

The Virginia Wetlands Report is an annual publication of the Wetlands Program at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science of the College of William and Mary. To subscribe to this newsletter, please contact:

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Produced by: CCRM Communications Committee

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## Tidal Wetlands News & Events

**VIMS Discovery Workshops. Sponsored by CBNERRS.** Details at: [http://www.vims.edu/cbnerr/education/public\\_programs/index.php](http://www.vims.edu/cbnerr/education/public_programs/index.php)

March 19, 2013 - Sharks.

June 11, 2013 – Sport Fishing.

July 16, 2013 - York River.

September 17, 2013 – Seafood.

October 22, 2013 - Mad Lab

**Environment Virginia Symposium – “Charting our Future: New Tools for Complex Challenges.”** April 9-11, 2013. Lexington, VA.

<http://www.vmi.edu/Content.aspx?id=10737419910>.

**VIMS Marine Science Day.** May 18, 2013. Gloucester Point Campus.

<http://www.vims.edu/public/msd>.

**Society of Wetland Scientists – Annual meeting: “Benefit of Wetlands. Value to Society.”** June 2-6, 2013, Duluth, MN. Details at:

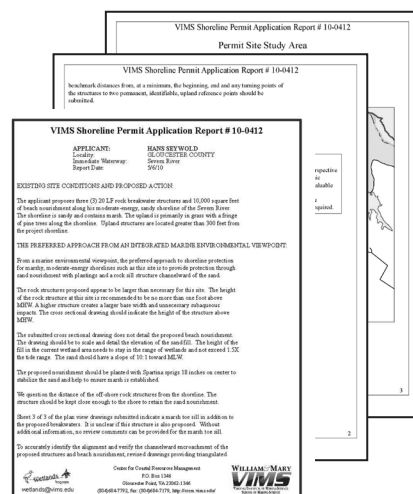
<http://www.swsannualmeeting.org>.

**Chesapeake Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve (CBNERR), Coastal Training Program.** Upcoming training in Public Issues & Conflict Management, Perennial Stream Determination, Science Communication, and the Virginia Estuarine & Coastal Observing System.

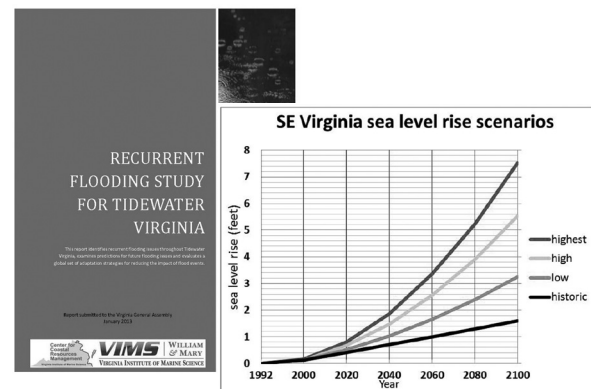
For details & registration: [http://www.vims.edu/cbnerr/coastal\\_training/upcoming\\_workshops/index.php](http://www.vims.edu/cbnerr/coastal_training/upcoming_workshops/index.php).

### Regulatory Fidelity Study

In 2010, CCRM received a two-year Wetlands Development Grant from the US Environmental Protection Agency to study regulatory fidelity to guidance in Virginia’s tidal wetlands management program. That study has been completed and will be presented at the workshop.



Guidance provided in VIMS Shoreline Permit Application Reports



### Recurrent Flooding Study Completed

The Recurrent Flooding Study for Tidewater Virginia that was introduced at the Spring 2012 VIMS-CCRM workshop has been completed. A brief summary of the results will be provided at the upcoming workshop.

# Virginia Wetlands Report

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Spring 2013

## Building Local Government Capacity in Coastal Resource Management

As previously reported, Virginia Senate Bill 964 from the 2011 General Assembly Session required three products:

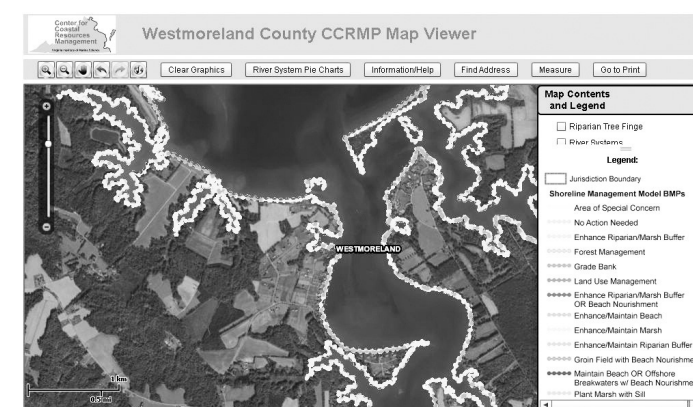
1. Living Shoreline General Permit,
2. Integrated Guidance for Tidal Shoreline Management, and
3. Comprehensive Coastal Resource Management Guidance.

Primary responsibility lies with the Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC) for the first two products. Representatives from the Habitat Management Division of VMRC will provide an update on progress toward the Living Shoreline General Permit, as well as a review of pertinent activity from the 2013 General Assembly Session, at the upcoming workshop at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS)(see announcement on p.3).

Responsibility for the third component of Senate Bill 964 lies with the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS). To fulfill this requirement, Comprehensive Coastal Resource Management Plans (CCRMPs) will be produced for each Tidewater Virginia locality. Beginning this year, Tidewater Virginia localities must incorporate the CCRMPs into the next scheduled review of their Comprehensive Plans.

**In This Issue**  
**WORKSHOP ANNOUNCEMENT**  
**Thursday, April 25, 2013**  
**at VIMS**  
**See inside for information & registration**  
**Also**  
**Tidal Wetlands News and Events**

We have previously introduced and reported on progress toward the development of the CCRMPs. The first locality-specific CCRMPs are now available, as well as the more general guidance applicable to all Tidewater localities that are required to incorporate it. The CCRMPs include a map viewer that incorporates shoreline-specific best management practices and shoreline and tidal marsh inventory data, a Sea Level Risk and Vulnerability Tool that projects sea level rise scenarios into the future, and other locality-specific resources. The more general guidance applicable to all Tidewater localities contains, among other items, language suitable for inclusion in a Comprehensive Plan. A portal to this information has been developed on the VIMS-CCRM website. The CCRMPs, guidance resources, and website portal will be unveiled at the upcoming workshop.



Online CCRMP Components

## CCRMP Educational Opportunities



### Local Workshops

As each locality's CCRMP is completed, a workshop will be scheduled at the locality to assist planners and other decision-makers in understanding the CCRMP information that is available for incorporation into comprehensive plans and other decision-making processes. Hands-on introduction to and use of the online CCRMP resources will be provided to the greatest extent possible. A more generalized presentation may be scheduled for localities without CCRMPs.

#### Online course topics:

- Integrated shoreline management
- Tidal shoreline ecosystem services
- Impacts of shoreline management approaches
- Assessment of shoreline conditions
- Use of decision tree tools to determine preferred shoreline approaches
- Shoreline best management practices
- Implementation guidance

### Online Course in Shoreline Best Management Practices

An online course is being developed that will cover the scientific rationale behind the shoreline best management practice recommendations in the CCRMPs. The course is directed primarily at local decision makers, but may be taken by anyone interested in tidal shoreline ecosystem science and management. The course is expected to be available in April 2013. Participants will register on the CCRM website, where the course will be available 24/7. The course will include 11 modules, each with a video and follow-up quiz. Participants will work through the modules individually and at their convenience. A certificate will be awarded for successful completion of the course.

#### Shoreline Best Management Practices Course

##### Module 1: Introduction to Integrated Shoreline Management



Sample slide from the online course



## WORKSHOP ANNOUNCEMENT

### Building Local Government Capacity in Coastal Resource Management

Thursday, April 25, 2013

Watermen's Hall Lobby & Auditorium

Virginia Institute of Marine Science, Gloucester Point, VA

8:00 am - 9:00 am Check in and Coffee

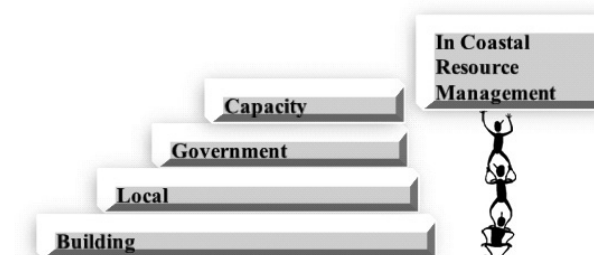
9:00 am - 3:30 pm Workshop

Workshop Web Site: [ccrm.vims.edu/Spring2013.html](http://ccrm.vims.edu/Spring2013.html)

A workshop will be held at VIMS for local government staff, advisory board members, marine contractors, permitting agents, environmental consultants, and anyone else interested in coastal resources management in the Commonwealth. Speakers include VIMS CCRM scientists, VMRC engineers.

### Planned Workshop Topics

- Comprehensive Coastal Resource Management Plans
  - Roll-out of completed plans and website portal
  - Overview of educational opportunities
- Living Shorelines General Permit Update
- General Assembly Update
- Regulatory Fidelity Study
- Recurrent Flooding Study Update



Please **register online** at <http://ccrm.vims.edu/Spring 2013.html>

#### Payment Options:

##### Check

Made payable to: VIMS Tidal Wetlands Workshop

Mailing Address: Tidal Wetlands Workshop/CCRM  
P. O. Box 1346  
Gloucester Point, VA 23062

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