

Bangor Daily News

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Waterfront tax program to be discussed at meetings

ROCKPORT — The Samoset Resort will be the location for one of five informational meetings on the upcoming Working Waterfront Tax Program.

Sponsored by the Island Institute and Maine Sea Grant, the workshops will focus on the specifics of the new tax relief program and how it might apply to preserving working waterfronts. In addition, those attending will be provided with information about other options

available for preserving working waterfront infrastructure and access.

One such program, the Working Waterfront Access Pilot Program, recently awarded nearly \$1.5 million in public funds to prevent critical working waterfront properties from being converted to other uses and lost forever.

The meetings will bring together users with tax assessors, harbor masters, town managers and other officials with

the goal of improving successful applications for waterfront preservation.

Along with the Samoset meeting that will take place at 10:30 a.m. Friday, March 2, during the Maine Fishermen's Forum, additional meetings will take place at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 20, at Machias Savings Bank Community Room; 6 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 27, at Ellsworth Town Hall Auditorium; 6 p.m. Tuesday, March 6, at Parkwood Inn, Brunswick; and 6 p.m.

Tuesday, March 13, at Hampton Inn, Saco.

The meetings are made available through funds from the University of Maine Cooperative Extension and collaborations with the Maine Sea Grant Program, Island Institute, Maine Revenue Services, Maine State Planning Office, Coastal Enterprises Inc., and members of the Working Waterfront Coalition. Light refreshments will be available at each meeting.