

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 31, 2012

Contact: Sarah Phillips Phone: 252.393.8185 Email: sarahp@nccoast.org

Federation Again Offers Day Camps on Jones Island

OCEAN – The N.C. Coastal Federation is taking summer camp to the next level for the second year in a row. Rising 3rd through rising 7th graders can get their feet wet and have an experience like no other while learning about coastal ecology during the federation's day camps on Jones Island near Swansboro.

Camps for rising 3rd through 5th graders will be June 13, July 11 or July 25. A camp for rising 6th and 7th graders will be June 27. Each camp runs from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and is led by educators from Hammocks Beach State Park and the federation.

Jones Island in the beautiful White Oak River is the latest addition to the state park, joining Bear and Huggins islands. The federation acquired most of the 24-acre island in 2005 through state and federal grants and later donated it to the park.

Working with the park, the federation has created an environmental education and restoration center, complete with a large classroom to be used for year-round programming. The island has been the focus of major shoreline and oyster habitat restoration projects and more than 2,500 volunteers have helped with these projects over the past few years. It has become a unique "living classroom" and a great place to study and conduct research.

Campers will depart from the state park in Swansboro at 9 a.m. and make the 15-minute trip to Jones Island by park ferry, hopefully seeing dolphins and egrets along the way.

Camp registration is \$30 and includes ferry transportation, all instruction, snacks and a Jones Island Explorer's certificate. The camp is limited to 20 explorers. Interested participants must register by calling the federation at 252-393-8185.