



Belfast Bay
Watershed

BELFAST BAY WATERSHED NEWS



New Natural Literacy Educator

May we present Jenni Judkins, our new educator in the Natural Literacy program offered by BBWC to schools in the area. Jenni comes with plenty of classroom and outdoor teaching experience, a degree in biology, a lifelong love of nature and its wonders, and a desire to share investigations with students K-12.

For fifteen years BBWC volunteers have taught at schools in the Searsport, Belfast, and Northport districts, and

recently at Waldo County Tech Center. Adventure learning, nature study, water quality and watershed studies, trail making and mapping, outdoor classroom building, visiting preserves, hiking and snowshoeing are some of the activities we have done with students.

The program has become popular enough that we need a part-time educator to coordinate volunteers and teach for the many requests we have now. Jenni will communicate with teachers, train and schedule volunteers to help, and be the lead teacher delivering authentic environmental education with an emphasis on nature and literacy.

BBWC is able to hire Jenni because of generous contributions from people who believe in outdoor and nature education and want to pass it on to future generations. Without these, it would not be possible. You have our deep gratitude.

We can always use more volunteers, and funding to make our finances go further. To get involved, please call 338-1147 or email cloechunn@gmail.com

“In the end, we will conserve only what we love. We will love only what we understand.
And we will understand only what we are taught.”

____ *Baba Dioum, 1968, Senegalese lifelong conservation advocate, Director of Water and Forestry, Director of Policy in Ministry of Agriculture, now Coordinator of West and Central African Ministry of Agriculture*

Belfast Bay Watershed Coalition

P.O. Box 152, Belfast, ME 04915

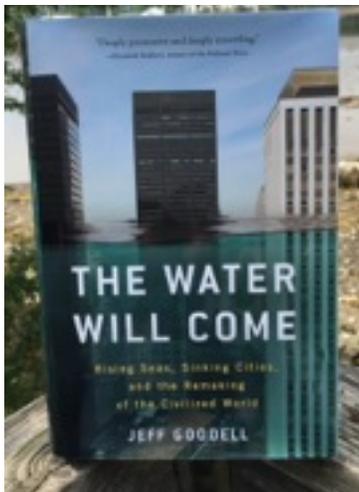
www.belfastbaywatershed.org

Programs

Our evening programs begin at 6:30 pm in the Abbott Room, Belfast Free Library. They are free and open to the community.

Thursday, October 18. Monarch Butterflies—Anatomy, Life Cycle, Predation, Disease, Protection. Cyrene Slegona, Maine Master Naturalist.

Thursday, November 15. The Atlantic Salmon Restoration Program. Denise Buckley, US Fish and Wildlife Service Senior Staff Biologist at Craig Brook National Fish Hatchery, will chronicle the response to the listing of Atlantic salmon in eight of Maine's rivers as endangered under the protection of the Endangered Species Act in December 2000.



Thursday, December 13. “Books with Bev.” Join Beverly Roxby for a discussion of *The Water Will Come: Rising Seas, Sinking Cities, and the Remaking of the Civilized World*. Author Jeff Goodell traveled across twelve countries, reporting on what he says is "one of the central facts of our time, as real as gravity." Stories from around the world focus on the 145,000,000 people living three feet or less above the current sea level, who might eventually make today's Syrian refugee crisis look like a high school drama production. The book is available at the library, at local bookstores, and on Kindle.

Birds from the Belfast Footbridge

Ron Harrell and Gary Gulezian will again set up spotting scopes and be on the Footbridge from 8:00-10:00 am each month on the following low tide days:

Friday, Sept. 14 Tuesday, Nov. 13
Saturday, Oct. 13 Thurs., Dec. 13

Thank You

to those who sent memorial gifts honoring Skip and Jo Pendleton, and Marty Weaver.

We are grateful to the 48 contributors who showed your appreciation of Skip and Jo Pendleton. Your funds helped us install a memorial plaque in their honor on the Rail Trail near the Rt. 1 overpass.

The nine contributors honoring Marty Weaver also have our deep gratitude. Marty loved the Pen Bay Stewards program and worked as a steward until her death. Your contributions will make the program stronger.



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Monitoring Storm Surge

BBWC volunteers are now monitoring storm surge sensors they have placed in 7 mid-coast harbors: Stockton Springs, Searsport, Belfast (2 locations), Northport, Lincolnville, Camden, and Islesboro.

On July 19, University of Maine researchers presented their first-year findings about midcoast storm surge magnitudes to a local audience at the Hutchinson Center in Belfast. This is a public awareness initiative along with a data collection process, collecting pressure readings every minute, ongoing. Volunteers download data each month from the sensors, which they email to U Maine researchers Dr. Kim Huguenard, Dr. Laura Rickard, and graduate students.



Belfast Bay Watershed Coalition volunteers Dave Bond (pictured left) and John Tipping have monitored in 2017–2018. This summer we have added several new locations and volunteers to expand the data points.

The July program focused on the two “bomb cyclone” events of October 30 and January 4. A bomb cyclone is defined by a drop of 24 millibars of barometric pressure in 24 hours or less. Normal high tide plus storm surge increment equals storm tide height of the event. According to the researchers, the Oct. 30 event left more CMP customers without power than the Ice Storm of '98. The January 4 event caused the third highest tide on record in Portland, in spite of occurring at mid-tide ebbing, with a north wind countering the surge. Other coastal communities remember it as well.

Data were collected in three estuaries: Penobscot River, Bagaduce River and Bass Harbor/Southwest Harbor, chosen for their diversity of configuration. Much valuable information has been gleaned so far, to help coastal town planners and emergency management. Visit the website sensingstormsurge.acg.maine.edu to learn more. Pictured below: Installing sensors in Northport harbor (left) and Camden harbor (right).



Outings

FMI: 338-1147

Sept. 8, Saturday, 10:00-12:00. Herbs and Other Plants of the Rail Trail. Steve Byers will lead a walk from the Belfast Footbridge at 10:00.

October 13, Sat. Hike Mt. Waldo for sensational views. Meet at Renys outer parking lot at 9:00 to carpool. Bring water, lunch, rain gear.

Nov. 11, SUNDAY. Hike Meadow Brook-Hurds Pond Preserve (CMLT) in Swanville. Meet at the Swanville Transfer Station on Rt. 141 in Swanville at 10:00. Bring water, lunch, warm/rain layers.

December 8, Sat. Hike Newman Preserve (CMLT) in Northport. Meet at 10:00 at Beech Hill Road parking lot, 1 mile off Rt. 52 on left. Bring water, lunch, warm layers, appropriate footgear.

BBWC wishes to thank all our individual members whose support makes our work happen!
And thank you, Business Members!

Consumers Fuel

G.O. Logic

Little River Veterinary Hospital

Belfast Veterinary Hospital

Coyote Moon

Waldo County Soil and Water

Front Street Shipyard

Bay City Cargo

Darby's Restaurant

Three Tides

Downeast Outing Club

Athena Health

Searsport Shores Campground

Rollie's Bar and Grill

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Subscribe on-line

to this newsletter and monthly reminders of activities on our website
www.belfastbaywatershed.org or send an e-mail to info@belfastbaywatershed.org

Visit our website **Calendar** for updates on outings and programs that did not make it into the newsletter.

Members invited

Come jump on board and help expand and strengthen our work in the community and watershed. Visit our website, call a board member, or email us at info@belfastbaywatershed.org

Mission: The Belfast Bay Watershed Coalition works to support conservation and stewardship of natural, scenic, and public access resources of the Belfast Bay watershed through research, community-building, and education.