

## *Estuary Exchange*

November 2025



**ST. ANDREW & ST. JOSEPH BAYS**

**ESTUARY PROGRAM**

*at* FSU PANAMA CITY

*Together for the Bays*



**✉ November  
ESTUARY EXCHANGE**

This November, take the opportunity to learn about and support projects and organizations that protect and restore the resources in our bays! Check out the first Life on the Lines Vertical Oyster Garden Report and attend the Tides & Talks: Protecting Lake Powell event on November 13th. Explore upcoming events and discover how you can engage with the Estuary Program this month. Stay updated on future events, read recent research, get meeting details, and other news throughout our watershed.

***Life on the Lines***

# ON THE Life Lines

2024-2025 VERTICAL  
OYSTER GARDEN REPORT

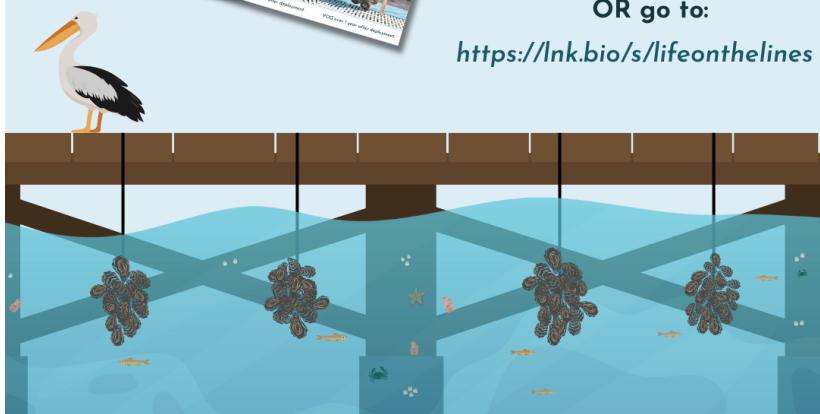


Scan to view



OR go to:

<https://lnk.bio/s/lifeonthelines>



Get to know "Life on the Lines" through our first report from the one-year-old Vertical Oyster Garden Monitoring Program! The report brings together data collected by Estuary Program staff, volunteers, and VOG hosts to help us better understand which areas of the bays provide the best conditions for oyster growth.

Read the Report

## Tides & Talks



ST. ANDREW AND ST. JOSEPH BAYS ESTUARY PROGRAM  
PRESENTS



ST. ANDREW &  
ST. JOSEPH BAYS  
ESTUARY PROGRAM  
at FSU PANAMA CITY

# Tides & Talks

WHERE CONVERSATION STARTS

AND STEWARDSHIP FLOWS



November Topic: Lake Powell Community Alliance

When: Thursday, November 13th, 3:00PM CDT

Where: Destination Panama City, 101 West Beach Dr.

For more info go to:  
[sasjbep.org/events/tidesandtalks](http://sasjbep.org/events/tidesandtalks)

Join us for Tides and Talks: Lake Powell this November as we highlight the work of the Lake Powell Community Alliance. Learn how this dedicated group is protecting and preserving one of Florida's largest coastal dune lakes through community involvement, education, and stewardship.

When: November 13th 3-4pm CDT

Where: Destination Panama City

[Facebook Event](#)

[Zoom](#)

[Youtube](#)

*We Need Your Help!*

## Community Action Committee Survey

We need your feedback! The St. Andrew and St. Joseph Bays Estuary Program is gathering input on how our Community Action Committee will meet in 2026 – including frequency, format, and timing. Please take a moment to complete the short questionnaire below.

[Complete the Questionnaire](#)

## Science Corner



Marsh grass senescence, WFSU Ecology Blog

## From Green to Gold: The Seasonal Change of Coastal Plants

As the weather cools, you may have noticed the once green marsh grasses along the shoreline beginning to fade to golden brown, or the underwater meadows of seagrasses appearing thin. This seasonal shift is called senescence, and is a natural period when plants slow their growth and limit productivity in preparation for the cooler months ahead.

Like trees shedding their leaves, marsh plants and seagrasses prepare for the winter by reducing their growth above ground and instead redirect nutrients to their roots and rhizomes (structures below ground). Seagrasses shed older blades while new ones wait for warmer, sunnier weather before growing. The shedding of old leaves and stems not only helps these plants survive the winter but also supports coastal ecosystems by providing organic material for nutrient cycling, stabilizing sediment, and creating habitat for wildlife.

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Hill, T. D., & Roberts, B. J. (2017). Effects of seasonality and environmental gradients on *Spartina alterniflora* allometry and primary production. *Ecology and Evolution*, 7(22), 9676–9688. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ece3.3494>

Zhu, Q., Wiberg, P. L., & McGlathery, K. J. (2022). Seasonal growth and senescence of seagrass alters sediment accumulation rates and carbon burial in a coastal lagoon. *Limnology and Oceanography*, 67(9), 1931-1942.

## *Recent Relevant Research*

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*Click the images to view articles.*



Mangrove freeze resistance and resilience across a tropical-temperate transitional zone.



Dissolved Oxygen May Limit the Suitability of Salt Marsh as Nekton Habitat.

## *Find the Estuary Program*



November 29, 2025

### Small Business Saturday Market

Come out and support the Estuary Program's Teen Outreach Committee at the Small Business Saturday Market in Historic Downtown Panama City. The Committee will be offering baked goods, oyster ornaments, and other handmade goods to raise funds for upcoming projects.

When: Saturday, November 28th

Where: Historic Downtown Panama City



December 13, 2025

### Boat Parade of Lights

From 5:00-7:30 pm, enjoy the Boat Parade of Lights and Holiday Village! The boat parade will feature a dazzling display of Christmas lights and decorations, transforming St. Andrews Bay into a magical winter wonderland.

When: Saturday, December 13th 5:00 - 7:30pm CT

Where: Panama City Marina

[Learn More](#)

## Community Events

Click the images to explore upcoming events throughout the St. Andrew Bay Watershed!



Events in Panama City



Events in Panama City Beach



Events in South Walton County



Events in Gulf County



Events in Mexico Beach



Gulf County Chamber of Commerce - Events

## Upcoming Meetings

### Policy Board Meeting

+

December 17th, 2025

1:00pm-3:00pm CDT; Room A301 Deans Conference Room; FSU PC Holley Building  
<https://fsu.zoom.us/j/93469785995>

Join Zoom

### Management Council Meeting

+

December 5th, 2025

10am-12pm CDT; Room A301, Deans Conference Room; FSU PC Holley Building Join Via Zoom: <https://fsu.zoom.us/j/91728868009> Meeting ID: [917 2886 8009](#)

Join Zoom

### Science and Technical Committee Meeting

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December 18th, 2025

1:00 - 2:00 PM CDT; Admin Services Conference Room 108

[Join Zoom](#)

## Stormwater Working Group +

November 12th, 2025

10am-11am CDT; Virtual only. Join on Teams: o Meeting ID: [269 531 401 617](#) o Passcode: aq2fz3Ni

## Community Action Committee Meeting +

Date TBD

Next meeting date to be determined.

## Teen Outreach Committee Meeting +

November 22nd, 2025

10 am - 11:00 am CDT; Holley Building Rotunda This month, we will be constructing marsh grass beds for our native plant nursery!

[Join the TOC](#)

To access all past meeting materials, notes, and presentations, visit our Library of Resources page on our website. Link directly by clicking below!

[Library of Resources](#)

[Florida State University Panama City Campus Map](#)

# Volunteer Opportunities



The SASJ Bays Volunteer Network connects organizations with passionate members of the community that are interested getting involved. Join the email list to receive updates on upcoming volunteer opportunities from across the partners across the watershed and share organized events with others!

[Join the Email List](#)

## Job Opportunities

University of Northwest Florida

- [Assistant Professor of Biology, Coastal Ecologist](#)

Choctawhatchee Basin Alliance

- [Ecology Technician](#)

Contact us at [estuaryprogram@pc.fsu.edu](mailto:estuaryprogram@pc.fsu.edu)



St. Andrew and St. Joseph Bays Estuary  
Program

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