

4-H TIDELANDS NATURE CENTER

A University of Georgia 4-H Program



15TH ANNUAL ART SALE

It is time for the annual 4-H Tideland Nature Center 'Art Inspired by Nature' Sale and Silent Auction! This year's event will take place in Jekyll Island's Historic District at the **Morgan Center** on



February 19th from 10:00am—4:00pm. Our art sale features coastal-themed art sold by local artists from Jekyll and St. Simon's Island as well as Glynn, Camden, and McIntosh counties. These artists present various items including paintings,

pottery, jewelry, metal sculptures, photographs, soaps, and more! Mark your calendars for February 19th so you don't miss these unique local treasures.

This event also features a Silent Auction! Many of our exhibitors will donate an item to our silent auction such as photos, books, or jewelry. Several local organizations will also donate items such as hotel accommodations, movie tickets, kayak tours, dolphin tours, restaurant gift certificates, and more! Stop by the silent auction booth to see what deals you can find. Proceeds from this auction help us to update the exhibits at 4-H Tideland Nature Center.

Lastly, this event will also feature a bake sale to benefit Tideland and the Glynn County 4-H Extension. Visit the young local 4-Hers and learn about some of their activities!



WINTER 2017

About us

4-H Tideland Nature Center offers hands-on marine science and environmental programs for the general public and educational groups. Meet a young loggerhead sea turtle, and sign up to explore the marsh, beach and maritime forest on a nature walk. Take a look at barrier island dynamics and the amazing organisms that are found along the beach. Rent a canoe or paddleboat and enjoy a relaxing day on the adjacent salt pond or sign up for one of our 3 hour, guided, Eco-Kayak tours through the salt marsh. Join us for our summer programs and participate in feeding our animals, making crafts, and learning about sea turtles, sharks, birds, crabs, insects, fish, and more!

<http://www.tidelands4h.org>

[Tidelands on Facebook](#)

Attention Artists! Call Tideland at 912-635-5032 for more information about exhibiting!

HURRICANE MATTHEW



This fall was very exciting with the visit of Hurricane Matthew. Thankfully Tidelands survived with minimal damage, and all of the staff and reptiles took a little field trip. In order to ensure the safety of our reptiles, we took all of them to the Fortson 4-H Center in Hampton, GA. They travelled in style in the van typically used for transporting our kayak guests. Once they arrived at Fortson, we were able to set up temporary homes for all the reptiles until we were able to safely return to Jekyll.



We weren't sure what to expect when we returned to Tidelands. Thankfully, the damage around the center was minimal. Rixen pond's water level rose a few feet, but stayed below the nature center's door. We had a little bit of yard work to do with all of the downed limbs, but only one thing we couldn't quite handle ourselves. One large tree near the pond came down that we needed assistance from the Jekyll Island Authority to remove. Sadly the tree that fell was a favorite perch for the Osprey who calls Rixen pond home. The Osprey still flies by the center, but it is a little harder to spot now. Even more upsetting was the damage done to our Oystergate. This artistic rendition of the Eastern Oyster as a keystone species was a wonderful picture of the oyster's place in a salt marsh ecosystem. We are currently working on a new way to showcase this keystone species relationship and to incorporate pieces of the Oystergate to other exhibits. The Oystergate was developed by artist Buddy Hale in cooperation with MAREX, the University of Georgia's Marine Extension Service. Moving forward, we are working to repair our dock since it's foundation shifted as the water rose. We quickly reopened for business and we are looking forward to visitors stopping by on their next trip to Jekyll Island!



CREATURE FEATURE: LOGGERHEAD HATCHLINGS

Introducing our new additions: Matthew and Nicole! These two survivors were stragglers that the Georgia Sea Turtle Center (GSTC) found when they excavated each of their nests. They were the only hatchlings left in the nests and most likely would not have survived if the GSTC did not rescue them. Since then, the Tidelands' staff has been taking good care of these young Loggerhead Sea Turtles. We got each of these hatchlings in August, however we could not decide on what to name them. After October though, Mother Nature seemed to offer two names for us. These two hatchlings survived the field trip to the Fortson 4-H Center and are still going strong. Because of this we decided to name them after Hurricane Matthew and Tropical Storm Nicole. We look forward to caring for these Loggerheads until they are large enough to release. One hatchling will stay here at Tidelands while the other will venture over to the new Camp Jekyll facility where the 4-H staff will care for it.

MATTHEW

Hatched July 27th, 2016. Mother's name is Gibbous who laid 5 nests in 2016, producing 342 hatchlings.



NICOLE

Hatched August 10th, 2016. Mother's name is Hikari which means light in Japanese. Hikari laid 3 nests on Jekyll in 2016, producing 296 eggs.

Take the chance to see a sea turtle, dolphin, bald eagle, and other wildlife on one of our kayak tours! We offer our guided kayak tours year-round and the winter, while chilly, is a beautiful time on the water.

BUY ONE GET ONE 50% OFF

For January through March ONLY, buy one kayak tour at regular price and get one at half price! Valid on 2 or 3 hour guided kayak tours at 4-H Tidelands Nature Center. Tandem and single kayaks available. Discount taken from boat of lower cost. Present this coupon to a Tidelands staff member to receive discount. RESERVATIONS NECESSARY. Please call 912-635-5032 to book your trip.

STAFF UPDATE

We've got a few new faces at Tidelands these days. Stop by and say hello to our new staff!

MEGAN

(and Suzie)



Megan started this June and was a huge help with our summer programs. She's also a guide on Cumberland.

Rachel started this September. She has been learning our programs and how to care for the animals. She is also a student at CCGA.



RACHEL
(and Matthew)

CORINNE

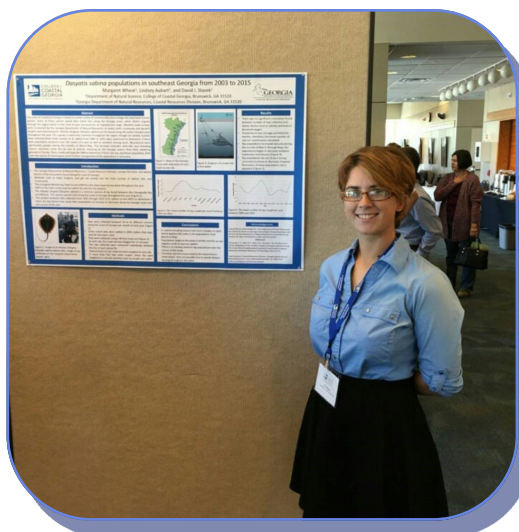
(and Jadie)



Corinne is our new Program Specialist. She started as a volunteer at Tidelands in September 2014.

TIDELANDS STAFF IN THE COMMUNITY

Many of our staff members have connections to the Golden Isles community. One of the largest connections is with the College of Coastal Georgia (CCGA) in Brunswick. This College is a part of the University System of Georgia and offers Associate and Bachelors degrees. Two of our current staff attend the college, Kit Wheat (pictured here) and Rachel Brand. Another staff member, John Mahas, just graduated in December. We are extremely lucky to have CCGA so close by. The students who work at Tidelands are invaluable. We are happy to offer them real-world experience to coincide with their degree. Their classes and research often directly relate to the ecosystems that we exhibit. For example, Kit, Rachel, and John all presented



their research projects at the 2nd Annual Coastal Ecology Symposium at the College. Kit's research project focused on Atlantic Stingray populations in the area. She conducted this research on trawl surveys with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources. Rachel's research related to safe seafood consumption. She worked with the director of the GA Department of Public Health's Chemical Hazards Program to create educational materials for the public about the potential chemicals in local fish. Finally, John examined ant depredation on Loggerhead Sea Turtle nests on Jekyll Island. He worked with the Georgia Sea Turtle Center. Visit us and ask them about what they learned!

TIDELANDS WORD SEARCH

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A	T	O	T	E	R	A	R	E	L	D	D	I	F	Z
S	M	R	M	R	K	T	W	H	I	B	A	R	Z	N
U	U	U	A	E	Y	V	H	L	G	A	V	H	W	H
T	O	P	V	O	N	J	E	F	A	K	H	S	Z	B
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K	R	N	B	N	F	O	B	F	G	N	I	C	R	E
X	D	M	B	J	R	O	H	S	S	M	M	M	Q	B

Can you find these words
in the grid?

ALLIGATOR
ANEMONE
FIDDLER
OSPREY
OYSTER
SHRIMP
SNAKE
TERRAPIN
TURTLE
WHELK

CONTACT US

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4-H Tidelands Nature Center offers educational programs through nature walks, kayak tours, and coastal ecology programs. The public is invited to visit the Tidelands live exhibit area, featuring coastal species including sea turtles, fish, touch tanks, horseshoe crabs, snakes, alligators, and more! Tidelands is open Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Admission price: \$5.00 per person. For more information on nature walks, programs, kayak tours, etc. call Tidelands at 912-635-5032. Cash or check only, NO credit/debit.