

Revised July 11, 2018

2018 Summer Evening Presentations

Cape Cod Canal Visitor Center

Wednesdays from 7–8pm



US Army Corps
of Engineers®
New England District

July 11 Food Webs in Cape Cod Bay - Hunting for Plankton

Let's meet some plankton. This seminar will introduce participants to plankton which forms the base of all marine food webs. We'll learn how to perform basic water analysis to determine temperature, salinity, pH, and oxygen. We'll also perform plankton tows, and then examine live plankton on large screen displays in the Visitor Center theater. Fascinating for all ages. Presented by Jim Remillard, Chair of the Science Technology Department at Saint John Paul II High School.

July 18 An Evening with a Local Bird Enthusiast

Get up close and personal with several species of birds found along the Cape Cod Canal. Hear their stories, and marvel in their adaptations and behaviors. Through his spectacular photography, local bird enthusiast and photographer Michael Brokenshire, will present this program.

July 25 William Barclay Parsons: America's Engineer

Explore the adventures and achievements of a modern day renaissance man. Known as the lead engineer who designed the Cape Cod Canal, Parsons also contributed to several momentous engineering projects in the U.S. and around the world. His influence was not limited to engineering, as he was also an accomplished scholar, writer, entrepreneur, philanthropist and soldier. Join Park Ranger Andrew Fino as we discuss one of history's most overlooked and versatile figures.

August 1 Family Fishing Night

Do you have a budding fisherman in the family? Bring them to the Canal Visitor Center to learn what it takes to 'fish the ditch'. Join Canal Park Rangers & Massachusetts Marine Fisheries staff for a family friendly evening learning about the different fish species in the Canal, fishing gear, techniques & the proper ethics of fishing. Poles & bait will be supplied for children under 16 years old.

August 8 Clipper Ships

The mid-nineteenth century was the golden age of American commercial sea power under sail. From the 1840s-1870s, Clipper Ships, with their tall masts and sharply raked bows, ruled the waves. These sleek grayhounds of the sea set records traveling to major ports around the world. It all ended with the shift to steam power and the completion of the transcontinental railroad at the century's close. Today's "Tall Ships" remind us of that wonderful maritime heritage -- a time when sailors literally had to "know the ropes" to guarantee safe passage for passengers and cargo. Join local author, historian and story teller Jim Coogan for stories that will take us on a fascinating journey through this golden age.

August 15 Cape Cod Rabies Program

Originally developed in the early 1990s, the Cape Cod Rabies Program was created to prevent the spread of raccoon-variant rabies to Cape Cod. Despite these efforts, raccoon rabies was discovered beyond the Cape Cod Canal in 2004, and spread to the Cape's tip in Provincetown in 2006. Since then, efforts have been underway to reduce cases of rabies on Cape Cod, with the ultimate goal of elimination of raccoon-variant rabies there. Join Brian Bjorklund, USDA Wildlife Services' Regional Rabies Program Coordinator, to learn more about these efforts and the role the Canal plays in all of it.

August 22 The Corps of Engineers' role in Puerto Rico's Recovery from Hurricane Maria

Hurricane Maria struck Puerto Rico on September 20, 2017 as a Category 4 storm with sustained winds of over 150 mph. The storm crippled virtually all the island's infrastructure systems leaving the majority of the Island's population without food, water, shelter and electricity. As part of a unified effort with federal, state and local agencies, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers played an important role in the response efforts to help the U. S. citizens of Puerto Rico recover from this disaster. Join John MacPherson, the Deputy Canal Manager, for a presentation on his experience deploying to Puerto Rico to assist with the recovery efforts.

August 29 Listening for Whales in the Northeast Gateway

What on earth is a "Gummy Hose?" Believe it or not, it is state of the art technology used to take more accurate measurements in the ocean environment to help guide best management practices. Oceanographer and CEO of EOM Offshore Dr. David Aubrey will be discussing how this technology is being used to gather data for scientists monitoring the presence of North Atlantic Right Whales in the shipping channels of Massachusetts Bay, as well as helping to detect red tide for the northeast shell fishing industry.

Admission: Free, no registration required. www.capecodcanal.us
Location: Cape Cod Canal Visitor Center 60 Ed Moffitt Drive in Sandwich, MA. 508-833-9678.

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