



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Father-Son Duo of Biologists to Speak at N.C. Coastal Federation

WRIGHTSVILLE BEACH - A father-son duo of biologists will offer tips on exploring the plants and animals of the Cape Fear region and on how homeowners can protect local wildlife and habitats at the N.C. Coastal Federation's second Coastal Speaker Series.

Andy and Carson Wood, co-founders of the Coastal Plain Conservation Group, will speak on Wednesday, June 11, at 7 p.m. at the federation's Fred and Alice Stanback Coastal Education Center in Wrightsville Beach.

Wood, a biologist and an award-winning conservation educator, will be joined by his son Carson, a fifth generation biologist. Andy is a world-class ecologist and storyteller, and Carson monitors Camp Lejeune's red-cockaded woodpecker population. They will also bring live animals to share with the audience.

Andy was the curator of education for the N.C. Aquarium at Fort Fisher, state education director for Audubon North Carolina and is a nature commentator for public radio station WHQR in Wilmington. He turned a collection of his commentaries into his first book, *Backyard Carolina*. In 1987 Andy co-founded Beach Sweep, and in 1990, he founded the Earth Day Alliance of the Lower Cape Fear.

Find more information and register at the education center, 309 W. Salisbury St.

in the Historic Square at Wrightsville Beach, or at www.nccoast.org. The event is free for federation members and \$10 for nonmembers. Event fees can be paid on the night of the event or in advance and include one raffle ticket for the chance to win a six-month federation membership.

The federation recently opened the education center with the goal of providing coastal education programs to the public. The speaker series will run from May to November and will feature a variety of experts bringing to life their coastal experiences, passions and pursuits.

Additional 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.
- 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 website. You can also come by the center, call 910-509-2838 or email 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.

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