

# 2016 Meeting of the American Oystercatcher Working Group

## Registration

Registration for the 2016 Annual Working Group Meeting in Wachapreague, Virginia (November 15-17) is now open. [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER!](#) We are using Eventbrite for registration which will allow you to pay online with a credit card or pay by check. We encourage everyone who can to pay online as it will streamline the administrative part of things. If you do pay by check, please make your check out to "The Nature Conservancy" and mail your payment to Alex Wilke, PO Box 158, Nassawadox, Virginia 23413. The registration fee is \$130 per person which includes daily breakfasts and lunches, two dinner events (Tuesday and Wednesday) and snacks/beverages throughout the meeting. The registration fee does not include lodging. If you plan to stay at the dormitory style lodging available at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (\$15/night), you can also register and pay for that through this event site. Alternatively, we have provided information on local hotel accommodations below.

Please **REGISTER BY OCTOBER 28TH.**

## Meeting and Agenda

The 2016 American Oystercatcher Working Group Meeting will be held in Wachapreague, Virginia at the [Virginia Institute of Marine Science Eastern Shore Lab's Seaside Hall](#). The meeting will be two full days and a half-day field trip. The meeting will begin at approximately 8:00 am on Tuesday November 15th and adjourn at around 1:00 pm after the field trip on Thursday November 17th.

The AMOY WG Steering Committee has put together a draft agenda for the meeting after requesting input from the group several weeks ago. Please let us know if you have any questions or feedback.

## Field Trip

A half-day field trip, by boat, is scheduled on the morning of Thursday November 17th. We will leave from Wachapreague Harbor, within walking distance from lodging and Seaside Hall, to go see several high tide roosts of oystercatchers within the seaside barrier island/lagoon system.

## Lodging

Lodging will be available for \$15/night/person at VIMS, within walking distance to Seaside Hall. Lodging options will consist of three houses that accommodate 6 people each (one or two person bedrooms) and one dormitory style option with shared rooms.

A block of rooms has also been reserved at the [Wachapreague Inn](#) which is within walking distance to Seaside Hall. Please visit their website to see options and pricing.

## Meals

Breakfast: A light breakfast (muffins, coffee cake, fruit, granola bars, coffee) will be provided on all three meeting days (Tues, Wed and Thurs) at Seaside Hall. If you prefer to eat a more substantial breakfast, please ask for information on local restaurants or you can bring your own food to prepare at the kitchens in the VIMS houses, dorms or at the Inn.

Lunch: We will order lunches from local restaurants to be delivered to Seaside Hall on Tuesday and Wednesday. Menus will be provided first thing each morning for everyone to make their choices. On the day of the field trip, we will order box lunches to take on the boats.

Snacks: Coffee, snacks and drinks will be provided during the meeting.

Dinner: Dinners on Monday night and Thursday night (if you are staying) are on your own. Local restaurant information will be provided. A buffet style dinner on Tuesday night will be at the Island House Restaurant in Wachapreague within walking distance from lodging and Seaside Hall. An Eastern Shore clam and oyster roast will be held at The Nature Conservancy's historic Brownsville House on Wednesday night, approximately 17 miles away. Transportation will be provided.

## Cost

The total cost per person will be approximately \$120, not including lodging and alcohol at evening events. This includes the meals described above (except dinner on your own and breakfast on your own if you choose to do that) and the meeting facility cost. When payments are due, we will ask you to add the amount you owe for lodging if you are staying at the VIMS Lab (\$15/night per person) to your total cost and we will give you options to pay in one lump sum.

## Questions

Questions? Please contact any one of us on the Local Organizing Committee.

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Ruth Boettcher – [ruth.boettcher@dgif.virginia.gov](mailto:ruth.boettcher@dgif.virginia.gov); 757.706.0766

Pam Denmon – [pamela\\_denmon@fws.gov](mailto:pamela_denmon@fws.gov); 757.331.2760

Jeremy Tarwater

Zak Poulton

## Travel information and directions to Wachapreague, Virginia

The closest airport to Wachapreague is [Norfolk International Airport](#), approximately a 1.25 hour drive. Travelers will be encouraged to carpool to and from the airport and the Local Organizing Committee will assist with making arrangements for shuttles if need be.

### DRIVING FROM THE NORFOLK AIRPORT:

There is only one way out of the airport. Leaving you will be on Norview Avenue. Get in left lane. Go to first major intersection – turn left onto Military Highway. Continue to next major intersection (stay in left lane) and turn left onto Route 13 North/Northampton Blvd. Proceed through the Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel toll (\$13 one way\*\*) and follow directions below.

### DRIVING FROM VIRGINIA BEACH/NORFOLK AREA AND POINTS SOUTH AND WEST:

Pick up Route 13 North through the Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel (toll will be \$13 one way\*\*). Upon exit from the Bridge-tunnel, proceed about 39 miles to the stoplight at Wachapreague Road/Rte. 180. Turn right and continue approximately 5 miles to the town of Wachapreague.

### DRIVING FROM POINTS NORTH:

Pick up Route 13 South. From the Virginia/Maryland border, travel about 30 miles to the stoplight at Wachapreague Road/Rte. 180. Turn left and continue approximately 5 miles to the town of Wachapreague.

