



Protecting and Restoring our Bays and Estuaries

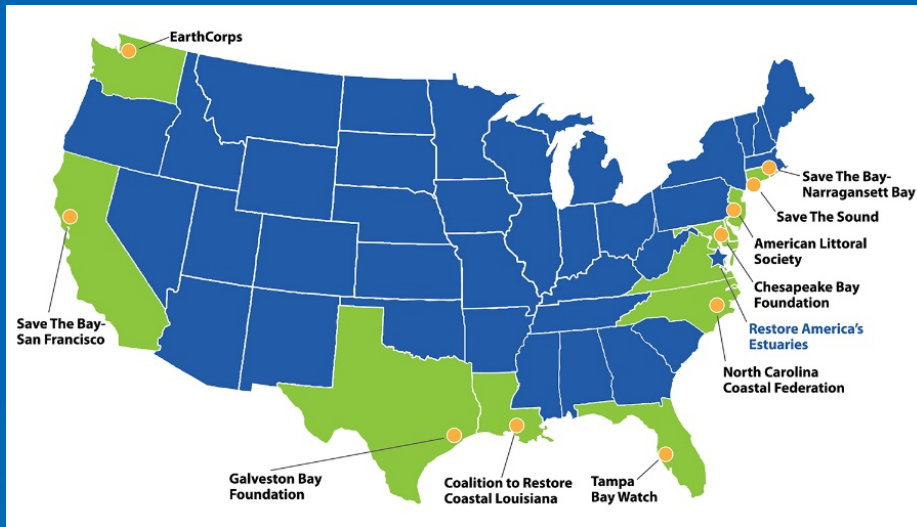


RESTORE
AMERICA'S
ESTUARIES

www.estuaries.org

National Fish Habitat Board
Elsa Schwartz and Leigh Habegger

Introduction to RAE



Restore America's Estuaries is a national 501(c)3 dedicated to the protection and restoration of bays and estuaries as essential resources for our nation.

www.estuaries.org

Building Support, Inspiring Action

- National Estuaries Week
- #iheartestuaries Social Media Campaign
- Blue Carbon Initiative
- National Summit on Coastal and Estuarine Restoration and Management
- Living Shorelines Program
- National Coastal Restoration Program
- Tampa Bay Environmental Restoration Fund
- Southeast New England Program



- **3rd Week of September** (Sept 16 – 22, 2018)
- **2017 was most successful Estuaries Week ever**
 - 215 events in 27 states
 - 27,880 volunteers contribute 101,852 hours
 - \$2.45 million economic impact
 - 700+ mentions on social media, reaching more than 600K users
 - Awarded \$18,000 through Gulf Coast regional mini-grant program

#iheartestuaries



#iheartestuaries

February 12-14, 2018

Join us on social media to support programs that protect, conserve, and restore estuaries around the country!



RESTORE
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ESTUARIES



THE ASSOCIATION OF
National Estuary Programs

- Valentine's Social Media Campaign
- February 12-14, 2018
- More than 940 posts using #iheartestuaries
- RAE tweets garnered more than 23,500 impressions
- Engaged Members of Congress, partners and participants across the country, including OCEARCH, who's account has 85,900 followers

RAE's Blue Carbon Initiative



- **Linking Coastal Wetlands to Carbon Markets**
 - 1st globally applicable wetland methodology approved by VCS (2015) for restoration
 - Currently in approval process for conservation methodology (expected Spring 2018)
- **Pilot Projects to demonstrate carbon offsets**
 - Feasibility studies under way for:
 - Herring River, Cape Cod, MA – 1000 acre salt marsh restoration
 - Fruit Farm Creek, Naples, FL – 260 acre mangrove restoration
 - Port Fourchon, LA – BU dredged material study initiated
- **Building a Community-of-Practice**
 - Blue Carbon National WG – 2nd meeting in 2018
 - Workshops, webinars, resources, webpage, etc.

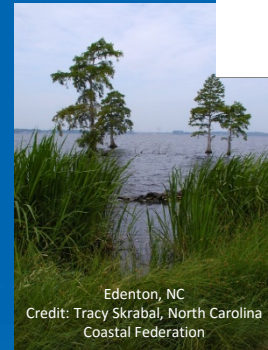


BlueCarbon.US

RAE's Living Shorelines Efforts

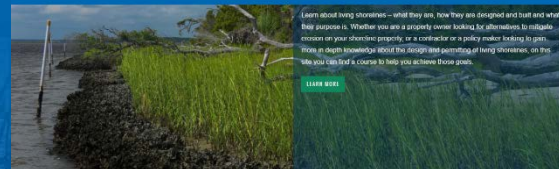


- National Technology Transfer Meetings: December 2015, Hartford, CT & February 2018, Oakland, CA
- *Living Shorelines: From Barriers to Opportunities*
- Community of Practice: monthly virtual gatherings
- Video: *An Introduction to Living Shorelines*
- Living Shorelines Academy: one stop online shop for living shorelines information and training (www.livingshorelinesacademy.org)



 Living Shorelines Academy

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Coastal Restoration Program



- Restore fish passage, dam removal, oyster and scallop restoration, invasive plant removal, living shorelines, and salt marsh planting
- Last year 5,500 volunteers, more than 15,000 service hours
- Restored nearly 30 acres
- Removed more than 33,400 pounds of trash and 22,000 feet of fishing line
- Planted 850 trees and more than 100,000 plugs of salt marsh plants
- Oyster gardeners cultivated 33,000 oysters and recycled 336,000 pounds of oyster shell



- Competitive grants program focused on restoring and protection Tampa Bay watershed
- Partnership between RAE and Tampa Bay Estuary Program
- Public and private funders
- \$875,000 available in 2018
- RFP open until March 23



Southeast New England Program



- EPA Region 1 Watershed Grants
- Nitrogen reduction and/or habitat restoration
- \$2.5M in 2018
- RFP now available at www.snepgrants.org



Investing in Our Coasts: Environment, Economy, Culture

- December 8-13 in Long Beach, CA
- Focused on coastal restoration, science, and management practices.
- 1,300 participants, including decision-makers from government agencies, businesses, foundations, non-profit organizations, academic institutions, Indian Country, and grassroots associations
- Community restoration event, field sessions, plenary sessions, expert presentations, poster hall, networking events, workshops, expo hall
- Opportunities for NFHP: workshop, meeting, sponsorship, presentations, exhibit booth
- Abstracts due April 6th, 2018



Partnership Opportunities



- RAE National Summit: sponsor, national program committee, convene symposia/workshop/meeting, give presentations
- Participate in National Estuaries Week
- Participate in #iheartestuaries campaign
- National Living Shorelines education and outreach
- Blue Carbon: Support carbon project development
- Community-based Restoration projects

Results Through Partnerships



RAE partners with a diverse group of organizations, agencies, and corporations.



Thank you!



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