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Growing demand for local foods is putting more Connecticut seafood on menus, in markets

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Kelp carrot cake
Photo: Heidi Yeh



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Photo: Judy Preston



WHAT IS CONNECTICUT SEA GRANT?

With 332 miles of shoreline and three major tidal rivers, Connecticut is a state defined by the intersection of land and sea. Connecticut Sea Grant, one of 33 Sea Grant programs across the country, helps residents make the most of our coastal resources and inland waterways. It addresses the challenges that come with living by the water or within a Long Island Sound watershed. A NOAA-state partnership based at UConn's Avery Point campus, Connecticut Sea Grant works with aquaculture farmers, fishermen and seafood purveyors to help their businesses prosper. It funds research essential to understanding and managing our changing coastal and inland environments. It provides communities and local leaders with the information they need to make better land and shoreline decisions that result in more resilient communities and healthier watersheds. It educates students as well as teachers and adults of all ages about the marine environment. Connected to experts and residents who live, work and recreate in the Sound and its watershed, it brings diverse interests together around a common purpose of working for mutually beneficial solutions to problems. Small in staff but big in impact, Connecticut Sea Grant is like a pilot boat that navigates the way for large vessels toward safe harbors. Since 1988, Connecticut Sea Grant has supported "Science Serving the Connecticut Coast."