



Hampton

CONVENTION & VISITOR BUREAU

MEDIA RELEASE

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ODU Professor Presents Latest Research and Strategies to Adapt to Sea Level Rise at Free Hampton History Museum Lunchtime Program on November 14

Hampton, Virginia- Emily E. Steinhilber, Assistant Research Professor, Commonwealth Center for Recurrent Flooding Resiliency at Old Dominion University will discuss how Hampton Roads communities are developing strategies to lessen the impact of sea level rise as part of the Hampton History Museum's free "Lunch in Time" event on Wednesday, November 14, Noon-1:00 p.m.

Hampton Roads is one of the most vulnerable regions to sea level rise in the nation, and the local economy and quality of life are closely tied to the area's waterways. Steinhilber will discuss the risks the region faces from a high rate of relative sea level rise and changing precipitation patterns. She will present new research and adaptation strategies being employed across the region.

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In an effort to live with the water, localities are thinking creatively. The City of Norfolk has adopted a new resilient zoning code, the city of Virginia Beach is nearing the completion of a comprehensive city-wide study, and Hampton is implementing its new resilience plan. At the same time researchers are using new technology to provide useful information to Hampton Roads residents. ODU researchers are collaborating with the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory to monitor subsidence at a localized level. Virginia Institute of Marine Science researchers are developing visualizations for water level forecasts and ODU researchers are using this model to analyze impacts to home values. ODU's innovation and entrepreneurship experts are also partnering with RISE, a new non-profit focused on developing our region's natural test bed and fostering growth in an emerging resilience industry cluster.

Emily Steinhilber

Emily Steinhilber is an Assistant Research Professor in the Office of Research at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia where, in addition to other resilience initiatives, she coordinates the ODU arm of the Commonwealth Center for Recurrent Flooding Resiliency, a partnership the Virginia Institute of Marine Science, William and Mary Law School's Virginia Coastal Policy Center, and ODU. Established by Virginia's General Assembly, the CCRFR launched in July of 2016 and provides coordinated and applied research and technical support for planners and decision makers in Virginia.

Previously, she served as the Assistant Director for Coastal Resilience Research at ODU and facilitated the Hampton Roads Sea Level Rise Preparedness and Resilience Intergovernmental Planning Pilot Project. The Pilot Project sought to develop a "whole of government" and "whole of community" approach to sea level rise preparedness and resilience in the region.

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Ms. Steinhilber was the Executive Director at the Virginia Coastal Coalition, a non-profit based in Virginia Beach, Virginia dedicated to creating a collaborative forum for a solutions-based approach to sea level rise planning and preparedness in Hampton Roads that focused leveraging the work of academia, non-profits, and government to create a dialogue within the business community. A member of the Virginia State Bar, Steinhilber is active within the Hampton Roads Community and serves on Virginia Beach's Green Ribbon Committee, as the co-chair of Lynnhaven River Now's LRNEXT board, and has previously served on WHRO's Emerging Leaders Board.

Hampton History Museum

The program is free and open to the public. Attendees are encouraged to bring a bag lunch. The museum will provide free dessert.

The Hampton History Museum is located at 120 Old Hampton Lane in Downtown Hampton. There is free parking in the garage across the street from the museum. For more information call 757/727-1102.

Partially bordered by the Hampton Roads harbor and Chesapeake Bay, Hampton, with the 344,000 sq. ft. Hampton Roads Convention Center and the award-winning Hampton Coliseum, is located in the center of Coastal Virginia and the Hampton Roads metropolitan area. Hampton is the site of America's first continuous English-speaking settlement, the site of the first arrival of Africans in English North America, and is home to such visitor attractions as the Virginia Air & Space Center, Fort Monroe National Monument, Hampton History Museum, harbor tours and cruises, Hampton University Museum, The American Theatre, among others.

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