



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## 'Touch Tank Tuesdays' Begin at N.C. Coastal Federation

WRIGHTSVILLE BEACH - The N.C. Coastal Federation is launching Touch Tank Tuesdays, a fun, interactive series that takes place on the third Tuesday of each month from May to October at its recently opened Fred and Alice Stanback Coastal Education Center in Wrightsville Beach.

The first Touch Tank Tuesday is scheduled for May 20 from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

People of all ages are encouraged to attend and discover what a live shrimp, crab or whelk looks like. These marine animals will be carefully collected from local tidal creeks and salt marshes and released each day, spending a short time in the federation's touch tank for each session.

"We are excited to unveil this new education program," Ted Wilgis, a coastal education coordinator for the federation, said. "It allows children, and even adults, the opportunity to see and feel first-hand some of the amazing and interesting critters that call our local waters home."

You can find more information about the program by going by the education center, 309 W. Salisbury St. in the Historic Square at Wrightsville Beach; calling the federation at 910.509.2838; emailing [nccf@nccoast.org](mailto:nccf@nccoast.org); or visiting its web site, [www.nccoast.org](http://www.nccoast.org). The event is \$3 for federation members and \$5 for nonmembers. Fees can be paid on the day of the event or in advance. Space is limited, and pre-registration is recommended. An adult should accompany children under the age of 15.

Other programs that will be offered at the education center this summer include:

- A Coastal Adventures series that features special guests who will provide hands-on, engaging opportunities to learn about the coast, critters and hands-on instruction with simple "do-it-yourself" coastal restoration and water quality protection projects.
- A variety of special events with local artists, writers and coastal experts.

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About the North Carolina Coastal Federation:

"Working Together for a Healthy Coast"

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 restoration and preservation. The federation's headquarters are at 3609 N.C 24 in Ocean between Morehead City and Swansboro and the office is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. The federation also operates field offices in Wilmington and Manteo. For more information call 252.393.8185 or check our website at [www.nccoast.org](http://www.nccoast.org).

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