

Program Leadership

This is a collaborative venture of the Maine Coastal Program, which funds and provides administrative support, and the Damariscotta River Association, which hosts and coordinates the program.

Sarah Gladu, Director of Education and Environmental Monitoring and naturalist for the Damariscotta River Association, has worked in Environmental Education for more than 20 years. She notes, "Each year the Stewards are a cohort of individuals that collectively grow through this educational program and make a phenomenal contribution to Midcoast communities through their service."



To apply or for more information:

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Fee: \$100 payable to the DRA

Midcoast Stewards Program
c/o Damariscotta River Association
PO Box 333
Damariscotta, ME 04543

Midcoast Stewards 2015



Fostering citizen stewardship of Maine's coastal resources

A Damariscotta River
Association program



Co-sponsored by the
Maine Coastal Program

People have been attracted to Midcoast Maine for generations. They have been drawn by its beauty and abundant natural resources. They are artists and accountants, doctors and deck-hands, fishermen and farmers.

While Midcoast Maine has maintained its beauty and natural resources over centuries of settlement, it is not immune from development and environmental pressures. Like other ecologically valuable regions, Midcoast Maine needs educated stewards - people who will take care of the natural resources and inspire others to do the same. The Midcoast Stewards Course provides this education.

Course Goals

- To provide residents with information concerning the cultural and natural resources of Midcoast Maine;
- To provide participants the opportunity to access information that will facilitate individual actions to protect and conserve their coastal environment;
- To give residents a voice in the decision making that shapes the future of their coastal communities;
- To create a network of educated and committed volunteers working together to conserve and protect the natural and cultural resources of Midcoast Maine.



Course Benefits

- Learn from and discuss a wide variety of issues with local conservation professionals;
- Meet area residents with an interest in the cultural and natural history of Midcoast Maine;
- Discover a wide variety of volunteer opportunities through local conservation organizations;
- Participate in outdoor, field discovery learning programs with professionals.

Course Highlights

The Midcoast Stewards course covers many different topics focusing on the cultural and natural history of the region.

Some topics include:

- geology
- aquaculture
- bird life
- bog plants
- alewives
- local colonial and Wabanaki history



Education

The Midcoast Stewards course begins with a 40 hour course that meets Tuesday and Thursday evenings and some Saturdays for about six weeks every-other year. Each class covers topics of natural or cultural interest presented by leading authorities from within Maine communities. Presentations vary from classroom discussions to field tours. Classes will be held from April 14 through May 26, 2015.

Stewardship

Upon conclusion of the course, participants commit up to at least 40 hours of volunteer service to the protection of Midcoast Maine's natural and cultural resources. Past Stewards have helped create organizations. Others have helped in planning for their communities. Stewards can and do develop their own service projects or volunteer with existing programs.