



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sept. 3, 2014

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Ocean Trash Will Be Topic of N.C. Coastal Federation's Speaker Series

WRIGHTSVILLE BEACH -- Bonnie Monteleone will bring her traveling mobile art show, made of garbage she collected from the world's oceans, to the N.C. Coastal Federation's Fred and Alice Stanback Coastal Education Center at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 10.

As the coordinator for the marine debris lab at the University of North Carolina Wilmington, Monteleone has studied the Great Pacific Garbage Patch in the central north Pacific and has traveled to many of the huge trash-collecting vortexes swirling around the world's oceans.

Inspired by her research and travels, Monteleone turned her passion into "What Goes Around Comes Around," a mobile art project that depicts the garbage she found in her ocean voyages.

During her presentation, Monteleone will share information on the problem of plastic in the oceans and provide ways that we can all help reduce it. She will also talk about the Plastic Ocean Project, a non-profit group that brings people together to take on the challenge of removing plastics from our oceans while creating sustainable businesses in the process.

"The kind of passion that Bonnie brings to the problem of plastic pollution in our oceans is inspiring" says Tracy Skrabal, a coastal scientist with the federation.

"Bonnie educates about a serious problem by incorporating art into her message,

which is so powerful."

From May through November, the federation's Coastal Speaker Series features people who bring to life their coastal experiences, passions and pursuits. You can register for any talk online at www.nccoast.org or at the education center, 309 W. Salisbury St. in Wrightsville Beach.

The talks are free for federation members and \$10 for nonmembers. All proceeds will benefit the federation's education programming. Event fees can be on the night of the talk or in advance.

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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 Wrightsville Beach and Manteo. For more information call 252.393.8185 or check our website at www.nccoast.org.

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