

**You are cordially invited to
The City of St. Marys
Sea Grant Town Hall**

Event Date: *Wednesday, March 19, 2014, 6:30 pm*

Location: *City of St Marys (Theater By The Trax, 1000 Osborne St.)*

St. Marys residents and municipal leaders are invited to learn about the development of a flood resiliency plan for St. Marys and share feedback on issues related to flooding, sea level rise and storm surges at a Sea Grant Town Hall.

The public meeting will include summaries of the plan by researchers from Georgia Sea Grant, the Carl Vinson Institute of Government and Marine Extension, public service and outreach units at the University of Georgia. Experts from North Carolina Sea Grant will provide information on the process that the project will follow.

Participants will have the opportunity to ask questions, provide input on the plan's development, and make comments.

Speakers at the meeting will include Chuck Hopkinson, Director of Georgia Sea Grant; Kelly Spratt, Local Outreach Coordinator for Georgia Sea Grant and UGA Marine Extension, and Jessica Whitehead, Coastal Communities Hazards Adaptation Specialist from North Carolina Sea Grant.

In 2013, St. Marys was selected through a nationwide grant competition as one of five locations in the United States to undergo community resilience and adaptation planning. Funded by National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Sea Grant Program, the findings will be shared with other coastal communities in Georgia, North Carolina and nationwide throughout the Sea Grant network. Additional project partners include the Lamar Dodd School of Art and the College of Environment and Design, both housed at the University of Georgia.

Researchers and extension specialists intend to tailor a plan with recommendations linked to the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Community Rating System program, focusing on the implementation of effective adaptation actions that may provide local residents flood insurance rate reductions.

(This event is hosted by The St. Marys EarthKeepers, Inc.)