



Catch the King (CTK) 2023: How-To Guide

Note: A photo-based PDF of this training guide is available to download at wetlandswatch.org/faqs

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I. Register for the Sea Level Rise App

1. **Download the ‘Sea Level Rise’ app** from the Apple or Google Play stores. Look for an app with the droplet icon pictured to the right → 
2. Once downloaded, **open the app**. On the log-in page, **tap ‘Sign-Up’** at the bottom of the screen, and fill out the form that appears.
3. **Check the inbox** of the email you used to register for the app for a verification email from ‘Sea Rising Solutions’. If you do not see an email in your inbox, **check your spam folder**. You will not be able to sign-in until you click the verification link in this email.
4. Return to the **log-in screen** of the Sea Level Rise app. Input your email address and password, and tap **‘Log-In’**.
5. **If you have registered for the app in the past**, please check the App Store or Google Play for any updates and download them. Once updated, log-in to the app with your credentials.

II. Register for Catch the King 2023

1. Visit wetlandswatch.org/catchtheking.
2. Click the **‘CTK 2023 Registration’ button** at the top of the page, and **fill out the Google Form** that opens.
3. **Hang tight!** A tide captain in the mapping region you listed will be in contact with you soon. If you indicated that you will not be meeting up with an existing mapping team before the event, or you are planning to map a private area, please **carefully** follow the



instructions below to make sure your data is collected in the right place! The event coordinator, Gabi Kinney (gabi.kinney@wetlandswatch.org), will be in touch with you to make sure you are in the right place.

III. Finding Your Official ‘Catch the King’ Region

1. In the Sea Level Rise app, **tap the ‘Discover’ tab** at the bottom. Allow the map to zoom-in to your location for a moment before exploring the screen. **Select the ‘Official’ filter** in the top left corner of the map if it is not already (it should be **blue** when on). This will populate the map with official Catch the King regions for you to join.
2. Zoom out by pinching your thumbs together on the screen. **Find the green pin** closest to you on the map, and tap it. A small white text box with the region name will appear. **Tap the text box, and then tap ‘Join’** on the page that appears. If this is not the region you plan to map in for Catch the King, explore the map to find the region most applicable to you. Please be aware that pins may take some time to load! If at any time the Discover map is not working, refresh the app and try again.
 - a. Note: You must be approved to an official Catch the King region, which can take up to a day. Our tide captains manage these approvals to make sure they can connect with new participants, so please be patient! You will receive an email from Sea Rising Solutions when you have been approved to your selected region.
3. Once you receive an approval email from Sea Rising Solutions, **open your app and refresh the ‘My Regions’ tab**. The region you joined should now appear at the top. You can be sure you have joined an official Catch the King region if it includes 'CTK' in the title and a profile picture of our CTK crown, pictured here. 
4. Note: **Do not tap the ‘+’ button** on the Discover Tab unless you would like to create your own region. It is more than likely that an official Catch the King region exists for your mapping area. Please reach out to Gabi Kinney (gabi.kinney@wetlandswatch.org) if you are unsure whether you should create your own region.
5. You can utilize the **‘Messages’ tab** at the top of the region page you joined to communicate with fellow mappers in your region. This is a good place to **ask questions, coordinate a meet-up time, and discuss forming a high tide mapping event** outside of Catch the King.

IV. Join an Official ‘Catch the King’ Event

Note: You must join the official ‘2023 CTK [Your Region]’ event inside the region you joined in the last step in order to collect data for Catch the King. Other events in the region are set up by

tide captains for practice, training, and other high tide events. Think of it like joining a Facebook group, then RSVPing for an event in that group!

1. In the app, **tap the region you joined that appears on your 'My Regions' tab**. Then, tap the **'Mappings'** tab at the top of the screen.
2. **Tap the event labeled '2023 CTK [Your Region]'** (e.g. '2023 CTK Norfolk') **and then tap 'Join'** in the top right-hand corner. You should be approved immediately.
3. Mapping events will be visible on the 'Tools' tab under the drop-down menu **during their scheduled time only**. Events will not appear in this menu outside of the scheduled time.
4. You can utilize the **'Updates' tab** at the top of the event page to message fellow mappers about that particular event.

V. Collecting Data on 'Catch the King' Day!

1. **Use the app to connect with fellow volunteers and Tide Captains.** Navigate into a region from the **'My Regions'** tab and use the **'Messages'** tab at the top to connect with mappers in your region. Or, navigate into a specific event you joined under the **'Mappings'** tab and select **'Updates'** to message fellow volunteers of a particular event. Tap the **blue icon** in the bottom right of either tab to share an update or question about your mapping.
2. **Decide on a mapping location.** Check with your tide captain first about locations; if you are not mapping with a team, consider these options:
 - a. Find a location under "Where should I map?" at wetlandswatch.org/app-faqs
 - b. A local park or boat ramp
 - c. City storm drains
 - d. Neighborhood creeks
 - e. Your private shoreline property
 - f. Any other safe and publicly accessible flood-prone area.

Please do not trespass on private property to complete a mapping unless you have explicit permission from the property owner. Ensure that the site you are mapping is public and/or you have permission to map there.

3. **Decide when to map** by referencing local tide charts to find the high tide time in your area. You can follow [these instructions](#) or visit the 'When should I map?' section of our FAQ website (wetlandswatch.org/app-faqs).

4. **Open the app and tap the 'Tools' tab** in the bottom right corner. From the **drop-down menu** that appears in the middle of the screen, **select the '2023 CTK [Your Region]' event** you joined.
5. **Check that your GPS signal is at least 70%.** Data you collect with a signal below 70% could increase variability in the accuracy of your data.
6. **Find a safe spot along the flood water line to begin mapping.** Tread carefully as you walk along the water's edge and **tap the 'Drop Pin' button every five steps.**
7. **If you are having trouble** with GPS signal or with mapping in general, you can still contribute as a community scientist! Take photos of your flood site, record the location, and take any notes that may be helpful for others to know (Where is the water coming from? How deep is it?). You can also record this information on the **'Trouble Spots'** tab of the app. Send all data collected outside of the Sea Level Rise app to gabi.kinney@wetlandswatch.org with details about when and where they were collected, and how it is impacting the surrounding area (if possible).
8. When you have finished mapping, we encourage you to **add a note** about the location you mapped (anything that looks out of place or noteworthy, where the flooding is coming from, or just a general description of the site). You are also encouraged to **capture a photo** of the site, which may be featured in our social media outreach, appreciation event, or other related materials. When you're all done, select **Exit Pin Mapping** at the bottom. Nice work!

General Notes

The '2023 CTK [Your Region]' event that you join will not appear in the drop-down menu of your Tools tab until the event starts. If you'd like to practice mapping ahead of time, please follow section III with the following modifications (you can be a member of several regions at one time!):

1. **Find Norfolk, Virginia on the 'Discover' tab** by pinching your thumbs together on the screen to zoom out, then use one finger to move around laterally. Be patient as the map takes its time to load all available pins. **Tap the green pin** that appears just south of Colonial Place labeled **'CTK TRAINING'**. A small white text box with the region name will appear. **Tap the text box, and then tap 'Join'** on the page that appears.
2. Wait for approval to the region. Once approved, **follow section IV** for the 'CTK TRAINING' region and **join the event called 'Open Practice 2023'**. This event should now appear in the drop-down box on your 'Tools' tab. **Follow section V** to map in this event before Catch the King.

Acknowledge that there are risks to mapping in or around flood waters. Your safety should be your first concern, as it is ours. Wetlands Watch and Catch the King partners are not accountable for any injury or loss that may occur while you are mapping - so map at your own risk! Bring waterproof clothing and a waterproof covering for your phone (such as a plastic baggy), check the weather before heading out, and always maintain awareness of your surroundings. You do not need to walk in tide waters to map - only around it!

Tips for Tide Captains

1. **Try to schedule a training event sometime ahead of the event.** Your volunteers should be familiar with the app and have an opportunity to engage with you and other mappers, and to ask questions about mapping. This is best done face-to-face.
 - a. When creating your event, please include the name of the region (e.g. 'CTK Norfolk Training') to eliminate confusion on the 'Tools' tab drop-down.
2. **Ensure the safety of your participants first and foremost.** Do not map in dangerous or difficult terrain, and ensure all participants wear appropriate clothing for the occasion. Wetlands Watch is not responsible for loss, injury, or phone damage that may occur while mapping. Ensure participants fill out the registration form and sign the liability statement, and know what to wear.
3. **If participants are having trouble with the app during a mapping event,** encourage them to contribute in other ways – take photos, monitor safety and weather, take notes about the conditions of the site or flow of water, or conduct a marsh/shoreline clean-up if appropriate. If flooded areas are visible but not accessible, document it on the '**Trouble Spots**' tab of the app.
4. **You can use the Sea Rising Solutions web portal** to email your region volunteers and post information about mapping all in one place. Visit searisingsolutions.com, log-in with the same information you use for the app, and click '**Regions**' at the top of the page. Click your region in the right-hand column. There should be a 'Send Email to Members' button on the left-hand side of the page, and a '**Wiki**' button near the top. Use either of these functions to communicate with your mappers!

View a photo version of this guide and additional FAQs at:
wetlandswatch.org/app-faqs

