



# WEEKAPAUG INN

WEEKAPAUG, RHODE ISLAND

## **THE WEEKAPAUG INN, OPENING IN OCTOBER 2012,**

### **APPOINTS LOCAL AS RESIDENT NATURALIST**

**WEEKAPAUG, RI, September, 2012** – Mark Bullinger has been named Resident Naturalist and Director of Recreation for the Weekapaug Inn, the 31-room historic inn that is set to reopen in October 2012 after a \$20 million transformation.

“We are very excited to welcome Mark to the Weekapaug Inn,” said Innkeeper, Antonia Korosec. “His knowledge of the Weekapaug area and his passion for the environment make him the ideal person to encourage and enable our guests to make the most of the amazing surroundings.”

Bullinger grew up in the Weekapaug community, digging clams, catching crabs and spending hundreds of hours fishing in the local waters. For the past five years he has been the executive director of the Salt Ponds Coalition, a local non-profit group that is the official watershed council for the salt ponds region. As such, he has been heavily involved in coastal environmental work ranging from water quality sampling and habitat restoration to recreation and education. Bullinger will be leaving this post to join the Inn, but will remain on the board of the organization.

“I’m so excited about this opportunity to join the Inn”, says Bullinger. “I worked here for two summers in my youth and now I’m coming back, with years of experience and a whole different set of skills.”

As Resident Naturalist and Director of Recreation, Bullinger will be a visible presence at the Inn, both leading and arranging organized activities or helping guests create their own exploration plan. From providing guidance for identifying the variety of birds that frequent the pond, to assisting in plotting a fishing trip, guests at the Weekapaug Inn will have the opportunity to fully enjoy the natural riches of this beautiful location. Regular scheduled talks delivered by Bullinger and other environmental experts will be a staple at the Inn. Group tours and chartered trips on land and sea will be planned throughout the year.

While, historically, the Inn has been thought of as a summer retreat, Bullinger is excited to show guests the beauty to be found here all year long. From the monarch migration in the fall, to fly-tying classes and star-gazing in the winter, and kayak paddles to observe coastal wildlife and geology in the spring, it is Bullinger's hope to provide every guest a fun and memorable experience.

The Weekapaug Inn is a partnership between Lang Wheeler and Chuck Royce and is the sister property of the Ocean House. "We recognize and embrace the vibrant traditions and sense of community in Weekapaug and hope to make the Inn a gathering place for locals and guests from around the world", said Mr. Wheeler.

Nightly rates at the Weekapaug Inn will start at \$550 during the summer and off-season rooms from \$225. For additional information on the Weekapaug Inn, please visit [www.weekapauginn.com](http://www.weekapauginn.com).

### **About The Weekapaug Inn**

*The Weekapaug Inn, one New England's last great family resorts, will re-open its doors in October 2012. Originally built in 1899, the Inn is located in the peaceful community of Weekapaug, Rhode Island. Guest will enjoy sweeping views of Quonochontaug Pond, and the Atlantic just beyond, from the Inn's 27 guest rooms and four two-bedroom Signature Suites. Amenities include farm-to-table fine and casual dining, a fitness center and outdoor pool, indoor and outdoor boutique event and meeting space, and access to a private community beach. Managed by Ocean House Management LLC, and decorated by Nancy Taylor Designs, the*

*Weekapaug Inn will be ideal for business retreats, family vacations and weekend escapes. For more information, please visit [www.weekapauginn.com](http://www.weekapauginn.com).*

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