

Waquoit Bay Research Reserve Education is Change on the Ground



2022

Connect



Over 900 community and visitor
program attendees
3,000 acres of land and water



Prepare

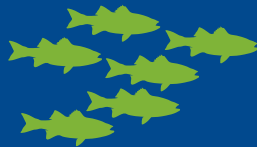
20 teachers trained
2,557 students engaged

Improve



12 education volunteers
564 education volunteer hours

"This was a phenomenal workshop that was perfectly paced and delivered by knowledgeable, caring, outstanding professionals who combined field work with class work and hands-on experiences. It was truly life-changing, and will inspire me to approach teaching in a new way."



"For the first time, I felt hopeful. We can work on changing our students' attitudes and understandings of the natural world. Incorporating ways to intertwine the honorable harvest into the cultures of our classrooms, ... It has completely changed how I think about things..."

Boston University Deaf Education Program pre-service teacher

TEK workshop attendee
Science Educator,
Falmouth Public Schools

Sharing Indigenous Ecological Knowledge

Educators at the Wampanoag Tribe have been very generous in sharing their traditional ecological knowledge through partnerships with the Reserve. Tribal members have built a weekuw (traditional Wampanoag dwelling) at the Reserve. The site has recently been improved with a cooking circle, clambake demo, and a *mishoon* (canoe) for school and community programming. Working together, the Tribe and the Reserve offer STREAMSS (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math, and Social Studies) and cultural programming to several local school districts including Falmouth, Mashpee, Wareham, and Bourne. Tribal members approached the Reserve to partner on a multi-day teacher professional development workshop entitled, "Sharing Traditional Knowledge." Tribal educators took the lead in planning and presenting the sessions which included cultural assessment of children's books, guest presentations by tribal elders, and visits to places meaningful to the tribe.

Osprey Cam Inspires Exciting New Ways to Engage Students, Community

The Reserve partnered with the Friends of Mashpee National Wildlife Refuge to install a live video camera on one of the Reserve's resident osprey nests. The ospreys, Rachel and Carson, and their family of three chicks, attracted a large on-line following. The Reserve dubbed April vacation "Osprey Week", which will become an annual event. A weekly Osprey Watch program invited visitors to view the charismatic birds with a spotting scope. In the Visitor Center, a new interactive osprey exhibit allows visitors to watch highlight clips from the live cam or video clips about osprey adaptations, life cycle, and place in the ecosystem. The theme for 2022's Estuary Day event was "Celebrate Ospreys!" and featured a presentation by osprey researcher and author Alan Poole. Additional family activities included a concert and a life sized game board on osprey migration. Check out the nest at <http://waquoitbayreserve.org/live-osprey-cam/>.

Massachusetts' Waquoit Bay Reserve is one of 30 sites in the National Estuarine Research Reserve System. Each site is a state federal partnership that combines research, monitoring, and education to advance the understanding and management of estuarine environments.



National Estuarine Research Reserve Education Change on the Ground in 2022

Connects

People to Estuaries

1 million+
ACRES

of natural classrooms & living laboratories with



26 INTERPRETIVE CENTERS



296,131 VISITORS

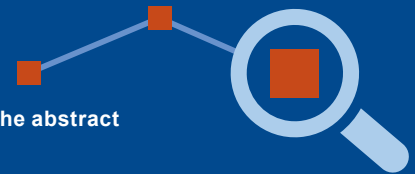
learn about estuaries through Research Reserve outreach & education

Prepares

the Next Generation

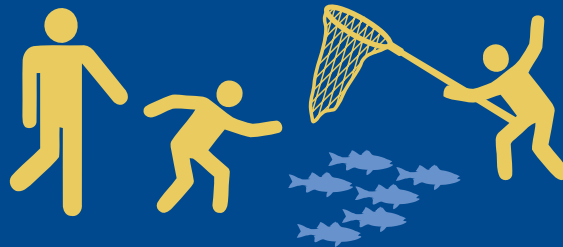
54,773 STUDENTS

take learning out of the abstract & into the outdoors



4,347 TEACHERS

are trained in the estuary & supported in the classroom



SKILLS BUILT

- ✓ Observation
- ✓ Asking research questions
- ✓ Problem solving
- ✓ Data driven decision making

ESTUARY SCIENCE

LOCAL DATA

LAB WORK

FIELD INVESTIGATION

Improves

the Environment

10,570 CITIZENS

are trained & inspired to protect their coasts & estuaries



VOLUNTEER ACTIONS

- ✓ Protect wildlife
- ✓ Monitor water quality
- ✓ Plant native species
- ✓ Clean up the coasts

30 RESEARCH RESERVE EDUCATORS

lead programs that foster coastal stewardship in communities in 25 states



Creating value through education
37,371 volunteer hours = \$1,119,261*