

Call for Sessions  
Sea Grant Week 2024  
August 18-22, 2024  
Savannah, Georgia

Planning is well underway for Sea Grant Week 2024 and we are looking forward to seeing everyone in Savannah the week of August 18th!

The Program Committee is developing an agenda with the broad theme of inclusive and innovative community engagement. We are particularly interested in showcasing initiatives that emphasize Sea Grant's ability to effectively interweave research, extension and education to accomplish this goal.

Examples of potential session topics could include, but not be limited to:

- New methods, best practices and/or lessons learned from engaging various community groups
- Emerging issues and associated opportunities and challenges for Sea Grant
- Strategies for working effectively and responsibly with underserved/underrepresented audiences
- External and/or internal capacity building to respond to emerging issues and opportunities or network Professional Development priorities

Given that Sea Grant Week allows our different networks to physically come together, we want to leverage this unique opportunity and prioritize proposals that facilitate in-person interdisciplinary conversations, participant engagement, and networking versus passive learning.

In an effort to minimize costs, AV support and Internet connections will be limited to select locations. **Virtual participation in SGW sessions is strongly discouraged and any requests for remote presentations or internet access must be made during this submission process.** Requests for AV support will not be considered if this request is not made with the submission.

Sessions can be 1.5 hours or 3 hours in length, and each session should target between 30-60 attendees. We will limit the number of sessions offered to make sure that all sessions are well-attended and impactful. Proposals should consider the following criteria:

- 1) Appeal to a wide audience within the Sea Grant network.
- 2) Promote in-person exchange of ideas to evaluate and enhance on-the-ground efforts;
- 3) Connect with colleagues for valuable discussions of lessons learned in the field;
- 4) Encourage new skills and techniques for improving program effectiveness;

Please take some time to think about sessions that would be most beneficial to your program, staff, and the attendees of Sea Grant Week 2024. We hope these meetings be of interest to all

career stages. Sessions can be set up as a panel discussion with participant activities, hands-on workshop, break out groups, or any other in-person interactive format that you think will make the best use of participants' time.

If your session only appeals to one of the functional networks (e.g., only relevant to research coordinators), we recommend including it in the agenda for the network meetings on Monday, August 19th.

The Program Committee will evaluate all session proposal submissions on the following criteria.

- 1) **Topic and relevancy:** Are there other sessions addressing the same topic?
- 2) **Audience:** Will this session appeal to multiple functional networks (e.g., *Extension Assembly, Communicators, Fiscal, Educators, Research Coordinators, Legal*)? Is it interdisciplinary?
- 3) **Format:** Is it interactive and best-suited for an in-person meeting or could it be achieved through a future webinar or other virtual setting?
- 4) **Expected outcomes and/or products:** What will people walk away with from this session?
- 5) **Repetition:** Has this session been offered at prior Sea Grant weeks? If yes, is there strong evidence that it should be offered again?

### **SESSION PROPOSAL SUBMISSION DEADLINE:**

A completed session proposal form must be received by 11:59pm EST Thursday, April 4, 2024.

You will be notified of session acceptance by May 10, 2024

Please use this [link](#) to submit your session proposal.

### **The session proposal submission form includes:**

Session title, session leader(s), session description 1-2 paragraph description of the session (short abstract; max 250 words), intended audience(s) (e.g., researchers, communicators, etc.), session format, specific outcomes/products, desired session length (1.5 or 3 hours), and whether A/V and/or Internet Support will be needed.