



Roger Williams University
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Roger Williams University to Offer Practical Shellfish Farming Course

Non-credit course will teach shellfish farming basics to local residents

BRISTOL, R.I., 23 December 2012 – The Roger Williams University Center for Economic and Environmental Development today announced it is presently enrolling students to its non-credit course in Practical Shellfish Farming for the winter 2013 semester. This course will provide interested individuals the technical information needed to confidently undertake a small shellfish farming enterprise in Rhode Island and nearby areas of southern New England. All aspects of shellfish farming, from the broodstock to the market, will be covered over the fourteen-week course. Students will learn the basic principles of hatchery, nursery and grow-out operations; as well as risk management, siting and permitting, and business management.

Associate Professor and Aquaculture Extension Specialist, Dr. Dale Leavitt, will instruct the course which will be held in The Marine and Natural Sciences Building (Room TBD) on the Bristol, R.I. campus of Roger Williams University. The course will consist of a minimum of fourteen classes, which will be held on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. The class will commence on Jan. 8, 2013 and run through April 25, 2013, weather permitting. The fee for the entire course, including all handout materials, is \$125 per student. Students may attend classes on a drop-in basis at a rate of \$10 per evening session. Pre-registration is preferred by contacting Cheryl Francis at (401) 254-3110 or cfrancis@rwu.edu, or Dale Leavitt at dleavitt@rwu.edu.

Session topics and dates are as follows:

Date	Discussion Topics
8 Jan	Introductions and shellfish aquaculture overview
15 Jan	Shellfish Biology*
22 Jan	Site Selection & Monitoring
29 Jan	Shellfish Growout Systems I – Oysters*

5 Feb	Shellfish Growout Systems II – Quahogs & other Clams
12 Feb	Shellfish Growout Systems III – Scallops & Mussels
19 Feb	Shellfish Nursery Systems I
26 Feb	no class (National Shellfisheries Association meeting)
5 Mar	Shellfish Nursery Systems II
12 Mar	no class (RWU Spring Break)
19 Mar	Permitting and Regulations*
26 Mar	Risks to Growing Shellfish I – Predators*
2 Apr	Risks to Growing Shellfish II – Diseases*
9 Apr	Shellfish Business Management
18 Apr	Meet some local growers
25 Apr	Shellfish Hatchery Techniques (optional)

* Required classes to qualify for a RI Recreational Aquaculture Permit.