

UPCOMING
EVENTS

August 31st:
Ecological Evening -
'Things that go bump
in the night'
7:00 - 8:00 pm

September 17th:
Rutgers University
Marine Field Station
Open House
10:00 am - 3:00 pm

September 27th:
JC NERR 101
6:30 - 7:30 pm

October 2nd:
Cattus Island Nature
Festival—Tom's River
7:00 am - 4:00 pm

October 9th:
Coast Day Cape May
10:00 am - 4:00 pm

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Learn more about the
Reserve on our web-
site:

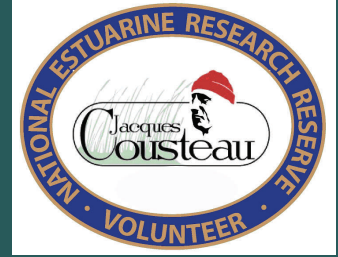
<http://jcnerr.org/>

Archived Articles of
JC NEWS now online

Jacques Cousteau

Newsletter

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 8



AUGUST 2011

JC NERR in August

Hello volunteers! This month has been quite a whirlwind of mother nature induced activity (more regarding that subject below)! I hope everyone and their families have remained safe.

Here at JC NERR, August has brought to a close our summer educational activities - the 'Creature Feature' and 'Summer Fun' programs. The Creature Feature program ended on an exciting note with children learning about 2 soft-bodied molluscs - the octopus and the squid. Children had the opportunity to become hands-on scientists by each dissecting their own squid.

'Summer Fun' ended with a 'Critter Catch' using a seine net at Graveling Point in Mystic Island.

For the upcoming fall months, JC NERR, in conjunction with the Tuckerton Seaport, is happy to bring back our Lunch n' Learn



Children prepare for squid dissections in the last 'Creature Feature' program of the summer

Series. The Lunch n' Learn Series is a lecture series melding local historical, cultural and biological topics. Lectures take place the 2nd Wednesday of the month

from September to May at 12:30 pm at the Tuckerton Seaport. The cost is \$2.00 per person and participants can bring a lunch or take advantage of the lunch option offered at the seaport for \$6.00. The first Lunch n' Learn lecture this fall is on September 14. If you are interested in registering to attend please call the Tuckerton Seaport at 609-296-8868.

Unfortunately, Hurricane Irene caused the cancellation of the annual Cohansey Riverfest in Bridgeton.

JC NERR and the Cousteau Center at Bridgeton look forward to an even more celebratory event next year that is hopefully hurricane free!

Reserve Current Events



It's that time of the year again for the Rutgers University Marine Field Station's (RUMFS) annual **Open House**. This year it will be held on September 17th from 10am - 3pm. This is the one day of the year that the Station opens its doors to the general public so that they can learn about what kind of research and educational activities take place at RUMFS and within the Jacques Cousteau Reserve. It is usually a very busy, fun and rewarding day of interacting with the public!

This event will include a tour of the first floor and outside docks of RUMFS with presentations on the history of and research being conducted at the station. JC NERR will be doing the popular t-shirt 'fish printing' in addition to merchandise sales and informational display tables.

I know many of our volunteers enjoy coming out and helping on this day and we would love to have your support!

If you wish to volunteer, please let me know as soon as possible. The

choices of activities include—the JC NERR information table, Mailing list table, fish printing table, Sales tables, people counting, and/or acting as a tour guide taking groups of people through the field station.

Shifts are either all day: 9:30am-3:30pm

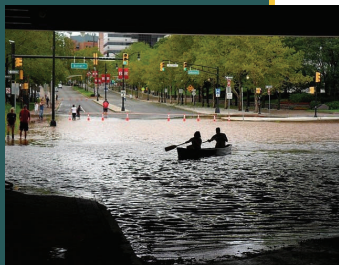
Morning shift: 9:30 am-12:30 pm or

Afternoon shift: 12:30-3:30 pm

Lunch will be provided for all volunteers!

Thank you and I hope to see you there!

Hurricane Irene and Virginia Earthquake



Canoeists make their way under a bridge on a flooded street in New Brunswick, near Rutgers campus (photo courtesy of NJ.com)

“Project PORTS utilizes the oyster as a vehicle to inspire discovery, nurture a sense of history and place and promote understanding of scientific concepts and stewardship among students”— Lisa Calvo, Watershed Coordinator, Cousteau Center at Bridgeton



People walking up and down the causeway to Rutgers Marine Field Station at the 2010 Open House

If you felt the ground shaking on Tuesday August 23rd around 2 pm—you were not alone! A 5.8 magnitude earthquake was recorded 38 miles north of Richmond, Virginia. This earthquake was felt from Florida to Toronto and as far west as Illinois. While, East coast earthquakes are rare, they do occur, although scientists have a harder time pinpointing exact the causes. For more information, check out a question and answer session with a geophysicist—<http://www.cnn.com/2011/OPINION/08/24/lohman.quake.east.coast/index.html?iref=allsearch>.

A few days after the earthquake, on August 28th at 5:35 am, Hurricane Irene became the third clas-

sified hurricane to make landfall in New Jersey, touching down in Atlantic County near Little Egg Inlet. The eye of the storm went up the coast paralleling the New Jersey Shore before exiting the state near Sandy Hook approximately three hours after it arrived. This was the first hurricane to make landfall in the state of NJ since 1903; and the only recorded hurricane to make landfall in NJ before that was in Cape May in 1821!

Despite making landfall in Little Egg Inlet, the Jersey Shore was spared the majority of damage that is now being seen inland. Coastal NJ areas were hit with strong winds and flooding, however, effects were luckily much less than predicted due to a faster moving storm, with

lower than expected wind speed and rainfall in our area. Central and western parts of the state received extreme amounts of rain; some places in excess of 14 inches. This high amount of rain coupled with an already rainy month of August (according to a Rutgers University Climatologist this has been the wettest August in state history), means that the greatest damage from Irene is coming in the form of river flooding. Numerous NJ rivers have spilled their banks and have already surpassed previously recorded high-water marks; and flooding is expected in virtually all of NJ’s waterways. Our thoughts are with everyone dealing with Irene’s aftermath.

Project PORTS

Project PORTS (Promoting Oyster Restoration Through Schools) is a community based oyster restoration project. An outreach initiative of Haskin Shellfish Research Laboratory, Rutgers University and the American Littoral Society since 2007, the goal of the project is to expand educational opportunities and encourage long-term stewardship among K-12 students, while helping to revitalize Delaware Bay oyster populations & the important fish habitat their reefs provide.

For the 5th straight year students throughout South Jersey constructed bags of surf clam shell; and earlier this summer volunteers deployed the bags in the lower Delaware Bay so that the shell could provide a settlement surface for oyster larvae (spat).

The spat has now set and the oysters are ready to be transplanted to upper bay reef sites in fishery and conservation areas. This enhanced oyster habitat will then serve as a sanctuary for spawning oysters

and provide reef structure for a host of other species.

The transplantation process involves consolidating shell bags into piles, loading bags onto skiffs/barges and transferring and opening the bags onto the decks of a larger vessel.

Transplantation was scheduled for earlier this month, but had to be rescheduled to a later date. Volunteers are an integral part of this process! If you are interested in participating please contact Lisa Calvo - (856) 575-5580.

Looking Ahead

* Open House *

September 17th

RUMFS Open House (Field Station, Tuckerton)

10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Festivals

October 2nd:

Cattus Island Nature Festival

(Tom’s River)

7:00 am - 4:00 pm

October 9th:

Coast Day in Cape May

10:00 am - 4:00 pm

If anyone is interested in volunteering for Open House or any other upcoming festivals

please let me know!

609-812-0649 x203

capone@marine.rutgers.edu

Until next month!

- Kim Capone