

***** FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE *****

Delmarva Charter Boat Operators Workshop Scheduled for March 20, 2008 on Tilghman Island, Maryland

The 6th Delmarva Charter Boat Operators Workshop will be held on Thursday, March 20 Tilghman Island, Maryland. The one-day program will run from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Harrison's Chesapeake House, 21551 Chesapeake House Drive, Tilghman Island.

Organized jointly by the Sea Grant programs at the University of Maryland and the University of Delaware, the workshop will focus on business management, marketing, safety, and fishery resource issues pertaining to the charter and head boat industry and also to eco-tourism based charter businesses.

"We encourage all charter captains and business owners to attend, as well as those individuals interested in entering the charter industry," says John Ewart, aquaculture and fisheries specialist with the Delaware Sea Grant Marine Advisory Service. "The workshop will provide a great opportunity for boat owners to come together to learn about improving the management of their businesses and to discuss mutual issues and challenges."

The day long workshop will offer a variety of presentations representing important topics for the charter boat operator including legal issues, business management, marketing, customer relations, and insurance needs. Program topics will also focus on current Coast Guard issues, seafood handling safety and sport fish species management.

Seminar speakers are regional leaders in their respective fields. This is a great opportunity to participate in a program dedicated to helping the charter boat operator deal with current and anticipated challenges in small business management. Attendance will be held to 50 participants and available seating is expected to fill quickly, so advanced registration is strongly encouraged.

Registration for the workshop, which includes a continental breakfast, lunch and resource materials, is \$40 per person. On-site registration will be limited and the registration fee will increase to \$50. Overnight accommodations (\$65.00 for workshop attendees) are available at Harrison's Chesapeake House www.chesapeakehouse.com/. Please call 410-886-2121 for reservations.

To register, make your check payable to "University of Delaware," and mail it to Rita Baty, University of Delaware Sea Grant Program, 700 Pilottown Road, Lewes, DE 19958-1507 ATTN: Charter Boat Workshop. The registration deadline is Thursday, March 13.

For additional information about the program agenda, contact John Ewart at (302) 645-4060 or ewart@udel.edu or visit the workshop Web site darc.cms.udel.edu/charterboat/cbw08.html.