



# MARINE MACROALGAE: ECOLOGY, DISTRIBUTION, AND IMPORTANCE



2025 EAGLE HILL  
NATURAL HISTORY  
SCIENCE SEMINARS  
ON THE COAST OF  
EASTERN MAINE

**Instructors: Dr. Amanda Savoie & Jordan Chalfant**  
**When: June 15-21, 2025**

This seminar is designed to be an introduction to phycology (the study of algae), and is suitable for anyone who is keen to learn more about marine macroalgae on the coast of Maine. A general introduction to the algae will be presented with a focus on the three main groups of marine macroalgae (green, brown and red algae), as well as topics such as ecology, evolution, identification and taxonomy. The importance of marine macroalgae to the coastal environment as well as human uses (including edible seaweeds) will also be discussed. This seminar will be a mix of lectures, fieldwork and laboratory time. During the course, students will collect and identify specimens, and learn how to prepare a personal herbarium of seaweed collections. There will be a focus on identification of seaweeds using traditional books and keys, and discussion of common difficulties encountered. The high tidal ranges found along the coast of Maine contribute to a dynamic and productive coastal environment, and field work will take place around low tide most days in order to take advantage of the extensive intertidal zone exposed as the water recedes.



[GENERAL INFO](#)

[CALENDAR](#)

[APPLY](#)



## about the instructors

**Dr. Amanda Savoie** (asavoie@nature.ca) is a research scientist and phycologist at the Canadian Museum of Nature in Ottawa, Canada, as well as head of the Museum's Botany Section. Amanda studies biodiversity and biogeography of marine macroalgae in Canada, and uses molecular and traditional techniques to investigate taxonomically difficult species of red algae. As a native of Atlantic Canada, she is most familiar with (and fond of) the amazing seaweeds of the northeast coast.

**Jordan Chalfant** (jordan@mainenaturalhistory.org) is an ecologist at Maine Natural History Observatory. She is studying seaweed biodiversity and co-authoring an upcoming field guide to the seaweeds of Maine. Jordan also enjoys making pressed seaweed art.