

Narragansett Bay Research Reserve Education is Change on the Ground



2017

Connect



4, 453 acres

23 miles of shoreline

Estuary Education Shed



Prepare

3,090 student contact hours

549 students engaged

66 student programs

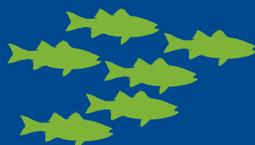
Improve



500+ invasive trees removed

1,000+ pounds of marine

debris collected



"There are tremendous science practice benefits to learning about species types and abundance through the various field methods used by the Reserve. My students experienced discovery science in action."

Dawn Adams
Science Teacher,
Rutland High School

"Helping with the European larch tree project (invasive removal) is a great experience because I get to help save the native species on Prudence Island."

Libby, age 13
Homeschool student

Teachers on the Estuary comes full circle with student field trips

Vermont high school science teacher Dawn Adams first brought her students to the Reserve following her participation in our multi-day Teachers on the Estuary professional development workshop in 2014. Every year since, Dawn and her students have made the 6-hour trek to spend four days immersed in estuary science, staying overnight at the Reserve on Prudence Island. Students learn field sampling and identification techniques of everything from marsh vegetation to pesky invasive crabs. They get decked out in gloves and safety goggles before eagerly grabbing clippers and saws to help us remove thorny invasive shrubs. Connections are discovered between their landlocked state and the estuary in front of them. By the end of their visit, the students have a greater understanding and appreciation of the value of estuaries and the role each of them play as stewards of their environment.

Making a difference, one tree at a time

Every month the Reserve is fortunate to host several groups of homeschooled students ranging in age from elementary to high school. Among those students are a group of teens that have been attending Reserve programs for several years. The thing they ask to do the most, sometimes for hours a day? Battle the invasive European larch trees with clippers, loppers, and hand saws! These young adults have single-handedly removed hundreds of larch trees from our rare (and native) pitch pine forest. Despite the ever-present threat of thorns, ticks, and blisters, these kids never fail to show incredible enthusiasm and dedication to the project, one they truly have made their own.



Narragansett Bay Reserve is one of 29 sites in the National Estuarine Research Reserve System. Each site is a state federal partnership that combines research, monitoring, and education to advance the understanding and management of estuarine environments.



Narragansett Bay
Research Reserve



National Estuarine Research Reserve Education Change on the Ground in 2017

Connects

People to Estuaries

**1 million+
ACRES**

of natural classrooms & living laboratories with



**28 INTERPRETIVE
CENTERS**



**650,340
VISITORS**

learn about estuaries through Research Reserve outreach & education



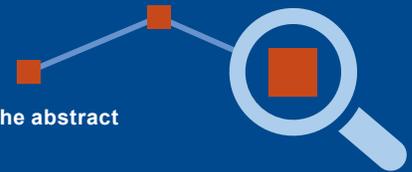
Aloha to our Hawai'i Reserve, designated in 2017!

Prepares

the Next Generation

**87,899
STUDENTS**

take learning out of the abstract & into the outdoors



**3,079
TEACHERS**

are trained in the estuary & supported in the classroom



SKILLS BUILT

- ✓ Observation
- ✓ Asking research questions
- ✓ Problem solving
- ✓ Data driven decision making

ESTUARY SCIENCE

LOCAL DATA

LAB WORK

FIELD INVESTIGATION

Improves

the Environment

**12,849
CITIZENS**

are trained & inspired to protect their coasts & estuaries



VOLUNTEER ACTIONS

- ✓ Protect wildlife
- ✓ Monitor water quality
- ✓ Plant native species
- ✓ Clean up the coasts

**28 RESEARCH RESERVE
EDUCATORS**

lead programs that foster coastal stewardship in communities in 23 states



Creating value through education
39,035 volunteer hours = \$942,305*