

Coastal Stewardship Course

Rutgers Cooperative Extension is hosting our annual Coastal Stewardship course which is a part of the Barnegat Bay Shellfish Restoration Program (BBSRP) and our collaborations with ReClam the Bay.

Come learn how to be a more responsible steward of our marine resources and how to get involved with local efforts to improve the health of our coastal ecosystems. Our main teaching tools will be Barnegat Bay ecology and shellfish restoration and aquaculture.

Some of the topics covered will include:

- Shellfish Biology and Aquaculture
- Water Quality and Microplastics
- Shellfish and Seagrass Restoration
- Habitat Restoration and Living Shorelines
- Climate Change and Coastal Resiliency
- Volunteer Opportunities



Full schedule and topics are on the next page.

Ten weekly Tuesday evening classes (7:00 - 9:00 PM) from May 26 through July 28 with both in-class and webinar participation options.

Please click here or scan the QR Code to register by Friday, May 22, 2026.

Program Fee: \$50.00/person

(graduates from past years are free as continuing education)



For more information, please contact:

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Rutgers Cooperative Extension

Barnegat Bay Shellfish Restoration Program (BBSRP)

2026 Coastal Stewardship Course

Weekly evening classes (7:00-9:00 PM) on Tuesdays from May 26 - July 28. All classes include a webinar option, while six classes are HyFlex and also have in-class option (Ocean County Extension Office, 1623 Whitesville Rd, Toms River, NJ). Hyflex classes are printed in *italics* and webinar only classes are in regular text.

May 26: Barnegat Bay Ecology

Dr. Doug Zemeckis (Rutgers Cooperative Extension)
Paige Radcliffe (Rutgers Cooperative Extension)
Nina Sassano (Barnegat Bay Partnership)
Bill Walsh (ReClam the Bay)

June 2: Barnegat Bay Monitoring & Management

Dr. Steve Yergeau (Rutgers Cooperative Extension)
Gregg Sakowicz (Rutgers University)

June 9: Oyster Biology, Restoration, & Aquaculture

Jenny Paterno Shinn (Rutgers University)
Kristin Adams (Ocean County Soil Cons. District)

June 16: Shell Recycling and Shellfish Restoration

Angela Andersen (Long Beach Township)
Scott Stueber (NJDEP Division of Fish and Wildlife)
Julie Schumacher-Carroll (American Littoral Society)
Dr. Jim Merritt and Bill Walsh (ReClam the Bay)

June 23: Clam Aquaculture and Seagrass Restoration

Dr. Mike Acquafredda (Rutgers University)
Nina Colagiovanni (NJDEP Division of Fish and Wildlife)

June 30: Habitat and Shellfish Restoration

Dr. Christine Thompson (Stockton University)
Meredith Comi (Monmouth University)

July 7: Community Science and Coastal Resiliency

Kaitlin Gannon (Rutgers University)
Christine Moran (Rutgers University)
Amanda Archer (Rutgers University)

July 14: Microplastics and Ospreys

Dr. Allison Fitzgerald (New Jersey City University)
Ben Wurst (Conserve Wildlife Foundation of NJ)

July 21: Marine Debris and Fisheries Management

Mike Auriemma (NJDEP Division of Fish & Wildlife)
Dr. Doug Zemeckis (Rutgers Cooperative Extension)
Paige Radcliffe (Rutgers Cooperative Extension)

July 28: Coastal Stewardship Principles

Britta Forsberg (Save Barnegat Bay)
Paige Radcliffe (Rutgers Cooperative Extension)
Dr. Doug Zemeckis (Rutgers Cooperative Extension)



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