



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## Explore Marsh and Creeks with N.C. Coastal Federation

WRIGHTSVILLE BEACH - The N.C. Coastal Federation is offering a hands-on exploration of the local marshes and tidal creeks around Wrightsville Beach on Thursday, July 10.

The interactive field trip runs from 10 a.m. to noon, and it will begin at the federation's Fred and Alice Stanback Coastal Education Center in the town's Historic Square.

Participants will explore marshes and learn about the amazing plants and animals that call it home and how they adapt to ever-changing conditions. There will also be an opportunity to pull a seine net and toss a cast net to catch, observe and release animals in the tidal creek. The tour ends with games for the young and young at heart. This program is suitable for all ages.

"It is amazing how much biodiversity can be found in the marsh and creeks," said Ted Wilgis, a federation educator. "Having the opportunity to see and touch some of the interesting species and experience these habitats close up will allow people to understand why it is important to protect these amazing places."

The event is free for federation members and is \$5 for non-members. People can get more information about the event, which is one in a series of Coastal Adventures offered by the federation, and register at the education center

located at 309 W. Salisbury St. in Wrightsville Beach, or at [www.nccoast.org](http://www.nccoast.org). A membership with the federation will earn discounted rates to the Coastal Adventure Series and other events. All proceeds will benefit the federation's educational programming.

The Coastal Adventure Series is a monthly feature of the education center. Different events will take place on the first Thursday of each month from July to November. The prices and times vary, so be sure to visit our web site for more information.

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

- Touch Tank Tuesdays, which involve an interactive education session for all ages with coastal critters from nearby tidal creeks and salt marsh habitats.
- A variety of special events with local artists, writers and coastal experts.

You can find out more about these programs on the federation's Events Calendar on the group's web site. You can also come by the center, call 910-509-2838 or email [nccf@nccoast.org](mailto:nccf@nccoast.org).

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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](http://www.nccoast.org).

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