

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Release Date: 6/9/08

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Celebrate the ocean at Coast Day, Oct. 5

The University of Delaware's Coast Day introduces thousands of people each year to the wonders of the sea and the importance of Delaware's marine and coastal resources.

Mark your calendars for Sunday, Oct. 5, when the event will take place from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., rain or shine, at UD's Hugh R. Sharp Campus in Lewes, Del. Admission and parking to Coast Day are free.

This year's theme, "Coastal Challenges — Coastal Solutions," will show visitors how UD researchers are tackling many of the region's and the world's toughest environmental issues. A special exhibit centered on this theme will demonstrate how guests can help solve coastal challenges in their everyday lives.

Coast Day guests will be able to tour ships, meet laboratory scientists who share their research, try many hands-on activities, and attend lectures. They'll also be able to access local chefs' seafood recipes through the 19th annual Crab Cake Cook-Off and vote for their favorite chowder in the annual Seafood Chowder Challenge.

Children can explore the events of the day by going on a treasure hunt that allows them to search for answers to questions about the environment and Coast Day exhibits. Children will especially love to take part in the crab races, where they can compete against marine scientists to see who has the best bait, as well as a magic show that teaches them all about chemistry.

The day also will include a special ceremony recognizing the 2008 Governor's Marine and Aquatic Science Teacher of the Year and the winners of the Fifth-Grade Student Essay Contest, which awards students and teachers who create coastal awareness throughout the state.

For more information about Coast Day, which is presented by UD's College of Marine and Earth Studies (CMES) and the Delaware Sea Grant College Program, visit www.ocean.udel.edu/coastday or call 302-831-8083.

To learn more about the Delaware Sea Grant College Program, visit www.deseagrant.org. For more about CMES, visit www.ocean.udel.edu.