

# ~ NJS GC HIGHLIGHTS ~

## *(1) NJS GC associate accepts Coastal Management Fellowship*

Ms. Jackie Specht, a Rutgers University graduate student and NJS GC fellowship applicant, was recently matched with Maryland’s Chesapeake and Coastal Service to continue studying the beneficial reuse of dredge material.

As Specht explains:

“I have joined Chesapeake and Coastal Service at the Maryland Department of Natural Resources as the NOAA Coastal Management Fellow. During my two-year fellowship I will evaluate and identify potential practices for the beneficial reuse of dredge material. I will then take my finds to develop policies and decision-support tools to aid these practices in Maryland Department of Natural Resources waters. Over the course of the fellowship, I will so have the opportunity to participate in conferences, take advantage of professional development opportunities, and interact with other NOAA Coastal Management fellows at three annual events.”



*“The strong support I received during the fellowship application process and the enthusiastic emails I received when NJS GC was informed of my acceptance into the fellowship program... It is obvious how much [NJS GC management] cares about the people with which they work.”*

*- Jackie Specht*



“I hope to continue working in state government – developing management practices and policies that improve coastal resilience – and to continue learning education and communication techniques to keep the public informed. NJS GC has played a huge role in helping me work towards this goal. Up until now, my work has been focused on basic – not applied – science. NJS GC’s support in obtaining the NOAA Coastal Management Fellowship has allowed me to redirect my career path to the applied work I am so passionate about.”

Specht was proudly nominated for the two-year-fellowship by NJS GC. For more information, please visit the official NOAA [press release](#).

## ***(2) Project PORTS now in its 10<sup>th</sup> year of promoting Oyster Restoration***

Project PORTS (Promoting Oyster Restoration through Schools) is a unique program where students K-12 are given the unique experience of practicing environmental stewardship firsthand while helping to restore critical oyster habitats. According to New Jersey Sea Grant Shellfish Aquaculture Program Coordinator Lisa Calvo, also of Rutgers University Haskin Shellfish Research Laboratory (HSRL):

“The program is founded on the belief that stewardship grows from an underlying appreciation and understanding of the environment” (via [SEBS/NJAES Newsroom](#)).

So far, thousands of young participants from 30 partner schools have constructed over 29,000 shell bags that are now settlement surface and home for more than 30 million young oysters. And as a direct result, students become more environmentally engaged and aware, especially in regards to ecosystem complexity.

To learn more about this fascinating program, please visit [Rutgers' Newsroom](#) (a product of the School of Environmental and Biological Sciences [SEBS] and New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station School [NJAES] Office of Communications and Marketing).



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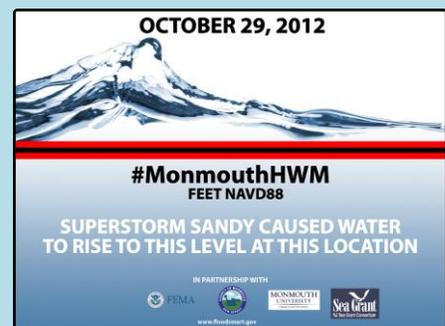
## ***(3) Fifth Anniversary of Superstorm Sandy – NJSGC promotes Hurricane Awareness***

NJSGC's thoughts are with those in Texas, Florida, and surrounding areas that were affected by Hurricane Harvey and Hurricane Irma. Please refer to the [National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration](#) (NOAA), the [National Hurricane Center](#), or your local [National Weather Service](#) for updates on storm conditions and predictions.

This October marks the fifth anniversary of Superstorm Sandy, which devastated several local communities along the Jersey Shore (including Sandy Hook) and beyond. As part of NJSGC's ongoing mission to help promote storm awareness and preparedness, we will provide additional information and resources to help keep people safe, informed, and prepared in the face of such disaster throughout the hurricane season.

Last year, the [High Water Mark Initiative](#) was launched in Monmouth County as part of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) in an effort to increase the local community's awareness of flood risk. For more information, please visit [FEMA.gov](#).

For educators wishing to implement storm-related lessons into their classroom programs, NJSGC is pleased to share its [‘Understanding Storm Surge’](#) curriculum module. Please to go the [“Resources for Educators”](#) section of NJSGC's website for additional related classroom materials.



#### ***(4) NJS GC prepares for Merit Badge Programs – Scouts and Instructors needed!***

Individual enrollment for Environmental Science and Oceanography merit badge classes is now confirmed for Fall 2017, and only a few spots remain!

We are delighted to announce that the next *Individual Enrollment Oceanography* merit badge course will be held at NJS GC on **Saturday, September 23** from 10:00am -2:00 pm. The fee is \$35/scout and adults are free.

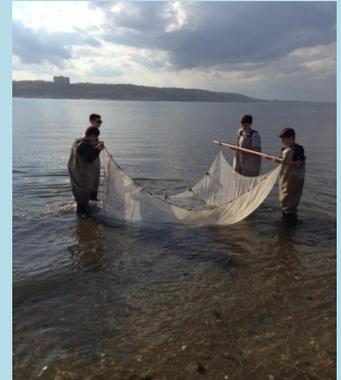
The next *Individual Enrollment Environmental Science* merit badge course will also be held at NJS GC on Sunday, October 1 from 10:00am-3:00 pm. The fee is \$45/scout and adults are free.

Spots do fill-up quickly, and NJS GC welcomes scouts from near and far. If interested, please visit our [registration page](#) and if space is still available, you will be contacted by NJS GC's Scout Program Coordinator, [Jody Sackett](#).

For more information on NJS GC's Scout Program, please visit our [website](#).

NJS GC is also looking for part-time help with these programs! If you are interested in leading marine-science based scout programs on Sandy Hook, please contact our College & Special Programs Coordinator [Rosemary Higgins](#) or send your resume to:

*New Jersey Sea Grant Consortium  
22 Magruder Road  
Fort Hancock, NJ 07732*



**WE'RE  
HIRING!!!**



### **Part-Time Scout Instructors Needed for Weekends!**

The Education Program at NJS GC is seeking year-round, part-time instructors for their Boy and Girl Scout Programs. These innovative programs pair marine and environmental science education with merit badge requirements to help students grow as scouts, scientists, and stewards. Following a paid training period, you will lead scout groups on hands-on, interactive explorations of Sandy Hook's salt marsh and barrier beach environments and provide classroom and laboratory instruction. Experience is not necessary, but a background in marine science, scouting, or education is helpful. Scheduling is flexible but the ability to work some weekend and evening (after-school) hours is a must.

# *In the News*

[Hurricane Preparedness – Be Ready](#) (via NHC/NOAA)

[New Jersey eyes rejoining Northeast’s carbon trading program](#) (via ‘NJ Environment News’)

[Predicting flooding in New Jersey – days before it happens](#) (via ‘New Jersey 101.5’)

[Girl Scouts turn eclipse into a science lesson](#) (via ‘Asbury Park Press’)

[Self-driving boats: The next tech transportation race](#) (via ‘New Jersey Herald’)

[This Jersey Shore town just banned ‘beach-spreading’ and more may follow](#) (via NJ.com)

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Share your **#summer2017** stories and memories with NJSGC! Feel free to email any photos, videos, or fun blurbs to our Communications Specialist [Danica Bellini](#), and your post might end up on NJSGC’s official [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), or [Twitter](#)!

