photos, or website link, please send your information to Kaitlin Gannon who will be facilitating this session at gannon@marine.rutgers.edu.</p>
<p>Saltmarsh Restoration (Part I)</p>	<p>During this field experience, participants will hike through a tidal salt marsh, identifying marsh zones, flora, and fauna. This session will focus on the role of the marsh in the greater watershed. Please dress for the weather, including sturdy shoes.</p>
<p>Saltmarsh Restoration (Part II)</p>	<p>This field program builds on topics covered in Part I, however it is not necessary to have attended Part I in order to participate in Part II. In Part II, we will identify native and invasive plant species and discuss human impacts on saltmarsh ecology. During this guided walk through the marsh, we will visit sites in various states of restoration. Please dress for the weather, including sturdy shoes.</p>

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<p>Microplastics: An Emerging Freshwater Pollutant</p>	<p>Dr. Ravit will present field-collected microplastic data to provide background scientific information. Ms. Sandra Meola will describe how this data was incorporated into an environmental science curriculum for a public school and for public presentations related to reducing plastic pollution in New Jersey’s waterways. Educational methods will illustrate the potential for integration of the science, art, and multi-media curricula.</p>
<p>Creating a ‘Jersey- Friendly’ School Garden</p>	<p>Planning a wildlife garden at your school or nature center? A wildlife garden offers many opportunities for hands-on, inquiry-based, interdisciplinary learning. Learn how to design one using the resources and tools of Jersey-Friendly Yards (www.jerseyyards.org), an online guide to landscaping for a healthy environment in New Jersey. One of the biggest challenges is choosing the right plants for the garden site. Using the website’s plant database, students can search for and select native plants that will thrive at the specific site and attract pollinators, birds, and other wildlife. The program will showcase practical applications for formal and non-formal educators, including the results of several Jersey-Friendly Yards projects.</p>
<p>System Wide Monitoring Program (SWMP): Real-time monitoring data at your fingertips!</p>	<p>Long-term environmental monitoring programs and data collection is an essential part of NOAA's National Estuarine Research Reserve System (NERRS). That is why all Research Reserves around the country have a System-wide Monitoring Program, or SWMP (pronounced “swamp”). These measurements provide a record of how human activities and natural events and fluctuations affect coastal habitats. Join the Jacques Cousteau Reserve’s SWMP tech Gregg Sakowicz for an introduction into SWMP plus a tutorial on how to navigate the SWMP graphing website for maximum utilization of real-time water quality, weather, and nutrient data you can apply in your classroom!</p>
<p>The Fish on Your Dish: A Renewable Resource Gone Wrong</p>	<p>This session will cover the ins and outs of how fish travel from the sea to your plate, and the challenges and downfalls of this process. Some of the "tools of the trade" will be addressed and their importance in our changing seas discussed. We will cover ideas for how to use the fishing industry, and fishery science to teach sustainability, engineering, and innovation in both the classroom and beyond.</p>
<p>Is it hot in here or is it just the climate?</p>	<p>This session will cover the science behind climate change and demonstrate effective ways for incorporating this topic into a teaching session. We will cover "sticky metaphors" and activities that will bring home the message on how the earth is changing, and engage students/public in how they can be a part of the solution. Additional discussion about overcoming "climate change burnout" will be covered.</p>

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Project PORTS	<p>Promoting <u>O</u>yster <u>R</u>estoration <u>T</u>hrough <u>S</u>chools is a unique community-based restoration program that gives K-12 students an opportunity to experience environmental stewardship first hand as they help restore critical oyster habitat. Developed and coordinated by the Haskin Shellfish Research Laboratory, Rutgers University, Project PORTS utilizes the oyster as a vehicle to acquaint students, educators and the broader community with the bayshore environments and the methodologies and science of a real world oyster restoration project. In-school education programs that teach students about estuarine ecology and the maritime history of the Delaware Bay are complemented by hands-on, real-world restoration work. The program is founded on the belief that stewardship grows from an underlying appreciation and understanding of the environment.</p>
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