

Salem SoundNet

September 2009 Newsletter

In this newsletter...

1. You won't want to miss this--Salem Sound Coastwatch (SSCW) is hosting ["An Evening With Roz Savage,"](#) an amazing ocean eco-adventurer.
2. Great volunteer opportunities, starting this week with the kickoff for a [stream survey](#) of Sawmill Brook. [Beach clean-ups](#) and a survey of [life in the Mill Pond](#) mud flats too.
3. Update on [SSCW activities](#).

SSCW is Pleased to Present

An Evening with Roz Savage-- Ocean Adventurer & Environmentalist!

Friday, October 16, 2009
Eastern Yacht Club, Marblehead, MA

Roz Savage is a rower. But she's not just any rower--she's the first woman to row solo across the Atlantic. And she's currently working to become the first woman to row solo across the Pacific.



Roz' goals are not just personal. A 42-year old former management consultant from England, Roz is now using her trans-oceanic rowing voyages to inspire a movement toward sustainable living at both grassroots and global levels.

Her Pacific voyage is broken into three parts, each with a different environmental theme. Last year she rowed over 2300 unescorted miles from San Francisco to Hawaii, blogging all the while about the problems of plastic debris that litters the oceans and kills marine wildlife.

Just *last week* (!) she completed the second phase of her journey, having rowed 3000 miles in 105 days, from Hawaii to Tarawa, an atoll in the Central Pacific. Her theme for this segment is climate change. In December she will be attending the UN Conference on Climate Change in Copenhagen.

This fascinating evening is free of charge and open only to those whose membership donations to SSCW are current!

Space is limited--RSVP requested. If you have a question about the status of your membership, or to RSVP, contact SSCW at info@salemsound.org or call 978-741-7900. Membership donations can be made online at our secure website by [clicking here](#).

Learn more about Roz Savage and her adventures at rozsavage.com.

You won't want to miss this. Mark your calendars now!

Friday, October 16, 2009
Eastern Yacht Club
47 Foster St (on Marblehead Neck), Marblehead, MA

Cash Bar -7:30 pm
Program Begins 8 pm



New and Different Volunteer Opportunities

1. Walk a Stream in Manchester

Want to learn first-hand about local ecology? Join the Manchester Coastal Stream Team for a visual shoreline survey of Sawmill Brook and its tributaries. No experience is needed--volunteers will be trained and will work in teams.

The time commitment is two evening meetings (Sept. 17 and Oct. 22) and approximately two hours to walk along the banks and conduct the survey.



Much of the land these streams pass through is deep in the woods, so volunteers will have the opportunity to follow the watercourse to normally hidden places in Manchester.

If you are interested in participating, come to the kickoff meeting and training session on **Thursday, September 17 at the Manchester Community Center, 40 Beach Street, 7 - 9 pm**. After the training, volunteers will divide into teams and set a date to walk their assigned stream segment.

The purpose of this project is to identify sites where restoration is needed in order to protect and improve water quality and natural habitats for the fish, birds, beavers, amphibians, muskrats, and otters that live in this watershed.

Twelve years ago, after conducting a similar survey, the Manchester Coastal Stream Team "adopted" Sawmill Brook and made numerous improvements.

For more information, contact Salem Sound Coastwatch at 978-741-7900 or info@salemsound.org.

2. Join us for a Day or Two in the Mud!

Volunteer for the Mill Pond Restoration Project in Gloucester

Ever fantasize about playing in the mud? Then you should join SSCW for the 2nd annual survey of the mud flats of Gloucester's Mill Pond. This experience will take place on **September 23 & 24 and October 8 & 9**.

This survey is part of a project to restore the natural tidal flow to Mill River, a tributary of the Annisquam River. Hundreds of years ago the river was dammed, creating Mill Pond. Four years ago the tide gate was opened to restore a rich and productive estuarine habitat for fish, birds, clams and other marine life.

To read an article about the restoration project, [click here](#).

Volunteers will work in or on the edge of the mudflat at low tide. Everyone will be trained and will work in teams. The job assignments include digging buckets of mud samples; transporting the buckets to a screening station; washing the mud through screens to capture the clams, worms and snails that are left behind; and counting, measuring and recording the living organisms.



The purpose of the survey is to quantify changes in the benthic layer (the mud) since the tide gate was opened.

It's dirty messy work, but great fun!

Photos and results from last year's survey are online at salemsound.org

The days and times for the survey are:

- Wednesday, September 23, 2009; 9 am - 2 pm (approx.)
- Thursday, September 24, 2009; 9 am - 3 pm (approx.)
- Thursday, October 8, 2009; 9:30 am - 1 pm (approx.)
- Friday, Friday, October 9, 2009; 9 am - 2 pm (approx)

SSCW Updates - What We've Been Up To

- SSCW has received a grant to work with **Salem State College** on a project for restoration, environmental management and long-term stewardship of "**Old Creek**" **marsh**, a 10-acre tidal marsh on the College's Central Campus. As part of the project, SSCW will work with students, giving them hands-on experience with marsh ecology.
- Construction for a **Greenscapes Garden** in the Dog Park at Leslie's Retreat Park in Salem is underway. A rain garden is being planted around the storm drain, and a patio made of permeable pavers has been installed. Together these will help prevent contaminated runoff by allowing rain water to seep back into the ground instead of flowing directly into the North River.



SSCW volunteer **Curt Dragon, of Earth Landscapes**, provided the excavation and installation of the patio, walkway and a water line, and SSCW corporate member, **Pavers by Ideal**, donated permeable paving stone.



Speaking of Greenscapes, look for us at the Topsfield Fair!

SSCW, together with the Ipswich River Watershed Association and Eight Towns and the Bay, will be educating fair-goers about **Greenscapes**. We will be in the new "Green Pavilion" on Monday - Wednesday, Oct 5, 6 and 7, 10 am - 10 pm. Stop by and say hello.

It's CoastSweep Time!

Do You Know of an Area that Needs Cleaning Up?

Each fall, volunteers from SSCW participate in the Ocean Conservancy's International Coastal Cleanup, a global effort to keep the oceans clean and to raise awareness about problems caused by marine debris. Last year nearly 400,000 volunteers collected more than 6.8 million pounds of trash in 100 countries. This is the world's largest volunteer effort of its kind.

SSCW has scheduled two sites for cleaning-up (see below), **and we're looking for a third. Contact us if you know of a place** with lots of trash and debris. It doesn't have to be a beach, it can be anywhere along a waterway, in a marsh, or on the coast.

If we select your spot for an additional clean-up, you will win your choice of a SSCW hat or the new SSCW reusable grocery bag!

These sites are already on the schedule:

1. **Salem Willows**, Saturday October 17, 2 pm - 4 pm. This is being organized by the Beverly High School Eco Club. All are welcome.
2. **Dane Street Beach**, Beverly, Saturday September 19. This is being organized by CSL International of Beverly. This is full at this time.



Remember, marine debris is man-made trash that ends up in the ocean. Cigarette butts, plastic bags and food wrappers can smother life on the sea floor. Synthetics don't biodegrade, but they can break into small pieces. Each year millions of animals are choked, starved, or poisoned when they mistake trash in our ocean's waters for food.

Much of this debris originates on the land. It is washed through storm drains or blown into rivers, all of which end up in the ocean. During the 2008 clean-up, more than 1.4 million cigarette butts were picked up in the United

States alone!

To learn more about marine debris [visit epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov)

Contact us with your ideas for clean-up locations. Call 978-741-7900, or email info@salemsound.org.

We'll close by saying thank you to everyone who helped make the **4th Annual Swim & Fin Race for Salem Sound** a huge success. There was a great turnout--almost 100 participants competed, and over \$10,500 was raised for SSCW!

We especially want to thank our corporate sponsors:



Event Sponsor - Ocean River Institute

**Eastern Bank • Hawthorne Cove Marina • Beverly Cooperative Bank
North Shore Bank • North Shore Medical Center • The Salem Inn
SAFE • Net Atlantic • Serafini, Serafini, Darling & Correnti, LLP**

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We hope to see you at *An Evening with Roz Savage*.

**Barbara Warren, Executive Director  
Susan Yochelson, Outreach Coordinator**

**PS-- This just in.....**Environmentalist and science writer Deborah Cramer, author of the highly acclaimed "Smithsonian Ocean: Our Water Our World," will be giving a free lecture on Wednesday, September 23, 2009, 7:30 pm at the Pingree School, 537 Highland Street, South Hamilton, 01982.

You won't want to miss this. Cramer explores the oceans and writes about how the future of humans depends on the seas. For more information call 978-468-4415 ext. 310.

[Click here](#) to make a tax deductible donation to Salem Sound Coastwatch

