Long Island Sound is an estuary of national significance and home to an aquaculture industry valued at over $30 million.

The tour will begin at the Harkness Memorial Park. The park is a historic preservation area with a botanical garden and recreational features located on Long Island Sound in the town of Waterford, Connecticut. The state park's 304 acres center around Eolia, a 42-room Renaissance Revival mansion with formal gardens and greenhouses.

Boxed lunch at the park and visit to the burning management plots at Niering Preserve. The DEEP conducts controlled burns in the park in an effort to maintain fields and native grasses while providing habitat for grassland birds.

The tour will continue with a Presentation on Subaqueous Soils at a marshy area of the park, with a GPR demonstration.

The bus will then head over to the Thames River in Groton, ending with a Boat tour and presentation of shellfish restoration sites.