



Cruise To Appledore Island This Spring

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DURHAM, N.H. -- Beat the summer rush! On Saturday, May 13, the UNH Marine Docent Program and the Shoals Marine Laboratory will lead a special early-season Discovery Cruise to explore Appledore Island.

The Shoals Discovery Cruise season usually begins in June, but this special trip has been added to provide a chance to visit Appledore early in the season. "This is a great opportunity to see the island as it wakes up from the winter," said Mark Wiley, director of the Docent Program. "The island will be very active with both wildlife and people getting ready for the summer ahead, and it will be exciting to see."

The cruise will leave from Portsmouth in the early morning. Experienced Docents will give a narrated tour of the Piscataqua River on the trip out to the island. After landing, participants will explore the island with the Docents, who will share information on Appledore's history and ecology. On the return trip participants will be rewarded with a view of the other islands that make up the historic Isles of Shoals. With luck, cruise participants may catch a glimpse of seals on Duck Island before returning to Portsmouth in the late afternoon.

The cost of the cruise is \$20 per person. For safety reasons, children under the age of 10 are not permitted. Please call the Docent Program at 603.749.1565 or email Mark Wiley (mark.wiley@unh.edu) to reserve your space for this special opportunity.

Discovery Cruises are sponsored by NH Sea Grant and UNH Cooperative Extension. The summer cruise schedule for both Shoals and Great Bay Discovery Cruises will be announced soon.