



WAQUOIT BAY NATIONAL ESTUARINE RESEARCH RESERVE

P.O. Box 3092, Waquoit, MA 02536

TEL: (508) 457-0495 (617) 727-6174
EMAIL: waquoit.bay@state.ma.us

FAX: (617) 727-5537
HOMEPAGE: www.waquoitbayreserve.org

NATIONAL ESTUARINE RESEARCH RESERVE

October 3, 2011



Timothy Carroll
Executive Secretary
P.O. Box 119, 401 Middle Road
Chilmark, MA 02535

Dear Mr. Carroll,

I am writing to kindly request your support for a research study that the Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve based in Falmouth will be conducting this Fall. Since 1988 the Reserve has been engaged in research, education, open space preservation and wildlife protection, to support coastal communities. In 2001 the Reserve launched a Coastal Training Program (CTP) to provide science-based information to local decision-makers to assist them with making informed decisions about managing, protecting and using natural resources. The program offers training and technical assistance, at no cost or at very low cost to towns (see www.coastaltraining.org for details). The CTP has grown to be a valued provider of coastal training in this region. Overall, 98% of attendees report that our trainings help to increase their understanding of a coastal issue and that they intend to apply information learned.

The CTP is conducting a comprehensive needs assessment to identify the training and information needs of local officials from the Cape and Islands, related to managing coastal resources. This study will target elected and appointed officials, municipal staff, and local board members. The study will primarily involve an online survey and phone interviews. Results will be used to develop the next strategic plan for the CTP and ensure that we continue to offer relevant training that addresses your towns' priorities.

We need your help to make this a comprehensive study. To meet this goal we are kindly asking you to send us contact information (*primarily e-mail and phone*) for each member of any local board and committee with which you work closely so that we can include them directly in the survey. This information is needed because we must be able to accurately document who receives and participates in the survey so that we can draw meaningful conclusions. We understand that this may be a sensitive request but we assure you that this information will only be used for this study and will not be shared with others. We understand that you may need to get the permission of board members before forwarding their information to us. We would greatly appreciate receiving this information by **October 14**. Please send to tonna-marie.surgeon-rogers@state.ma.us or laurie.tompkins@state.ma.us. Persons who respond by October 14 will be entered in a drawing to win two wonderful prizes (*see enclosed flyer*).

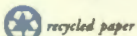
Thank you for supporting this important work. Your assistance is highly appreciated!

Sincerely,

Tonna-Marie Rogers, Coastal Training Program Coordinator
Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve



Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, Division of State Parks and Recreation
Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Environmental Affairs





WIN A BOAT TOUR OF WAQUOIT BAY & TRIP TO WASHBURN ISLAND!

The Waquoit Bay Reserve's Coastal Training Program (CTP) is conducting a survey of local officials, municipal staff and board members to assess the type of scientific information and technical assistance they need to address coastal management problems. The Reserve intends to use this information in coordination with other organizations to help meet these needs.

Who are we looking for?

We would like to include the following boards and committees in this survey:

- Board of Selectmen
- Conservation commission
- Planning board
- Health board
- Zoning board
- Wastewater committee or sewer commission
- Beach committee
- Energy committee
- Finance committee
- Comprehensive Planning committee

This study is funded by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR).

Submit names and contact (*phone & email*) information for your local board or committee members by **Oct. 21** and be entered in a drawing to win:

A half-day guided exploration of Waquoit Bay and Washburn Island in the summer of 2012. This tour will start at the Waquoit Bay Reserve's historic Sargent Estate boathouse where we will board one of our research boats and explore Waquoit Bay. We will disembark on Washburn Island for a walking tour followed by a picnic lunch on the beach. The trip will be available for the winner and up to four guests of their choice. Trip can be customized to suit your interests. Enjoy this delightful outing with family, friends or board members!

A \$50 gift certificate to the Roadhouse Café restaurant in Hyannis. The Roadhouse Cafe is recognized as one of Cape Cod's premiere restaurants. Voted "Best Fine Dining Restaurant and Best Piano Bar in the Mid-Cape" by Cape Cod Life Magazine (2010). It is also the highest rated restaurant on the Cape and Islands by the Phantom Gourmet.

Whether you receive one of these gifts or not, we thank you very much for your assistance with this study and look forward to creating programs that will help preserve natural resources on Cape Cod and address your community's coastal management challenges.

Please send information to:

Tonna-Marie Rogers, Coastal Training Program (CTP) Coordinator

Tonna-marie.surgeon-rogers@state.ma.us

Tel: 508-457-0495 ext. 110

Thank you!