

Hull Lifesaving Museum Summer Maritime Explorers'
Program Outline and Details
2026

There has never been a program like this on the South Shore. Don't miss this opportunity to get out on the water and experience summer like nobody has before!

Overview:

- The HLM Summer Explorer program is for youths 12 -16.
- Participants meet on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday of each week at the boathouse.
- Hours are from 9:00 – 12:30 pm
- Youths can sign up for any number of weeks.



Instructions for parents and youths:

What to bring:

- School type backpack
- Proper clothing for anticipated weather
- Water shoes / sneakers
- Sun screen
- Water bottle
- Snacks
- Hat with visor
- Sun glasses (recommended)
- PFD if you prefer your own and it is USCG approved, otherwise HLM has loaners

What HLM provides:

- HLM water proof ditty bag for personal phone, note / sketch book and mechanical pencil
- Sketch / field note / watercolor pad
- Mechanical pencil
- All boats and marine gear to conduct the program including Loaner PFD

Every Week will include:

- The first week will have an in-depth safety, rowing procedures session. Each successive week will have a safety refresher plus a break out session for first timers.
- Youths to create weekly social media posting on Hull Lifesaving Museum Facebook and Instagram accounts
- The last water activity each week will be a 1.3-mile timed Kessel Run which will be posted on a leader board. (Kessel Run is a Star Wars reference. For us it will be a timed run from the commuter boat dock to the Outer Seal rock mark and back)
- The last land activity each week will be a debriefing and feedback session, parents welcome (15 min)

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Week 1: July 7-9 - Rowing Adventures - Introduction to Open Water Rowing and General Boating Safety

Includes onshore and on-the-water instruction of the rudiments of learning to row. Then there will be local voyages along the Hull shoreline.

Week 2: July 14-16 - Marine Life and Ecology

Studying harbor charts, water quality testing, observing marine life including sea birds, beach clean-up, and daily rows.

Week 3: July 21-23 - Basic Powerboat Operation

Launch and retrieve boats from a trailer, learn powerboat procedures and rules of the road along with Captain's responsibilities and daily rows. There will be hands on power boat operation under the direct onboard supervision of a licensed captain.

Week 4: July 28-30 - Island Exploration

Row to Peddocks Island, tour Fort Andrews, hike to Portuguese Cove and the summer cottages, observe flora and fauna of the island. Peddocks Island is only a stones throw from Hull; but, is a world apart in the experiences it offers.

Week 5: Aug 4-6 - Art on the Harbor

Discuss aspects of plein air art, learn rule of thirds, perspective, etc. Use various media, i.e., watercolors, sketches, photography, found objects, to create art inspired by our surroundings, and daily rows. We all have a creative artist inside of us. This program will help let the artist out!

Week 6: Aug 11-13 - Boat Construction and Maintenance

Craft paper model boats, examine construction of various types of boats, tour nearby marinas, and daily rows. One highlight will be an excursion to Port Allerton Coast Guard station to examine their operation and their rescue boats.

Week 7: Aug 18-20 - Coastal Piloting

Plan route to circumnavigate Peddocks Island using chart, compass, and binoculars, etc. Review safety protocols and procedures. Track course and evaluate row after completion. This is a great confidence builder for young mariners.

This program is supported in part by a grant from the Hull Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

