Catch the King starts third year of flood tracking

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(Aug. 26, 2019) Catch the King, a Guinness Book holder as the world's largest environmental survey, kicks off year 3 of its innovative tide-monitoring project this week with a series of flood mappings and training events.

Volunteers in Hampton, Norfolk and Virginia Beach will lead tide-tracking events along waterways that are increasingly flooded at high tide because of sea level rise. Forecasts call for higher-than-average tides this week, based on the lunar cycle.

Catch the King began in 2017, and in its first two years more than 1,100 Hampton Roads residents have participated as volunteer citizen-scientists, using the Sea Level Rise app on their phones to track flooding tides. Their data improve flood forecasts.

This year's event is scheduled for Sunday Oct 27, but volunteers are encourage to track high tides at any time and may sign up to participate at www.whro.org/kingtide. WHRO Public Media is a Catch the King partner, along with Wetlands Watch, Concursive Corp. and the Virginia Institute of Marine Science. Catch the King's crown sponsor is Hampton Roads Sanitation District. Additional support comes from AECOM.

Details for this week's scheduled trainings/tide mappings:

*9 a.m. Friday Aug. 30, Chrysler Museum side of The Hague, Norfolk.

**10 a.m. Saturday Aug. 31, Hampton (exact location to be announced).

***10:30 a.m. Sunday Sept. 1, Lesner Bridge, Virginia Beach (at the public boardwalk under the bridge).

At each location, volunteers will explain Catch the King and demonstrate the Sea Level Rise app while measuring a higher-than average (and possible flooding) tide.