Coastal Resiliency Walk

- B - 100 - 778

CREATED BY ACKLIMATE

JUNE 12, 2023

Mission



ACKlimate is a collaborative supporting innovative and holistic climate change strategies for the Nantucket community and beyond.

Our Members





What we do

ACKlimate is a public-private partnership of nearly 20 organizations supporting climate change adaptation, communication, collaboration, and coastal resiliency. The strength of ACKlimate rests in its Partners. While Partners operate independently, we strive towards common goals as a community. With our combined capabilities and efforts, ACKlimate takes bold and courageous actions that align with Nantucket values. Nantucket has been adapting to changing coastal conditions throughout its history, and the work we do will help inspire coastal communities everywhere.

ACKlimate coordinates partnerships between multiple and varied public and private entities on Nantucket. Together, these groups collaboratively work to educate and envision future climate resilience for Nantucket and its cultural and natural resources while responding to the threats of climate change.

Coastal Resilience Walk

This 1.5-mile tour from Brant Point to the Creeks explores Nantucket's past, present and future strategies for living with challenging, changing coastal conditions. Nantucket's history is one of coastal resilience: as early as 12,000 years ago, the first indigenous Wampanoag settlers were semi-nomadic based on seasonal weather and food availability; the first European town of Sherburne's harbor silted over and the majority of its citizens, businesses and houses moved to the Town of Nantucket's current location; floating drydock's called "camels" were invented to bring heavy whale-oil laden vessels over the sandbar at the entrance to Nantucket Harbor; and, finally, a bustling summer resort economy grew as the combined devastations of the Great Fires, the Civil War, the Gold Rush and the discovery of oil otherwise ravaged Nantucket's once prosperous whaling and fishing economies. All the while, erosion and accretion, severe storms, shipwrecks, flooding and other coastal risks challenged Nantucketer's. Climate change and rising seas will worsen and exacerbate these existing coastal risks, but Nantucket has a history of navigating challenging coastal landscapes, an ambitious and forward-thinking plan of action (CRP) and some of the most proactive and well-connected communities and non-profits in the world.

As we look backwards to inspire a better future, we learn that resilience on Nantucket goes well beyond risk-reduction and security improvements to include numerous opportunities that embody the island's unique history and characteristics, support healthy coastal and ecological resources, and bolster our thriving communities.

Coastalresiliencewalk.org

