

# Coastal Salt Marsh Symposium

## Protecting, Restoring & Monitoring Salt Marsh Change in Pleasant Bay & Beyond

**Monday, March 30, 2026**

**4:00 pm - 6:00 pm**

**Chatham Community Center  
702 Main Street, Chatham, MA**

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*Sponsored by*

**Pleasant Bay Alliance & Friends of Pleasant Bay**

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**The Pleasant Bay Alliance and Friends of Pleasant Bay** are pleased to invite you to the Coastal Salt Marsh Symposium, to be held at the Chatham Community Center on Monday, March 30 from 4:00PM - 6:00 PM. The event is free and open to all.

This workshop aims to demonstrate the link between scientific research and local action. By focusing on innovative approaches to salt marsh monitoring, restoration, and protection, we hope to show how research insights are directly informing local resource management decision-making.

Our **keynote speaker**, Sophia Fox, PhD, is a research scientist at the Cape Cod National Seashore, where she has focused much of her work on the Pleasant Bay estuary. Sophia will introduce how salt marsh ecosystems function, clarify the many risks and impacts that can result from degradation or loss of salt marshes, and present restoration priorities in Pleasant Bay.

### **Conference Focus & Goals**

Salt marsh health is impacted by many factors, including water quality, climate change, invasive species, and human disturbance. This program will focus on identifying solutions to address threats to salt marsh ecosystems.

The symposium will feature work in the Pleasant Bay estuary; however, the concepts may easily be applied to many other salt marsh systems.

### **Topics Include**

- **Opportunities to protect and restore salt marsh health in Pleasant Bay: Assessment methods and developing restoration priorities**
- **Restoration case studies and conservation techniques: Muddy Creek, Frost Fish Creek, Namequoit Bog restoration projects, and the Jackknife Harbor Beach Living Shoreline project**
- **Implementation toolbox: New state permitting guidelines and related initiatives supporting salt marsh restoration**

We look forward to your participation in advancing the resilience of our coastal marshes.

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Carole Ridley, Coordinator, Pleasant Bay Alliance

Sarah Griscom, PhD, Board & Science Committee Member, Friends of Pleasant Bay

Vince Grove, Board & Science Committee Member, Friends of Pleasant Bay