



MEDIA ADVISORY:
Virginia Eastern Shore Climate Equity Workshop to be Held Jan. 30

Eastern Shore residents and stakeholders are invited to attend the Virginia Climate Equity Kick-Off Workshop to be held at Eastern Shore Community College on January 30, 2023.

Local community leaders and representatives from the Environmental Resilience Institute at the University of Virginia seek insights and opinions from community members about the changing environment on the Eastern Shore. How can the community adapt to increased erosion, coastal flooding and saltwater infiltration into groundwater and farmlands?

The workshop, which publicly launches a new partnership between the University of Virginia and Eastern Shore residents (led by André Elliott, Karen Downing) will include interactive stations demonstrating current and future climate challenges on the Shore. Participants will be encouraged to provide their ideas for potential long-term strategies and equitable solutions.

“The opportunity to work with knowledgeable and caring community leaders to kick-off this project is exciting,” said Karen McGlathery, the project’s leader and Director of the Environmental Resilience Institute (ERI) at UVA. “The environment and the shoreline on the Eastern Shore are changing, with real consequences for everyone. Our goal is to work with community members to develop long-term solutions to climate change that are equitable. We look forward to the work we can do in collaboration with the residents and stakeholders on the Eastern Shore.”

“Residents of the Eastern Shore strive to be thoughtful stewards of the land and the environment at the coast,” said André Elliott, District Executive Director of Eastern Shore Family YMCA & Northampton County YMCA. “I know my community will offer impactful feedback and, working together, we can address challenges we’re facing due to the real impacts of climate change.”

This event is open to the public and will take place at Eastern Shore Community College (9300 Lankford Highway, Melfa, Va.) on Monday, January 30, 2023 at 3:00 pm. [Registration is available online](#) and lunch is provided for attendees.

Additional partner organizations include UVA’s Equity Center and Institute for Engagement and Negotiation, the Virginia Coastal Policy Center at W&M and ODU’s Coastal Resilience Center. This event is sponsored by the National Science Foundation (NSF) Coastlines and People (CoPe) program. The Environmental Resilience Institute at UVA is online at eri.virginia.edu.

Members of the media are invited to cover the launch of this new initiative. Interviews with André Elliott, Karen McGlathery, Cora Baird and other leaders are available upon request.

- What:** Virginia Eastern Shore Climate Equity Workshop
- When:** Monday, January 30, 2023
11:30 am. (Interviews will be available at 11:00 am.)
- Where:** Eastern Shore Community College
9300 Lankford Hwy, Melfa, Virginia

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