

Great Egg Harbor River Council

Chair:

Gregory Gregory

Bill Reinert

Somers Point

Vice Chair:

Rick Coe

Monroe Twp.

COUNCILLORS:

Julie Akers

Lou Harvey

Jenn Jennings

Buena Vista Twp.

Alison Stefanik

Kathleen Federico

Daniel Patterson

Corbin City

Bill Christman

Denise Appleget

Hamilton Twp.



Ralph Bernard

Bill Egan

Susan Stiles

Weymouth

Twp.

Clark Sprigman

Kristen Welser

Jenna Mudforte

Winslow Twp

John Keenan

Lynnee LoCicero

Hammonton

Jim Owen

Jim Owen Jr.

Estell Manor

Greg Conway

Borough of

Folsom

David Brown

Tom Baum

Egg Harbor Twp.

Bill Handley

Steve Eisenhauer

Bill Stuempfig

Upper Twp.

Dick Colby

Paul Ludgate

Clay Emerson

GEHWA

Open Public Meetings Act Statement

This meeting was advertised pursuant to the NJ Open Public Meetings Act.

Meeting notices were sent to the Courier Post and the Press of Atlantic City.

All meeting notices are also posted on the GEHWA website calendar at www.gehwa.org.



River Council Roll Call

Julie Akers *Buena Vista Twp*

(Jenn Jennings)

(Lou Harvey)

Alison Stefanik *Corbin City*

(Kathleen Federico)

(Daniel Patterson)

Jim Owen *Estell Manor*

(Jim Owen Jr.)

Bill Christman *Hamilton Twp.*

(Denise Appleget)

Rick Coe *Monroe Twp.*

Ralph Bernard *Weymouth Twp.*

(Bill Egan)

(Susan Stiles)

Gregory Gregory *Somers Point*

(Bill Reinert)

John Keenan *Hammonton*

(Lynnee LoCicero)

Clark Sprigman *Winslow Twp.*

(Kristen Welser)

(Jenna Mudforte)___

Bill Handley *Upper Twp.*

(Steve Eisenhower)

(Bill Stuempfig)

Dick Colby *GEHWA*

(Paul Ludgate)

(Clay Emerson)

Greg Conway *Borough of Folsom*

David Brown *Egg Harbor Twp.*

(Tom Baum)

Approval of Last Meeting Minutes



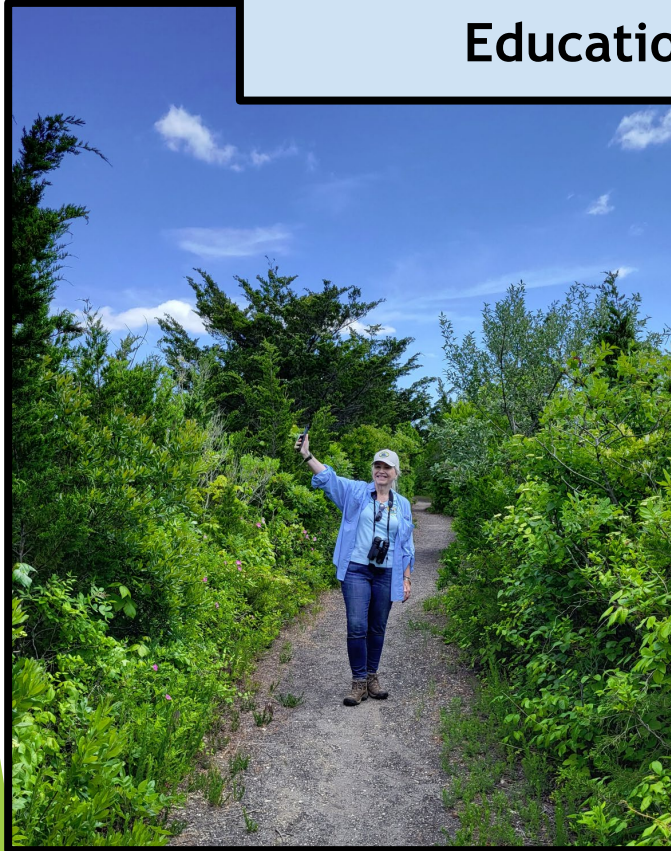
Great Egg Harbor River Council

Public Portion



Great Egg Harbor River Council

Lynn Maun
Education and Outreach Coordinator



The background features abstract, overlapping green geometric shapes in various shades of green, creating a modern, layered effect. The shapes are primarily triangular and polygonal, with some thin white lines intersecting them.

Spring 2026 Indoor and Outdoor Classroom Events



We Would Like to Thank
All Our Special Volunteers

Special Thank You To Volunteers:
Julie Akers, Tom Baum, Dave
Brown, Bill Handley, Jacob
DeRose, MaryBeth Spiegel, and
Ashley & Lauren from the NJ
Marine Fisheries



Fernwood MS 7th Grade - EHT - Corson's Inlet
Bel Haven MS - Nature Center
Delsea HS AP Environmental Science Class -
Corson's Inlet
New York Avenue School - Nature Center
Holly Heights School - Nature Center
Upper Twp. Primary School - at School

Fernwood MS 7th Grade
Corson's Inlet State Park
Throughout May 2026

6 Days

185 Students

2011 to 2026 (16 Yrs)

**Spotted Hake
Northern Pipefish
Mummichog
Stripped Killifish
Windowpane Flounder
Siversides
Small Mouth Flounder
Winter Flounder
White Perch
Black Sea Bass
American Eel
Gobi
Four Spined Stickleback
Blue Fish
Conger eel**

**Grass Shrimp
Sand Shrimp
Skeleton Shrimp**

**Snail
Whelk**

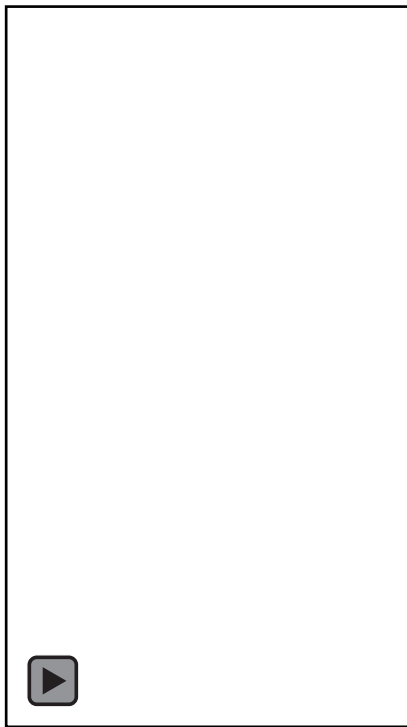
**Clams
Ribbed Mussel
Blue Mussel
Oyster**

**Diamond Backed
Terrapin**

**Horseshoe Crab
Calico (Lady) Crab
Asian Crab
Hermit Crab
Fiddler Crab
Blue Crab
Green Crab
Spider Crab**





















**Bel Haven MS - Linwood
Estell Manor Park**

May 15, 2026

39 3rd to 8th Grade Students





4/12/2024







Over Night Guest





The background features abstract, overlapping green geometric shapes in various shades of green, creating a modern, layered effect. The shapes are primarily triangular and polygonal, with some lines intersecting to form a network of smaller shapes.

Delsea High School AP Environmental Science Class

Corson's Inlet State Park

May 19, 2026

6 Students

New York Avenue School –
Atlantic City
Estell Manor Park
May 21, 2026
30 5th Grade Students





Holly Heights School –
Millville

Estell Manor Park

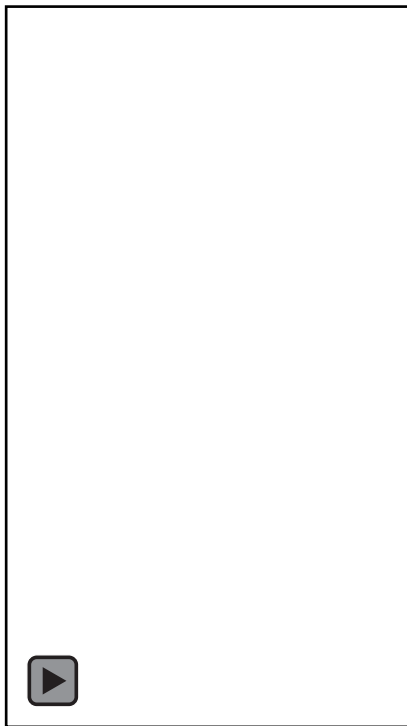
May 29, 2026

72 Kindergarten Students

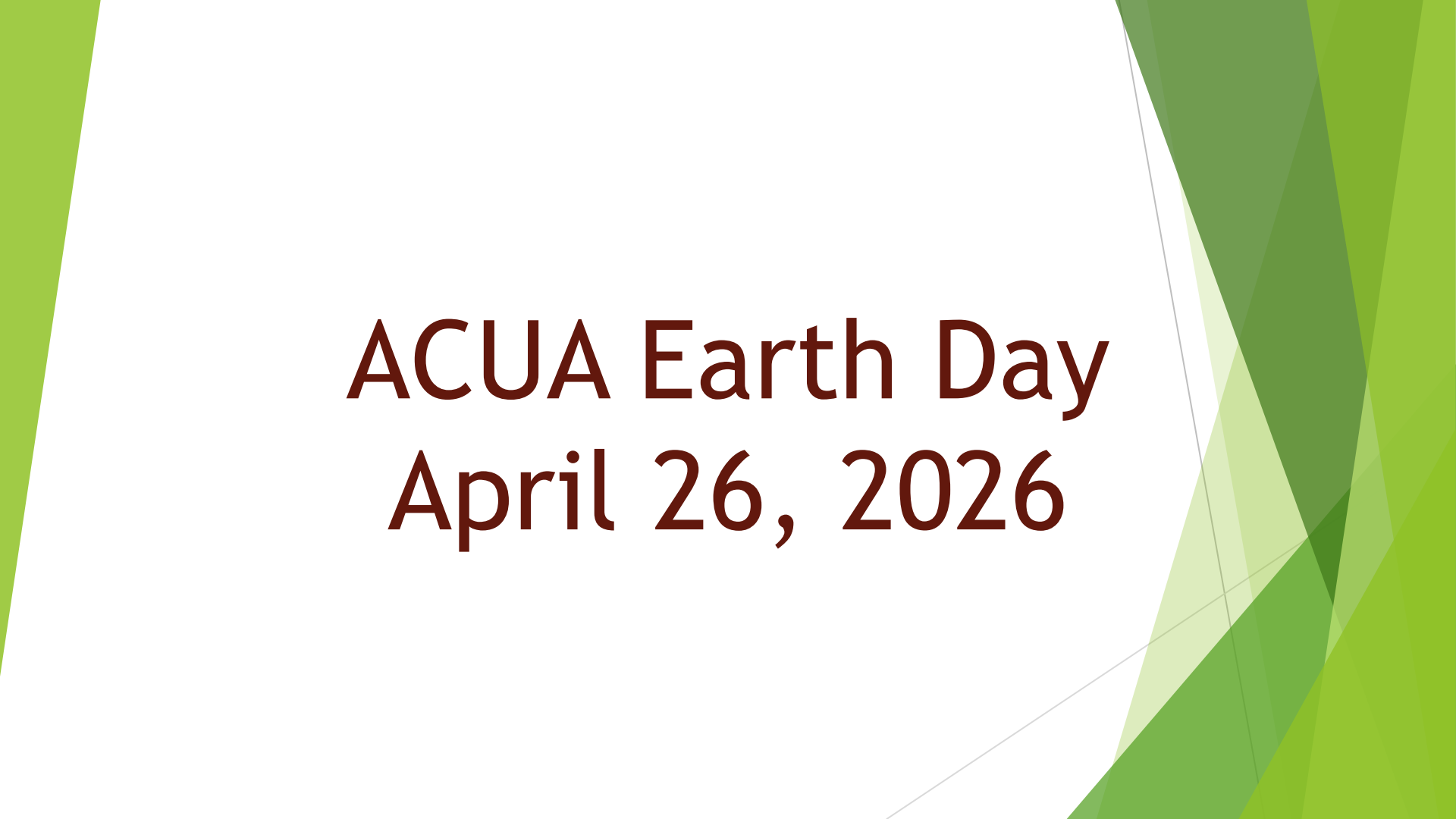


Upper Twp. Primary School
June, 2, 2026
457 PreK, K, 1st & 2nd
Grade Students





Community Events

The graphic features a white background with abstract green geometric shapes on the left and right sides. The text is centered in a dark red, sans-serif font.

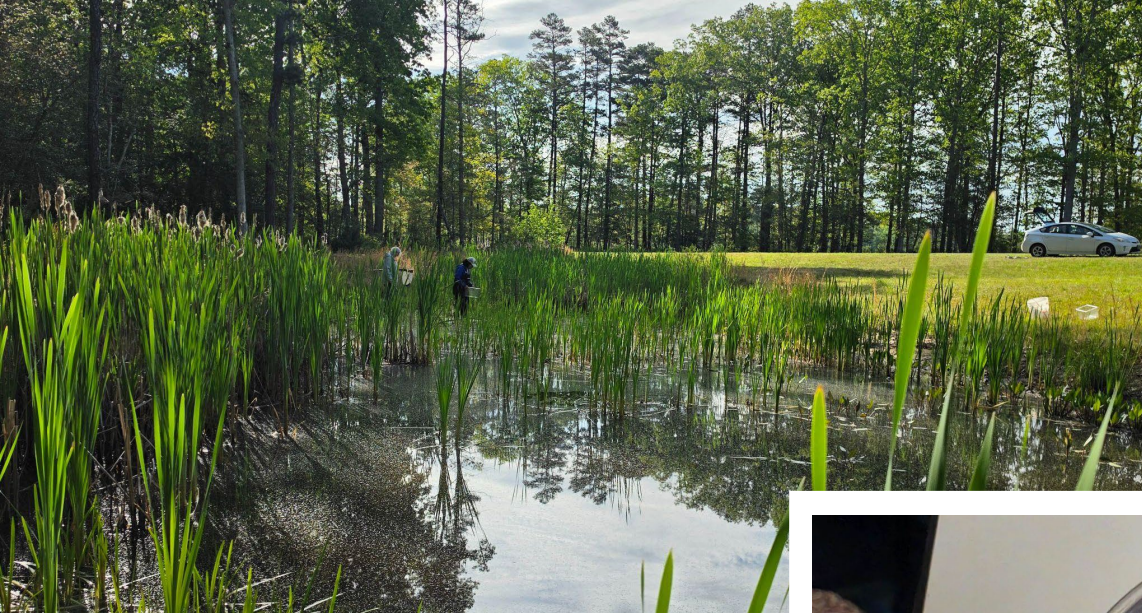
ACUA Earth Day

April 26, 2026



The background features abstract, overlapping green geometric shapes, primarily triangles and polygons, in various shades of green, creating a modern, layered effect.

Friends of the Parks
3rd Saturday Program
Nature Center and Pond
5-16-2026
Frog and Toad Program

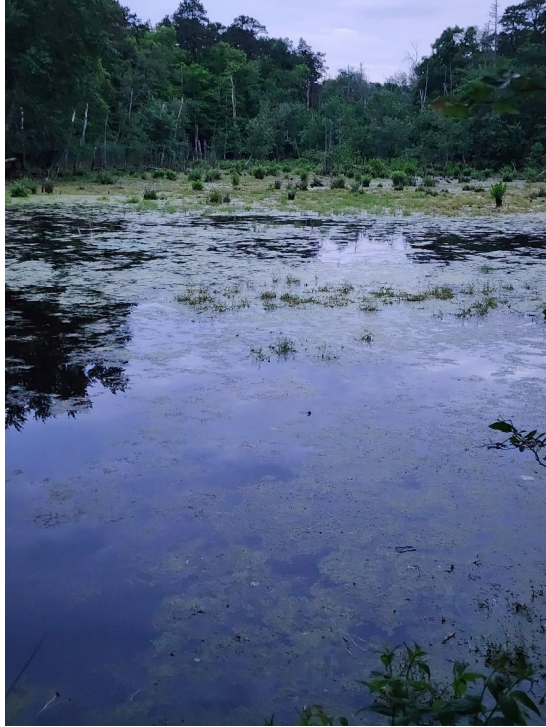


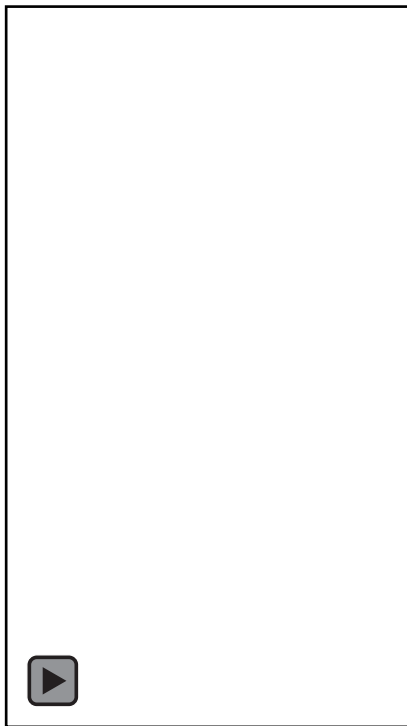


A dark, nighttime photograph of a pond. In the distance, a group of people is standing on a small bridge or path, illuminated by a bright light source, possibly a flashlight or a small fire. The light reflects on the water's surface. The surrounding area is dark, with silhouettes of trees and foliage visible.

**GEHWA Annual Hike for
Frogs 5/26/2026
Piney Hollow Preserve
Franklin Twp.**

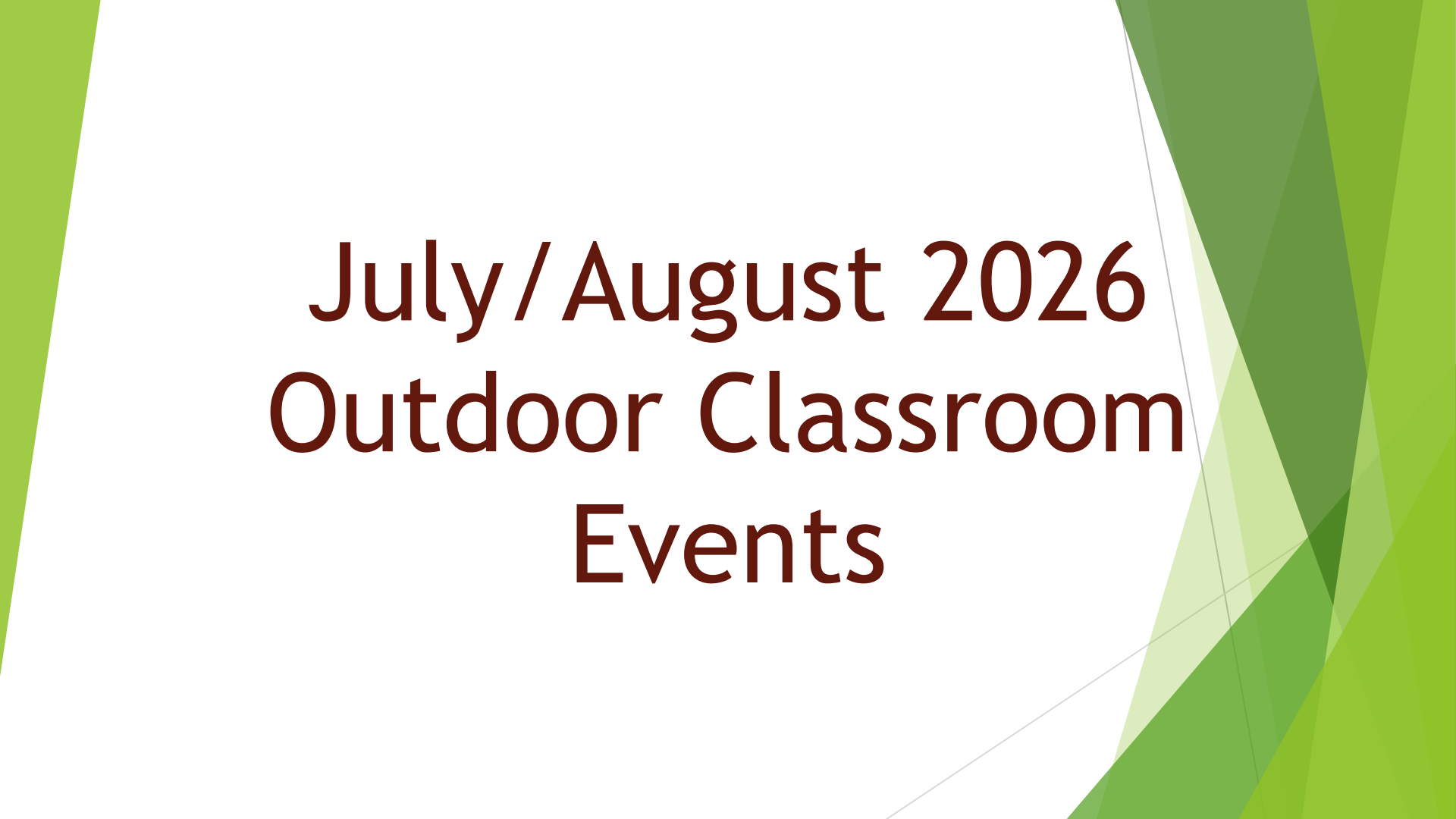






The background features abstract, overlapping green geometric shapes in various shades of green, creating a modern and dynamic look. The shapes are primarily located on the left and right sides of the slide, framing the central text.

Upcoming Community Events

The background features abstract, overlapping green geometric shapes in various shades of lime and forest green, creating a modern, layered effect. The text is centered in a dark red, serif font.

July / August 2026 Outdoor Classroom Events

July 9, 21 and August 6, 2026

Ocean City Yacht Club

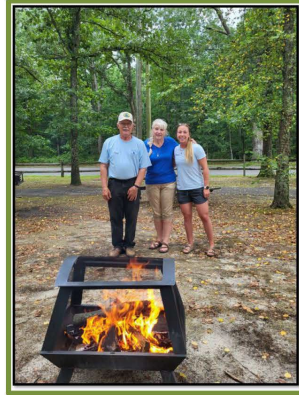
Minnows & Seas Program

5th Year

Corson's Inlet State Park

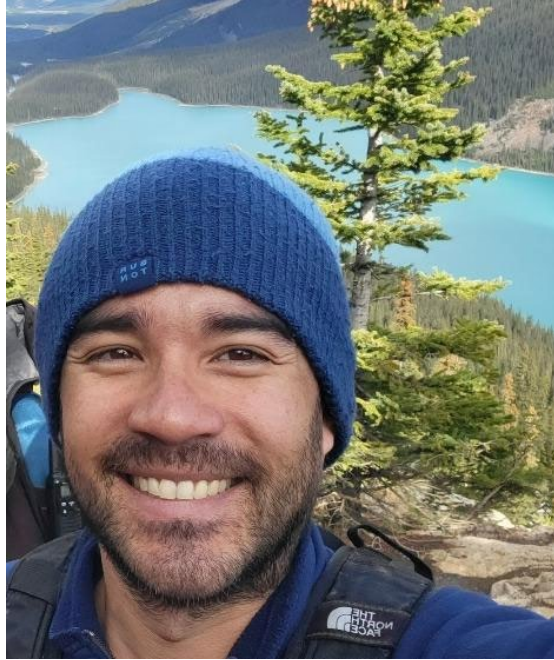
**GEHWA's 20th Annual
Picnic and Campfire
Tuesday, July 28,
2026, at 5:30 pm at
Lake Lenape Park**

Join us on Tuesday July 28, 2026
for our 20th Annual Picnic and Campfire
From 5:30 P.M. until 9:00 P.M.
at Lake Lenape Park
6303 Old Harding Hwy., Mays Landing



Hamburgers (Veggie Burgers too) and Hotdogs will be provided. Please bring a tasty salad/side dish or dessert to share. The picnic begins at 5:30 P.M. and the CAMPFIRE/Storytime will begin at 7:00 P.M. If you plan on attending the picnic please RSVP Lynn Maun at 856-649-2792 or email: lynnkmaun@comcast.net with a count for your family so that we will know how much food is needed. We hope that you can join us and look forward to seeing you. If you have a good campfire story that you would like to share, please let us know. Thank you.





National Park Service

Kurt Cheng ~

- **Outdoor Recreational Planner**
NPS NE Regional Office, Philadelphia, PA
- **Great Egg Harbor River**
(Atl., Glo., Cam., Cape.)
- **Maurice River (Cumberland County, NJ)**
- **Gateway National Recreation Area, NJ & NY**

NPS Update

GEHWA's Cooperative Agreement was amended to include an additional \$18,500 for a total of \$228,500 on May 21, 2026.

These funds shall be used in FY26-FY27 to implement the river's comprehensive management plan and highlight innovative work at Tuckahoe Island through a documentary.

Kurt will continue providing technical field support for Tuckahoe Island field monitoring as schedules allow.



PWSR Partners Lunch Meeting

May 13, 2026



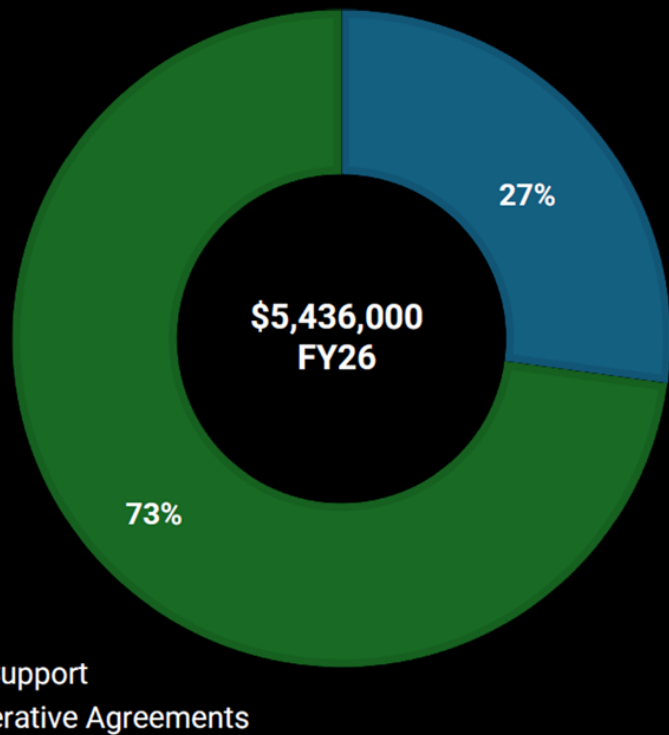


FY26 Budget Spending

PWSR Partners Meeting
May 13, 2026



- ❖ Total NPS-PWSR Funding: \$5,436,000
- ❖ Cooperative Agreements: \$3,960,000
- ❖ NER Supplemental Funding Opportunity: \$283,000
- ❖ NPS Support (NER + SER): \$1,476,000
 - Staff time, travel, specialized experience, etc.





Future PWSR Partners Meetings

PWSR Partners Meeting
May 13, 2026



- ❖ Continuing PWSR Speaker Series
- ❖ Potential In-person Gatherings
 - Two in-person meetings:
New England and Mid-Atlantic
- ❖ Navigating restrictions for NPS Staff
- ❖ **Question for Partners** – *What activities/sessions have been valuable during past gatherings?*



Old Business



Great Egg Harbor River Council

New Business



Great Egg Harbor River Council

River Councilor Reports for each Municipality.



Buena Vista Township
Corbin City
Egg Harbor Township
Estell Manor
Folsom Borough
Hamilton Township
Hammonton Town

Monroe Township
Somers Point City
Upper Township
Weymouth Township
Winslow Township
Great Egg Harbor Watershed
National Park Service

A wide-angle photograph of a calm lake at sunset. The sun is a bright orange orb on the horizon, casting a long, shimmering reflection across the water's surface. The sky is a mix of soft pinks, oranges, and blues. In the foreground, a wooden dock with a ramp and a small platform extends into the water from a grassy bank. The background shows a dark line of trees and a few distant houses under the twilight sky.

Administrator's Report

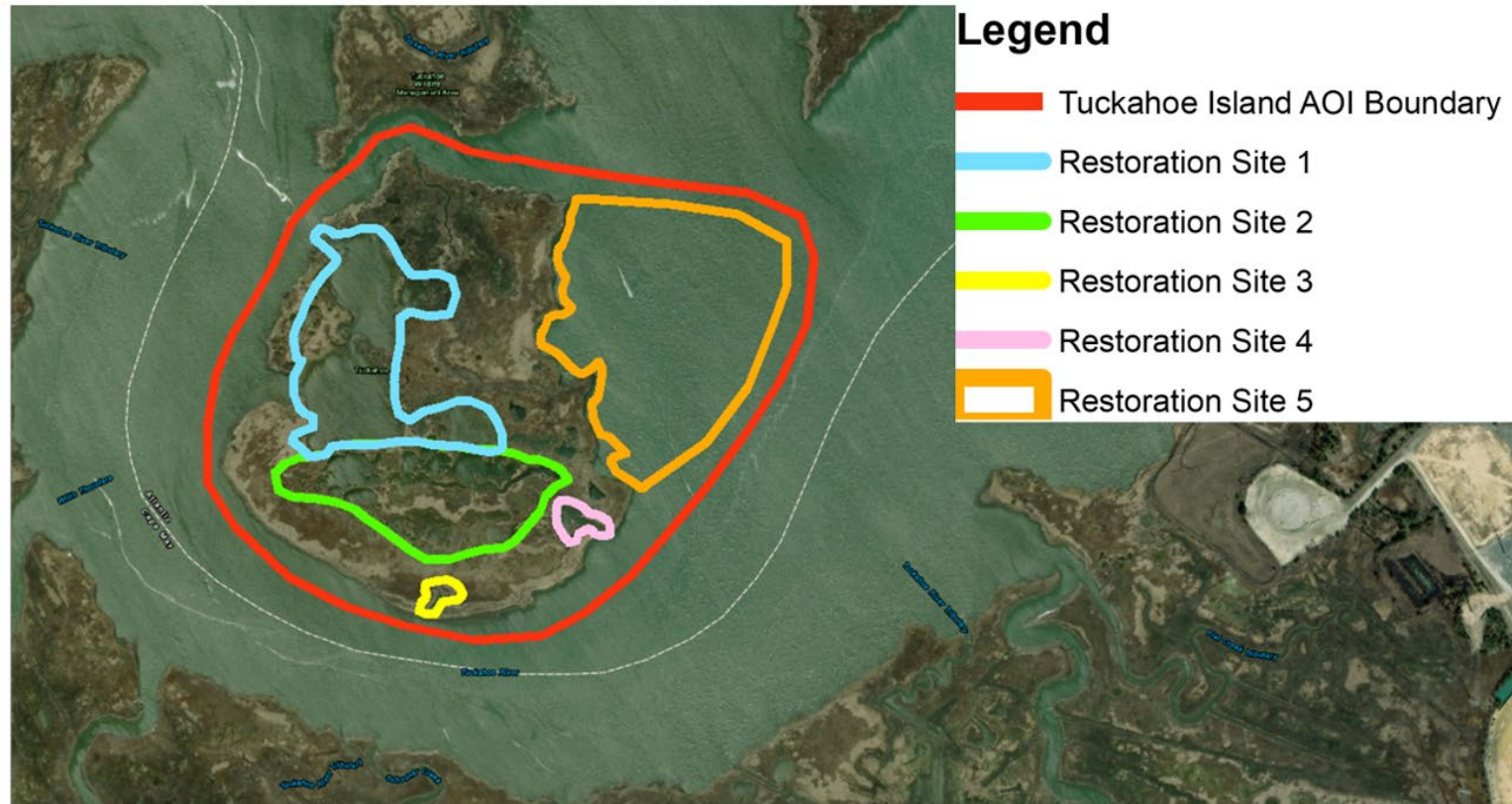
**Tuckahoe Island
Restoration Update**

**Appendix A
Tuckahoe Island
AOI Development Methods & Results
Remote Sensing Data**



Appendix A, Figure 1: Tuckahoe Island, 10/3/23, High Tide

Tuckahoe Island AOI Proposed Restoration Sites



Appendix A, Figure 3: Proposed Tuckahoe Island AOI Restoration Sites

Bio Surveying on Tuckahoe Island with NJ Fish and Wildlife 6-8-26



Bio Surveying on Tuckahoe Island with NJ Fish and Wildlife 6-8-26



Bio Surveying on Tuckahoe Island with NJ Fish and Wildlife 6-8-26



Bio Surveying on Tuckahoe Island with NJ Fish and Wildlife 6-9-26



Bio Surveying on Tuckahoe Island with NJ Fish and Wildlife 6-9-26



Bio Surveying on Tuckahoe Island with NJ Fish and Wildlife 6-10-26



Bio Surveying on Tuckahoe Island with NJ Fish and Wildlife 6-10-26



Bio Surveying on Tuckahoe Island with NJ Fish and Wildlife 6-10-26



Bio Surveying on Tuckahoe Island with NJ Fish and Wildlife 6-10-26



Tuckahoe Island Red ARU looking East across Restoration Area 2, 5/29/26



Tuckahoe Island Red ARU looking West across Restoration Area 1, 5/29/26

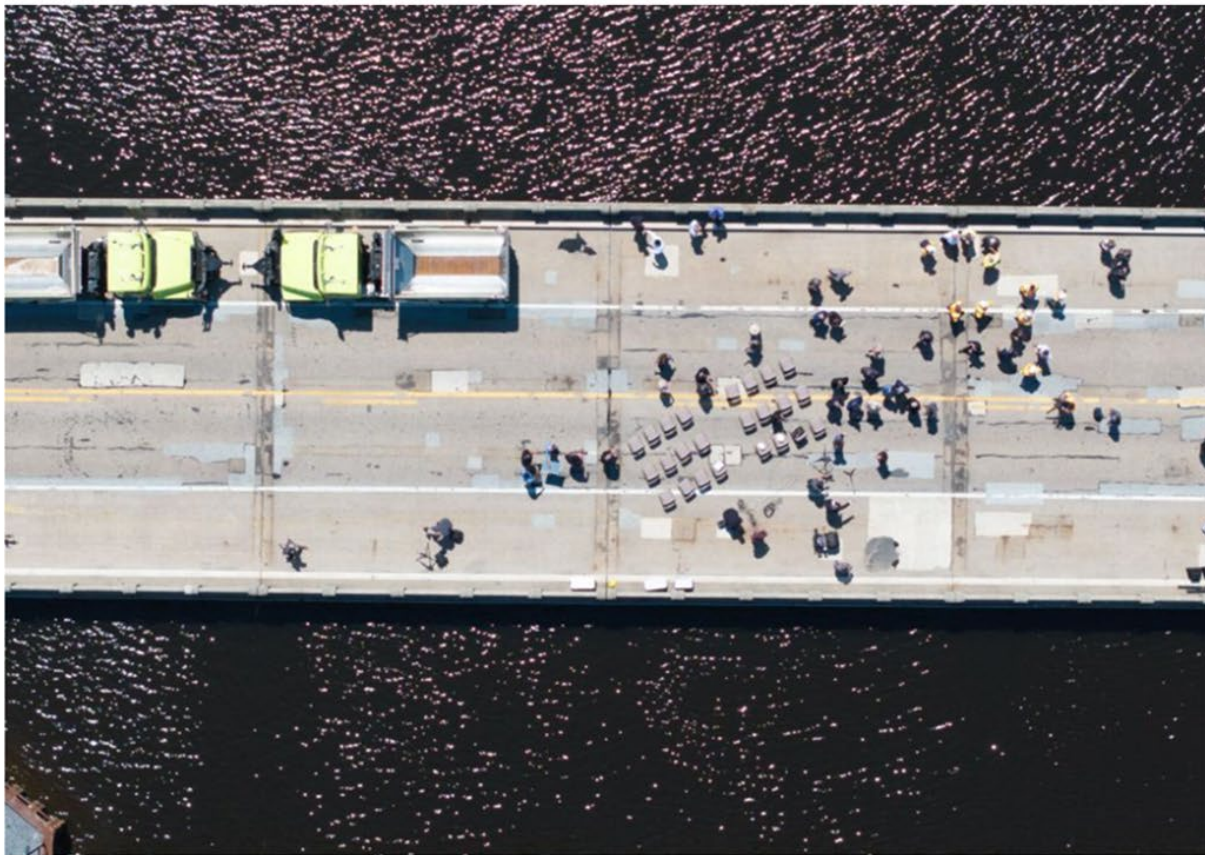


Cedar Swamp Creek Rte.50 Bridge Replacement Event 5/20/26



Construction on the Route 50 bridge over Cedar Swamp Creek is expected to begin in the fall and be completed by the end of 2028.

Matthew Strabuk, Staff Photographer



Aerial view of Cedar Swamp Creek Bridge on route 50, a location set for a NJDOT replacement project, which is the first project being built under the innovative Design-Build project delivery method, seen here after a press conference on May 20, 2026.

Matthew Strabuk Staff Photographer



Aerial view of Cedar Swamp Creek Bridge on route 50, a location set for a NJDOT replacement project, which is the first project being built under the innovative Design-Build project delivery method, seen here after a press conference on May 20, 2026.

Matthew Strabuk Staff Photographer



Contractors and government officials look out over Cedar Swamp Creek from Route 50 on Wednesday during a news conference announcing a \$47.7 million contract to replace the bridge in Upper Township.

Matthew Strabuk, Staff Photographer



Governor Sherrill speaking at a press conference with NJDOT officials where they discussed the contract award for the Route 50 over Cedar Swamp Creek Bridge replacement project, which is the first project being built under the innovative Design-Build project delivery method, held at the Route 50 bridge on May 20, 2026.

Matthew Strabuk Staff Photographer

Great Egg Harbor Marine Debris Update



34 ft. Cruisers Yacht in Powell Creek, Egg Harbor Twp., no identification accessible. 6/11/26



34 ft. Cruisers Yacht in Powell Creek, Egg Harbor Twp., no identification accessible. 6/11/26



34 ft. Cruisers Yacht in Powell Creek, Egg Harbor Twp., no identification accessible. 6/11/26



34 ft. Cruisers Yacht in Powell Creek, Egg Harbor Twp., no identification accessible. 6/11/26



31 ft. Bertram Yacht in Powell Creek, Egg Harbor Twp. 6/11/26



31 ft. Bertram Yacht in Powell Creek, Egg Harbor Twp. 6/11/26



31 ft. Bertram Yacht in Powell Creek, Egg Harbor Twp., hull number partially visible 6/11/26



31 ft. Bertram Yacht in Powell Creek, Egg Harbor Twp. 6/11/26



Derelict dock on the Great Egg Harbor River Marsh 6/11/26



Defeo Lane Natural Area



**Recommendations for Green Acres Funding
Local Park Development and Stewardship Projects (cont'd)
May 2026**

Stewardship Projects

Eligible for 50% matching grants or, for projects in Urban Aid municipalities, 75% matching grants

	<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Project Name</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Loan Request</u>	<u>Grant Request</u>	<u>Total Request</u>	<u>Total Award</u>
1	Hamilton Twp	Sayen Gardens Restoration Project	Mercer		\$150,000	\$150,000	\$11,333
2	Somers Point City	DeFeo Lane Nature Trail	Atlantic		\$116,461	\$116,461	<u>\$116,461</u>

River Council staff has had some preliminary discussions with the Somers Point Environmental Commission regarding a grant from the River Council for trail signs for this project.

Now that they have a recommendation for a \$116,461 grant from the state requiring a 50% match, we anticipate a more specific funding request from Somers Point in the near future.

NJSP Marine Police - Great Egg Harbor

This summer there will be a weekend overtime for the State Marine Police in the Great Egg Harbor Watershed.

The first weekend, many stops were made for waking in nowake zones



Upcoming summer field work Operations

- Oyster Spat Monitoring
- Osprey Chick Count
- Ongoing visits to Tuckahoe Island and other areas of interest along the Tuckahoe



5/3/26 Tuckahoe River Clean Up

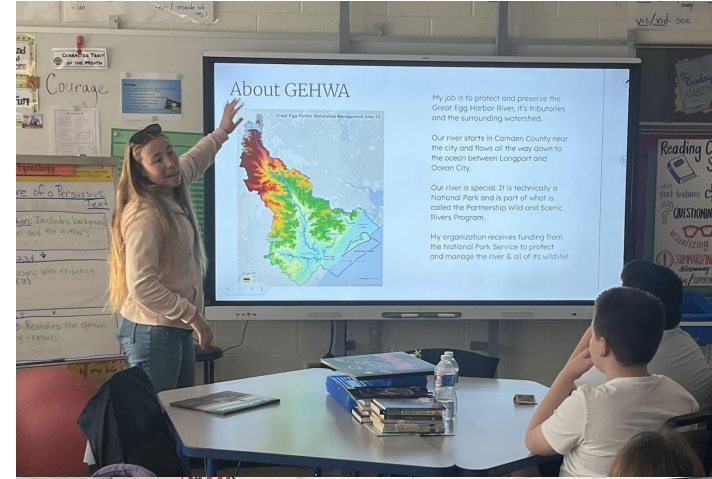
On Sunday 5/3 GEHWA staff and Upper Township River Councilors worked together to facilitate a marine debris clean up on the Tuckahoe.

Upper Township Public Works hauled all of the debris away.



5/5 Program at Crest Memorial

On 5/5 Brooke was asked to present to elementary school students on GEHWA's mission to protect and preserve the Great Egg Harbor Watershed, their local environment & how they can protect it!





Adjournment