



North Carolina Marine Debris Symposium Final Agenda

Wednesday, October 11th

9 – 10 am Networking Cafe (*Be Waste-Free: Please Bring your Own Coffee Cup, Utensils and Water Bottle*)

10:00 am – 11 am **Keynote Speaker - Dr. Imari Walker-Franklin**

Dr. Imari Walker-Franklin is a research scientist at [Research Triangle Institute International](#).



In 2021, Imari completed her PhD at Duke University, investigating the release, transformation, and effects of polymer-associated chemicals within aquatic environments. In particular, her [dissertation](#) work in the Ferguson Lab Group focused on endocrine-disrupting chemicals like Bisphenol A (BPA) that are of concern to human health and the environment. Before Duke, Imari completed her Bachelor in Marine Science at the University of California, Berkeley. Alongside her work, Dr. Walker-Franklin uses her science communication-based [YouTube channel](#) to share information about plastic

pollution, microplastics, and chemicals associated with these consumer products. Dr. Walker-Franklin began a YouTube channel with the goal of introducing new concepts of environmental science and chemistry to the public as a way to improve scientific communication and outreach. Dr. Walker-Franklin is a co-author of [Plastics](#), from the MIT Press essential knowledge book series. This [book](#) is a comprehensive introduction to the plastic life cycle—the impacts on our lives, our future, and our planet—and the actions we can take. Dr. Walker-Franklin also serves on the advisory board for [Beyond Plastics](#).





11-Noon	Fractionation of Anthropogenic Particles (microplastics and microfibers) Along A 2,200-km Transect of Canadian Sediments - Contamination Discharge from Domestic Laundering Sam Athey, PhD, Plastic Ocean Project, UNC Science and Technology
Lunch is provided at the Duke Marine Lab Cafeteria (Vegan, Vegetarian, and Gluten-Free Options Available - Please specify food needs during registration).	
1:30 pm - 2:30 pm	Ocean Fest: An Ocean-Friendly Event How to plan for waste reduction at large-scale outdoor events. Jan Farmer, Ocean Friendly Director Ocean Fest, Surf City, NC Board Vice-President, Coastal Carolina Riverwatch
2:30 - 3:15 pm	Facility-Based Waste Reduction Policies and Procedures Going Green at the NC Aquariums: Ways to Implement Sustainability Actions Large and Small Shannon Kemp, Communications Director, PKS NC Aquarium
BREAK	
3:30 - 4:30 pm	Adopt a Drain Presentation Become a citizen scientist and help us monitor plastics in the local stormwater! Want to connect our citizen science Adopt-A-Drain program to your classroom? Download the DUML Water Quality Curriculum and AdoptADrain app . Liz DeMatta, PhD, Duke University, and Rachel Noble, PhD, UNC-IMS
4:30-5:00 pm	Plus Nature A New Economic Paradigm Shift Bolstering Economies that are nature-positive Bonnie Monteleone, Plastic Ocean Project
5:30-7:30 pm	Reception at the Vault - Downtown Beaufort - Poster Sessions and Participating Organization Tabling - Bring your displays, posters, or other materials to help your participating organization showcase your work that prevents or removes marine debris.



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Thursday, October 12th

- 10 am -10:30 am **Ban of Balloon Releases in the Topsail Island Area**
(30 minutes w/Q&A)
Debbie Wilson, Environmental Conservancy of Topsail
- 10:30-11:00 am **Poly Lactic Acid from 3D printers Meet Anemones and Barnacle Larva**
(30 minutes w/Q&A)
Emmie Rose, NCSSM / Dr. Daniel Rittschof, Nicholas School Duke University
- 11:15 - Noon **New protocol for investigating the presence and composition of Microplastics in the stomach contents of North Carolina marine predators**
(45 minutes with Q&A)
Sarah Smith and Zofia Cavalli, NC State's Center for Marine Science and Technology
- Lunch** is provided at the Duke Marine Lab Cafeteria (Vegan, Vegetarian, and Gluten-Free Options Available - Please specify food needs during registration).
- 1:30-2:00 pm** ***Mapping Micro-plastics***
Microplastic sampling while canoeing the Ikpikpuk River on the North Slope of Alaska.
John Gove, filmmaker/storyteller
- 2:00 - 4:00 pm** **Advocacy Workshop**
Learn how to advocate for local, state, and national policies that prevent, reduce, and remove marine debris.
Grady O'Brien, NC Conservation Network
- 4:00 - 5:00 pm,** **Removal Workshop**



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Abandoned and Derelict Vessels in North Carolina: Lessons Learned and Recommendations for the Future
Ted Wilgis, NC Coastal Federation

Friday, October 13th

- 8:30 - 9:45 am **Adopt a Drain Painting on Campus**
- 10:00 - 11:00 am **Microplastic distribution and characteristics across a large river basin**
 Insights from the Neuse River
 Barbara Doll, NC Sea Grant

Saturday, October 14th

Book Signing Event at Barnes and Noble in Jacksonville with Imari Walker-Franklin



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