

Soundside Learning

This Week On Core Sound

Earth Day Taking Shape

Over 400 Register to Attend

Preparations for Earth Day on Core Sound are in full swing as we approach the magic of the spring season Down East. With spring comes a renewal of life to our estuaries and maritime forests as deciduous trees bloom, marsh grass regains its bright green hue and small baitfish arrive, eventually giving way to larger predators.

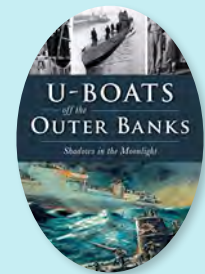
Core Sound's celebration of Earth Day on Friday, April 8th and Saturday April 9th will highlight the magic of that life & the beauty and magic of the natural world around us.



On Friday, April 8th over 400 elementary school students from Carteret County and surrounding areas will descend upon the Core Sound Waterfowl Museum & Heritage Center where they will have the opportunity to learn from more than a dozen educational exhibitors joining with Core Sound to celebrate the 52nd annual worldwide Earth Day! These students will be met with a guided exploration of the Willow Pond Trail, an opportunity to see live waterfowl within arms reach, a guided painting of their very own decoy head, and even the opportunity to brew *and* taste yaupon tea. The best part? That's not even the tip of the iceberg!

The festivities will continue on Saturday, April 9th for FAMILY DAY! All of the excitement of Friday will be available to families looking to enjoy a beautiful day on the shores of Core Sound. The Surf Shack Eatery will be stationed on our museum grounds to serve up some delicious traditional Down East cuisine as you enjoy and learn from the amazing exhibitors from around the region.

We hope you will join us on what is sure to be a wonderful two days at the end of the road!



Sound Reading
Material For You &
Your Child

U-Boats off the Outer Banks: Shadows in the Moonlight
By: Jim Bunch

Are you an educator interested in teaching about WWII on the Outer Banks?

Click here to access a complete lesson with resources!

German U-boats sank ships in some of the most harrowing sea fighting close to America's shore. Germany's Operation Drumbeat, led by Admiral Karl Donitz, brought fear to the local communities. The U-85 was the first U-boat sunk by American surface forces during WWII

The Albemarle-Pamlico Estuarine System is composed of five major and three minor sounds. As we established last month, A.P. E.S is fed thousands of gallons of freshwater via six major river basins. These rivers originate on the land face of North Carolina / Virginia and flow into the sounds through the tidewater region. Those river basins are, north to south, the Pasquotank, Chowan, Roanoke, Tar-Pamlico, Neuse and White Oak.

Congratulations! to Art Hood of Beaufort, N.C. who last month correctly identified all six river basins and received a \$25 gift card from Chick-fil-A in MHC courtesy of the CSWM/HC Redhead Society.

"Cuts" in the Outer Banks known as inlets allow ocean water to enter the sounds. Those inlets, north to south, are Oregon, Hatteras, Ocracoke, Drum, Barden, Beaufort and Bogue. Freshwater (salinity 2 +/- ppt) from the rivers mixes with ocean water (salinity 35 +/- ppt) to create sound water of moderate salinity (20 +/- ppt). This mixed water of moderate salinity is referred to as "brackish" and is extremely important to commercial and recreational fishing, "wild-caught" seafood and a growing mariculture industry along North Carolina's coast.

As an example, a 2021 study found that North Carolina's "wild-caught" seafood industry alone contributed nearly \$300 million in value to the state's economy and the industry supported over 5500 jobs. The majority of those jobs were located in the 20 counties making up a significant portion of the tidewater region and the coastal communities of the inner and outer banks.

The largest share of N.C. 's seafood industry originated in the waters of the Albemarle-Pamlico Estuarine System . It is well documented that this system represents what is termed as a major nursery for North Carolina's finfish and shellfish such as atlantic blue crab, shrimp, flounder, clam and oysters.

You can find similar content and resources at The Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Partnership, N.C. Marine Fisheries, and the N.C. Sea Grant Program: A Primer on North Carolina's Seafood

-Dr. Ike Southerland

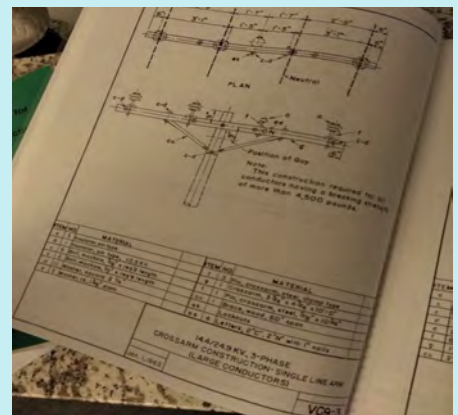


Core Sound Education Spotlight ~ Abbi Davis

In the fall of 2021, Core Sound's own Abbi Davis embarked on a new adventure - becoming a lineman! Those living in Down East Carteret County can recall the joy and relief in the wake of Hurricane Florence when legions of linemen from across the nation - coming from as far as Texas - arrived to restore power to our area. Ours is an area that can certainly testify to the hard work and hazardous conditions that linemen endure to keep our communities running.

Even still, many are not aware of the rigorous training and education that these men and women must complete before they are ready for the field. One of the more challenging of tasks that must be overcome is the memorization of speculation or "spec" books. These books are made for overhead and underground electricity and differ according to voltages. They tell you just about everything you could ever need to know when it comes to setting up, replacing or repairing line work.

Congratulations, Abbi on completing your training to become a lineman! You make Core Sound proud!



Inside of spec book
Photo: Abbi Davis

