

# Join Us for a **DISCOVERY LAB**

## **CHESAPEAKE BAY NATIONAL ESTUARINE RESEARCH RESERVE**

Discovery Labs are provided each month by the Chesapeake Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve (CBNERR). These labs provide fun, family-friendly opportunities to learn about the Chesapeake Bay and our local environment. Each lab focuses on a different topic and includes exhibits, demonstrations, and hands-on activities for kids and adults. Most labs also include a short presentation by a topic expert.

CBNERR Discovery Labs take place from 6:00-8:00 PM at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS) in Gloucester Point. The speaker presentation occurs from 6:30-7:00 PM.

*While the labs are free, registration is required due to limited space.*

Register at: [http://www.vims.edu/cbnerr/education/public\\_programs/index.php](http://www.vims.edu/cbnerr/education/public_programs/index.php)

### **2020 SCHEDULE:**

#### **January 21 – SHARKS, Speakers: Jameson Gregg and Gregg Mears, VIMS**

Sharks are one of the most intriguing and fascinating animals found in the Chesapeake Bay. Five species of sharks are common to abundant in the Chesapeake Bay, while some shark species are only rarely spotted in our area. Sharks travel into the Bay as they migrate along the coast, using it for protection and food. Jameson Gregg and Gregg Mears will talk about shark biology, and the work that VIMS conducts to study sharks. The lab will include preserved shark specimens, shark teeth and jaws, hands-on activities for kids, and microscope displays.



#### **February 18 – FOSSILS, Speaker: Dr. Rowan Lockwood, W&M**

The Chesapeake Bay is a great place to fossil hunt. Fossils are preserved remains or impressions of a once-living thing from a past geological age such as bones, shells, exoskeletons, or hair. Come explore common fossils found in Chesapeake Bay with our speaker, Dr. Rowan Lockwood, Associate Professor of Geology and fossil expert!



#### **March 24 – MOLLUSKS, Speaker: Sam Askin, VIMS**

Mollusks are a group of invertebrate animals that have a soft body. There are three main groups of mollusks that include gastropods (snails), bivalves (oysters), and cephalopods (octopuses). Observe and touch live mollusks, as well as other creatures that live on oyster reefs. Learn about all the ways that mollusks are important to the Chesapeake Bay region, and how human activity has historically impacted these important animals.



#### **April 21 – OUR COAST, Speaker: Amanda Guthrie, VIMS**

Where the land meets the sea, our coasts and estuaries are formed. The coast can be a fascinating ecosystem to explore, and also is affected by human impacts such as development and tourism. Come explore the biodiversity, geology, and physics of our coast, while learning about how we can protect these valuable habitats so that you can be more knowledgeable on your next trip to the beach.

