



Outdoor Families of New Jersey's Sedge Island Sampler

August 6, 2017
7:30 am to 5:30 pm



The Sedge Island Sampler is part of the NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife's "Outdoor Families of New Jersey" (O.F.N.J.) program. O.F.N.J. workshops are designed to provide **families** with a welcoming environment in which to learn outdoor skills. (For this workshop, children must be **age 12 or older**). These workshops are for you if you are a newcomer to the outdoors, an outdoor enthusiast who wants to learn new skills, or someone who wishes to network with other outdoor enthusiasts.

About the Workshop:

Participants will meet at 7:30 a.m. at Island Beach State Park in Seaside Park, NJ on August 6th to register and travel to Sedge Island by pontoon boat. All classes will begin and end on Sedge Island. You may choose **two** of the five activities offered, a morning session and an afternoon session. (See session descriptions on page 2.) All classes will be hand-on and include mucking about in the bay. All equipment will be provided for all sessions.

Workshop Fee:

\$20 per Adult. \$10 per Child (12 to 17 years of age). Fee includes transportation to and from Sedge Island, use of equipment and materials, and lunch.

Facilities:

The Sedge Island Natural Resource Education Center is a historic, renovated duck hunting lodge situated on an island, a mile offshore from Island Beach State Park, in Barnegat Bay. It is now used as a residential environmental education facility for the Division's Marine Education Program. There are facilities at the lodge that will help make the day comfortable – like a composting toilet and running water, screened-in porch, living room, dining room, dock, and sun deck. We will have lunch on the island but will be spending most of the day exploring the bay and islands in various ways. **There WILL be BUGS!** If you can't tolerate bugs, then this is not a workshop for you.

Registration:

Complete the registration form on page 3, make check or money order for \$20 per adult and \$10 per child payable the **NJOA-EP** (NJ Outdoor Alliance-Environmental Projects) and mail to: Michelle Smith, NJDEP Division of Fish & Wildlife, 1 Eldridge Road, Robbinsville, NJ 08691. Upon receipt of your registration and payment, you will be **e-mailed** a confirmation notice, directions, and a list of items you need to bring to be prepared. **Registration deadline is June 30, 2017** (provided space is still available). No registrations will be accepted after that date.

NOTE: Registration is **limited to 25 participants** and registrations are taken on a first-come, first-served basis.

Requirements:

All participants must be at least 12 years of age. Participants age 16 and older must register with the Saltwater Registry at: <http://www.nj.gov/dep/saltwaterregistry/index.html>.

Registration is free of charge.

Cancellation:

The deadline for cancellation is July 12, 2017. If you cancel before that date, you will receive a full refund. After that date, no refunds will be issued. You may send a substitute if you are unable to attend provided they complete the application form prior to the event.

Questions?

Contact Michelle Smith at Michelle.Smith@dep.nj.gov or (609) 259-6961.



Class Descriptions

Sedge Island Sampler for O.F.N.J.

A. Bay Fishing: Go small boat fishing in scenic Barnegat Bay. Participants will learn about tackle, bait, rods and reels, and fishing strategies as they cast their lines into the sparkling water of the Bay.

B. Crabbing & Clamming: Participants will try their hand at “catching” some of nature’s delicacies using hard lines, dip nets, crab traps and pots. Participants will also learn how to tread and rake for clams, using different types of equipment, read shellfisheries charts, locate beds, and discuss regulations. Be prepared to get wet & muddy!

C. Short Paddle: Participants will use 2-person, sit upon kayaks (no experience necessary, but physical conditioning is – you must be able to paddle at a fairly steady rate for ½ hour) to take a leisurely tour through the sedge islands. Plenty of stops will be taken to seine, and explore the flora and fauna of the islands.

D. Nature Journaling: Nature Journaling makes you a better observer, naturalist, and artist and opens a world of beauty and discovery. Learn how to keep your own nature journal and make the practice of nature journaling a part of your life. The activity combines nature exploration, sketching demonstrations, and time to explore the salt marsh and create your own work. Instruction on specific techniques will also help you develop drawing and writing skills to apply in the field.

E. Long Paddle: Participants will use 2-person, sit upon kayaks (no experience necessary, but physical conditioning is – you must be able to paddle at a fairly steady rate for ½ hour) to paddle through the salt marsh to Island Beach State Park. Time will be spent learning about the local flora and fauna as well as learning about beach morphology. This activity runs for **the entire day**, and if selected, you will not participate in a separate morning and afternoon session.



***Note:** A terrapin talk with hatchlings will be held during lunch, for interested participants who are not registered for the all-day Long Paddle session.

