



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Make a Resolution: Volunteer to Help the Coast**

OCEAN – Add volunteering to this year's list of New Year's resolutions and help make the N.C. coast a better place.

You can begin to make good on that resolution on Tuesday, Jan. 11, and Thursday, Jan. 20, by helping the N.C. Coastal Federation bag recycled oyster shells. The bagged shells will be used later this year for oyster restoration projects in the White Oak River. Volunteers will meet at the federation's main office on N.C. 24 between Morehead City and Swansboro at 10 a.m. on both days. Enjoy hot apple cider, light snacks and the fellowship of other like-minded volunteers and federation staff.

Volunteers perform much of the federation's habitat restoration work. Last year, over 350 people helped plant marsh grasses, bag oyster shells and create rain gardens, among other things.

The federation recognizes the importance of our native oyster, not only as good eating in the winter months, but as a necessary ingredient of a healthy coast. Since 1998, the federation has been restoring and creating oyster and wetland habitat along the entire N.C. coast.

Federal and private foundation grants pay for these oyster bagging events and summertime restoration projects.

Volunteers who want to help bag oyster shells should wear closed-toed shoes and weather-appropriate clothes that could get dirty. Snacks and warm drinks will be provided from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. All ages are invited, though children under 13 need a parent or chaperone with them. For more information, please contact Sarah Phillips at 252-393-8185 or at [sarahp@nccoast.org](mailto:sarahp@nccoast.org).

Founded in 1982, the N.C. Coastal Federation is the state's only non-profit organization focused exclusively on protecting and restoring the coast of North Carolina through education, advocacy and habitat preservation and restoration. Its headquarters is located in Ocean, N.C. and regional offices are located in Manteo and Wilmington. To learn more about the Coastal

Federation visit [www.nccoast.org](http://www.nccoast.org). For information about volunteering for other federation events, go to the Volunteer tab on the Web site or check out the Events Calendar.