

The Growing Risk of Coastal Hazards and Waterfront Impacts – How Online Mapping Tools Can Help

Rhode Island is facing coastal change from storms, erosion, and sea level rise along its 420 miles of shoreline. The Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council (CRMC), in partnership with the University of Rhode Island, has developed a process to educate residents on their risk of impacts from coastal hazards and storm events. Key points include a policy change for coastal permit applicants and the creation of online mapping tools to assess risk from coastal flooding and erosion. Marine trades, recreational boaters, and waterfront businesses will want to understand the tools available to them to make informed decisions that will serve to protect waterfront assets and the long-term viability of RI's waterfront economy. WYC and JYC members, guests, and the public are invited to attend an educational presentation free of charge on Thursday, October 11, 2018 at the Wickford Yacht Club. Doors open at 6:30 pm.

This vital topic will be examined by Teresa Crean, a community planner and coastal management extension specialist with the Coastal Resources Center (CRC) and Rhode Island Sea Grant at the University of Rhode Island's Graduate School of Oceanography.



Teresa Crean joined CRC/Sea Grant in 2008 and is currently facilitating municipal-scale projects in Rhode Island that address coastal adaptation to climate change and sea level rise. This work involves evaluating the results of mapping exercises to clearly communicate challenges and opportunities to municipal stakeholders. Her work employs a research and planning process that integrates the best available

science with open input and involvement from a broad range of stakeholders, decision makers and the public.

She earned a Master of Landscape Architecture (M.L.A.) from the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry at Syracuse, a B.S. in Environmental Policy/Natural Resource Management from the University of Michigan and is a certified planner through the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP).