



Casco Bay Currents Summer 2019

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Casco Bay Currents, an email newsletter of the Casco Bay Estuary Partnership

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Summer 2019



Photo: Greg Williams

Welcome,

to the Summer 2019 edition of *Casco Bay Currents*, the newsletter for Casco Bay Estuary Partnership (CBEP).

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Progress Towards Understanding Nutrient Pollution in Casco Bay

The CBEP-led Nutrient Council, a regional partnership aimed at building consensus on how to address nutrient pollution, held its final meeting in May and is soon producing the final report, "Nutrient Pollution in Casco Bay, Maine: State of the Science and Recommendations for Action."

Casco Bay is showing signs of ecological change - such as harmful algal blooms - due to warming temperatures and nutrient enrichment. Historically, Maine's cool waters and the relatively low watershed population have made our Bay more resilient than other New England bays to the moderate nutrient loads, but population trends and a changing climate will increase risk of negative ecological impacts in the near future.





Welcome to CBEP Summer Interns!



CBEP has two interns for the summer, Tyler Walsh and Jacqueline Rogers.

Tyler Walsh (in photo, left, with CBEP Program Manager Matt Craig) will be operating and maintaining an autonomous sensor that periodically samples the water drawn from the site of the Portland Street Pier, in South

Portland, for nitrogen and ammonium concentrations (see "Nutrient Pollution" article above). The data will provide us with a better understanding of the sources and levels of nutrient pollution entering the Bay.

Tyler, from Saco, is currently a senior at the University of Southern Maine, planning to graduate this winter with a BS in Biology. During his internship here with CBEP, Tyler hopes to gain a sense of fulfillment from the applied benefits this sensor will provide to the Bay and communities that rely on a healthy ecosystem. He is also excited to pick up research experience as well as a few applied skills along the way.

In his free time, Tyler's two favorite activities are rock climbing (both bouldering and top-rope, inside/outside) and disc golfing.

Jacqueline ("Jackie") Rogers is our new Salt Marsh Monitoring intern, monitoring marshes that have been restored, assessing other marsh sites, and supporting the assessments of living shoreline demonstration sites in Casco Bay.

Jackie is originally from South Bend, Indiana, but has lived in Portland for eight years. She has two bachelor's degrees, one in Anthropology/Sociology from Kalamazoo College and another in nursing from the University of Southern Maine. She is now working towards an associate's degree in Marine Science at Southern Maine Community





CBEP Habitat Protection Fund Spring 2019 Awards

CBEP announced the spring 2019 Habitat Protection Fund awards. CBEP made three awards, for a total of \$22,000, for projects in Cape Elizabeth, Sebago, and Freeport. Read more about the awards [here](#).

Photo credits: Top - Robinson Pond South, Cape Elizabeth Land Trust. Bottom - Sebago Community Forest, Loon Echo Land Trust.



Save the Date! Tuesday, October 29, 2019

Casco Bay Municipal Board Empowerment Series: Conservation Commissions & Plan Review

WHO: Municipal board members, municipal staff, interested citizens

WHAT: Hands-on workshop to learn how to review development plans with a focus on conservation commission priorities

WHEN: Tuesday, October 29, 5:30— 8 p.m. (light dinner included)

WHERE: Gillsland Farm Audubon Center, Falmouth

FMI: Contact: victoria.boundy@maine.edu





**Our Maine and New Hampshire
Beaches and Coast**

June 13-14 at the Kittery Community Center

Register



There are two new Wharfside stories up on the Casco Bay Stories website. Hear about Bristol Seafood and Pierce Atwood [here](#).

Mark Your Calendars: CBEP and Partner Events

- **June 12:** CBEP Management Committee meeting, Maine Audubon Gilsland Farm, info [here](#).
 - **June 13-14:** *The Beaches Conference*, Kittery Community Center. Info [here](#).
 - **June 18, July 11, August 29:** GMRI Sea State Series: Aquaculture in Maine. Info [here](#).
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