



A crab shell, feathers, seaweed and shells of slipper snails are seen in a closeup of the wrack line at the UConn Avery Point. Photo: Judy Benson

What's in our names?

What are wrack lines? The word wrack is a term for various kinds of seaweed, and wrack lines are the collections of organic matter (sea grass, shells, feathers, seaweed and other debris) that are deposited on shore by high tides. More generally, wrack lines are where the sea meets the land.

With our magazine *Wrack Lines*, we tell stories about the intersection of the land, sea and Connecticut Sea Grant. So what is Connecticut Sea Grant? One of 34 Sea Grant programs across the country, it 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 the Long Island Sound watershed, in a state with 332 miles of shoreline and three major tidal rivers. This NOAA-state partnership based at UConn's Avery Point campus works with aquaculture farmers, fishermen and seafood purveyors to help their businesses prosper.

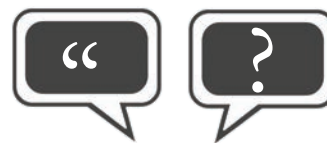
It funds research essential to understanding and managing our changing coastal and inland environments. It provides communities and local leaders with the information they need to make better land and shoreline decisions that result in more resilient communities and healthier watersheds. It educates 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."



José Carrion, senior at The Sound School in New Haven, checks out some of the concrete balls used to create artificial oyster reefs in the schools' harbor. Photo: Judy Benson



TALK TO US

Send comments and questions about this issue to: judy.benson@uconn.edu

We'll share as many as possible, along with our responses, at: seagrant.uconn.edu

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Juliana Barrett, coastal habitat specialist and UConn extension educator, looks out onto Little Narragansett Bay from the Dodge Paddock and Beal Preserve in Stonington, where she helped create a living shoreline. Photo: Judy Benson

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