

## North Carolina Coastal Federation's Living Shoreline Program

North Carolina's 12,000 miles of estuarine shoreline provide some of the most productive habitats in the world for fish and shellfish. Unfortunately, the erosion of these shorelines is increasing because of rising sea levels, concentrated waves from boats, more extreme storms, and poorly planned development practices. By installing buffers using salt marsh, oyster reefs, and other natural materials, living shorelines control erosion while protecting the natural beauty and productivity of our estuaries.



## Why Living Shorelines?

The Federation maintains that the best way to deal with erosion is to plan for it, to build as far as possible from the water's edge and to retreat when the time comes. When that's not possible, the federation recommends using living shoreline stabilization methods that maintain the natural integrity of the marsh and successfully stabilize eroding shorelines. Living shorelines include an array of design options that do just that.

## North Carolina Coastal Federation's 2022 Cost Share Program

In 2022, our work to promote living shorelines is being advanced with \$2 million appropriation from N.C. General Assembly as well as other state and federal grants. Through a living shoreline cost share program, we will build over 3,000 feet of living shorelines on private properties.

**Interested in building a living shoreline on your estuarine shoreline property and/or participating in our 2022 cost share program?**

Residents and/or marine professionals from Brunswick, New Hanover, Pender or Onslow Counties may contact Tracy Skrabal at [tracys@nccoast.org](mailto:tracys@nccoast.org) to receive more information. You can also learn more about living shorelines at [www.nccoast.org/protect-the-coast/estuarine-shorelines/](http://www.nccoast.org/protect-the-coast/estuarine-shorelines/)