Join us for these special guest speaker presentations...free with your admission.

**January 19, 2019 - Small fish, bug worms**
Megan Hahn and Christopher Briani, Stony Brook University. The world of creepy-crawlies parasites is just fascinating and they are all around us! Join us and meet local scientists to learn more about the parasites and microbiom found in local and distant fish.

**February 9, 2019 - You Are What You Eat: Pollution in the Marine Food Web**
Lisa Crawford, Stony Brook University. Everyone knows pollution is bad, but what happens when pollutants enter the ocean? Find out what happens to sharks, rays, and other marine critters when they are exposed to contaminants. Meet with a local marine biologist to learn about marine predators and the risks they face in the ocean.

**March 16, 2019 - Shellfish Farming on Long Island- From eggs to littlenecks- how clams are grown for food and restocking Long Island waters.**
Gregg Rivara, Cornell Cooperative Extension. See how hard clams (AKA littlenecks, cherrystones and chowders) are grown in a hatchery. We will have baby clams, their parents and the food they eat. Meet with scientists from Long Island and take a look at the tiny clams under a microscope and learn more about how the hard clam was once the largest fishery on Long Island.

**April 20, 2019 - Ocean Acidification: Seagrasses; A Last Hope**
Alysson Lowell, Stony Brook University. Ocean acidification is further exacerbated by coastal influences like nutrient loading and runoff. The result is an environment more vulnerable and more intense for coastal marine organisms. Both low oxygen and high acidity combine to generate organisms more physiologically stressed than their open ocean counterparts. Seagrasses may provide a refuge for marine organisms in this highly dynamic and changing world. Highly productive producing oxygen rich and comparatively more basic environments, seagrasses are more attuned to the changing oceans than many of their macrophytic counterparts.

**May 18, 2019 - A heart-to-heart with clams and crabs**
Nils Volkenbom, Stony Brook University. Watch the heartbeat of hard-shelled animals in real-time and learn why and how scientists use heartbeat rate measurements to study their life in the coastal ocean.

**June 22, 2019 - Dining with Parasites: What’s infecting our shellfish?**
Michelle Barbosa and Caroline Schwaner, Stony Brook University. Did you know clams and oysters can get sick just like you? Infection by parasites can be devastating for many shellfish species and shellfish growers. Meet with us to learn about the parasites infecting local shellfish and how scientists are working to diagnose and prevent disease spread.