

Make the Turn!



Next time you are on the road to the Cedar Island ferry and you see the sign pointing to Harkers Island, make the turn! At “the end of the road” you will be find the Core Sound Waterfowl Museum & Heritage Center. Core Sound houses a unique collection of decoys and artifacts related to the culture and history of the area. Visitors are sure to enjoy wandering through the museum and taking in the incredible view of Cape Look-out.

Located Down East on Harkers Island, the Core Sound Waterfowl Museum suffered devastating damage to their building during hurricane Florence, resulting in a long term closure extended further by the COVID pandemic. Left with no other choice, the staff of Core Sound packed their entire collection into boxes and sent them to storage facilities across the state. However this story has a happy ending. Resilient to the last, the dedicated staff at Core Sound braved the storm both literally and figuratively. Painstakingly, they went through the process of rebuilding their museum and after a monumental effort, the time came to regather their collection scattered across the state and at long last return each item to its proper place at the museum. Core Sound Waterfowl Museum & Heritage Center stands today with a staff who personifies their mission statement:

“To establish a facility that will enhance the community, state and region by creating a resource which brings together the historical, cultural, artistic, environmental, and educational elements needed to preserve the rich waterfowl heritage of eastern North Carolina associated with the Core Sound area.”



Wood Duck, Doc and Faye Patterson of Beaufort, NC, 1994, Elizabeth Arrington Collection, Core Sound Waterfowl Museum & Heritage Center,

Harkers Island, NC
Photo Credit: Gordon Allen

