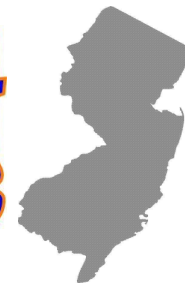


2009 Participating Towns & Parks

- Aberdeen
- Allenhurst
- Allentown
- Asbury Park
- Atlantic Highlands
- Atlantic City
- Avalon
- Avon-By-the-Sea
- Barnegat
- Bay Head
- Bayshore
- Waterfront Park
- Beachwood
- Belmar
- Berkeley Twp.
- Bradley Beach
- Brick Twp.
- Brielle
- Brigantine
- Cape May
- Corbin City
- Deal
- Elberon
- Forsythe Wildlife Refuge
- Glen Ridge
- Ideal Beach
- Island Beach
- State Park
- Keansburg
- Keyport
- Lakewood
- Lavallette
- Leonardo
- Loch Arbour
- Long Branch
- Longport
- Lower Twp.
- Manasquan
- Mantoloking
- Margate
- Middletown Twp.
- Monmouth Beach
- North Wildwood
- Ocean City
- Ocean Gate
- Ocean Grove
- Port Monmouth
- Pt. Pleasant
- Pt. Pleasant Beach
- Raritan Bay
- Waterfront Park
- Sandy Hook
- Sea Bright
- Sea Girt
- Sea Isle City
- Seaside Heights
- Seaside Park
- South Amboy
- South Seaside Park
- Spring Lake
- Stone Harbor
- Toms River
- Union Beach
- Upper Twp.
- Ventnor City
- Wildwood
- Wildwood Crest



BEACH SWEEPS



2009 Annual Report

Sweeping Toward a Clean Ocean

Clean Ocean Action (COA) is a coalition of 125 organizations working to improve and protect the waters off the New Jersey and New York coasts. In 1985, COA launched the region's first Beach Sweeps program to rid beaches of unsightly and harmful debris. The program is one of the longest running cleanups of its kind in the United States and has grown from 75 people at one site to 5,556 volunteers at over 60 sites for each Sweep in 2009.

The 24th Annual Spring and Fall Beach Sweeps were held at over 60 NJ locations from Raritan to Delaware Bays and along the ocean. Participants collected and recorded valuable data about debris, which is presented in this report and is used to advance federal, state, and local programs to reduce litter.



Litter is Harmful, Unsightly, & Costly

Marine debris is people generated litter that is discarded on land or at sea that can end up on our beaches and in the ocean and waterways. Plastic is the most abundant material at about 80%, which is most damaging to marine life. Plastic doesn't bio-degrade; it photo-degrades, meaning that it slowly breaks into smaller pieces.

Litter is not only ugly to look at and detrimental to the coastal economy, but importantly it is harmful and lethal to marine wildlife due to entanglement and ingestion. Entanglement occurs when an animal accidentally becomes ensnared in marine debris. Mortality can occur quickly through drowning or predation or it can be a long agonizing death from starvation, infection or gradual strangulation.

Ingestion occurs when organisms mistake debris for natural food items. Ingested items can block or damage the digestive system leading to infection or starvation. A stomach full of garbage can make an animal feel full, causing them to stop eating.

The success of the Beach Sweeps program illustrates the public's support for a clean ocean. Ultimately, the goal of the Beach Sweeps is to help reduce and eliminate sources of litter. Working toward that goal, this program builds community support for solutions, raises awareness about the negative impacts of litter on wildlife and the ocean, and teaches citizens about the types and quantities of debris found.

A Legacy for Action

Each Beach Sweeper is instructed to record each piece of debris found during the event on COA's "tried and true" data card. The data collected during the Beach Sweeps turns a one-day event into a legacy of information to combat litter and other sources of pollution by identifying and monitoring trends. The information helps find solutions to keep beaches clean and healthy for citizens and marine life. Indeed, the data has been used to help create federal, state, and local programs and laws to reduce litter in the environment.

Finally, the data from COA's Fall Beach Sweeps is submitted to the Ocean Conservancy in Washington, DC, as part of its international database on marine debris and global campaigns against ocean pollution.

2010 - Beach Sweeps 25!

2010 will mark the 25th Anniversary of the Beach Sweeps program. As a tribute, COA hosted a Beach Sweeps Symposium and published a *Journal of Citizen Action Against Beach Litter*.



The Journal highlights data and trends in ocean pollution and educates the public on ways to reduce ocean pollution. Please contact the COA office for a complimentary copy of the Journal.

2009 Spring & Fall Beach Sweep Totals

- ✓ 5,556 volunteers at 132 sites
- ✓ 301,564 items collected
- ✓ 4,173 bags of trash removed
- ✓ 59,270 pounds of debris removed

2009 List of Participating Schools



Local Lavellette students rescue a sand shark entangled in fishing line.



To Right: Texas Avenue Elementary volunteers pose with Rainforest Cafe's mascot "Cha Cha".



Grade Schools: Armstrong Elementary, Asbury Park Middle School, Atlantic Highlands Elementary, Bay Head Elementary, Belmar Elementary, Bishop McHugh Regional Catholic School, Bolger Middle School, Bradley Beach Elementary, Calvary Academy, Central Elementary, Chelsea Heights School, Churchill Junior High, Deal School, Eisenhower Middle School, Forrestdale Elementary, G. Harold Antrim Elementary, Glen Ridge, Hazlet Middle School, Holy Cross School, Howell Middle School South, Keyport Central Elementary, LaSalle Academy, Lavellette Elementary, Lillian Drive Elementary, Maple Place Elementary, Monmouth Beach, Nellie F. Bennett Elementary, Oak Knoll Elementary, Point Pleasant Borough Middle School, Ranney School, Rumson Country Day, Saint Anne, Saint Benedict's Catholic, Saint Catherine, Saint Catherine, Saint Joseph Elementary, Saint Mary Elementary, Saint Peter, Shrewsbury Borough, Sovereign Avenue Elementary, Texas Avenue Elementary, Thorne Middle School, Tinton Falls Elementary, Trinity Academy, Ventnor Middle School, Village Elementary, West Belmar Elementary.



Ocean City High School volunteers take a break from Sweeping the Beach.

High Schools: Academy of Allied Health and Sciences, Atlantic City Bound Brook, Brick Memorial, Brick Township, Calvary Academy, Cape May Technical, Carteret, Communications, Edison, Freehold Township, Hamilton East-Steinert, Hightstown, Hillsborough, Holy Spirit, Jackson, Keansburg, Lawrence, Long Branch, Lower Cape May Regional, Mainland Regional, Manasquan, Marine Academy of Technology and Environmental Science, Marine Academy of Science and Technology, Matawan, Mater Dei, Memorial, Middletown South, Monmouth Regional, Monsignor Donovan, Morristown, Motivation, Ocean City, Old Bridge, Point Pleasant Beach, Point Pleasant Borough, Ranney, Red Bank Regional, Rumson-Fair Haven Regional, South Brunswick, Saint Rose, Upper Darby, Wall, Wildwood Catholic, Wildwood, Winslow Twp.



Carteret High School volunteers travel to Sandy Hook to show their support for a clean ocean!



Left: Volunteers from The College of New Jersey, as well as St. Rose, Communications, Wall, and Steinert High Schools relax after a productive day "down the shore."

Colleges and Universities: Atlantic Cape Community College, Brookdale Community College, Cornell University, Delaware Valley College, Kean University, Middlesex County College, Monmouth University, New Jersey Institute of Technology, Ocean County College, Penn State University, Princeton University, Ramapo College, Richard Stockton College of New Jersey, Rutgers University, Seton Hall University, The College of New Jersey, Widener University.

2009 List of Volunteer Groups & Business Teams

Environmental Organizations: Bayshore Regional Watershed Association, Colts Neck Green Club, Eco-Maniacs, Greenpeace, Long Acre Expedition, Max's Mission, Middlesex County Conservation, Operation Green, Paddleout.org, SAVE, Surfers Environmental Alliance, Sierra Club, Surfrider Foundation Jersey Shore Chapter, Surfrider Foundation South Jersey Chapter, The Nature Conservancy.

Civic Groups: AWorthyCause-nj.org, Brigantine Sons of Italy, Brigantine Knights of Columbus, buildON, Calvary Troop, Cape-Atlantic Marine Corp. League, Capoeira Sol Nascente, Caring Kids Club, Citizens' Right to Access Beaches, Coastal Jersey Parrothead Club, Cornell Club of Monmouth & Ocean Counties, East Brunswick Youth Council, Fine Feathered Friends 4-H Club, Green Party of Monmouth County, Horse Cents Club 4-H Club, Jersey Shore Parrot Heads, Lavallette Republican Club, Lit Chicks, Monmouth County Board of Realtors, New Jersey Beach Buggy Association, Noah's Ark Pet Pals 4-H Club, Notre Dame Club of Jersey Shore, Ocean City Beach Buggy Association, Ocean City Community Association, Ocean City Gardens Civic Assoc., ONE- USA, Pine Valley Rod & Gun Club, Rainbow of Hope, Raritan Goes Green, Rotary Interact, Rumson Garden Club, Shore Points Roller Derby, South Monmouth Board of Realtors, Toms River North Walking Club, We are the Bayshore.



"We are the Bayshore" volunteer Peter Donnelly takes a stand against beach litter.

Girl & Boy Scouts of America:

Daisy Troops: 218, 543

Brownie Troops: 173, 287, 1301, 1303, 1501

Girl Scout Troops: 71, 87, 147, 174, 384, 466, 617, 698, 738, 1079, 1176, 1249, 1303, 1404, 1501, 1612, 1618, 1667, 1795, 1887, 13935, 23165, 45360

Cub Scout Troops: 36, 69, 70, 76, 117, 142, 209, 242, 331, 389

Boy Scout Troops: 3, 22, 36, 76, 77, 95, 97, 126, 230, 634, 6292, 13065

Faith-based Groups: All Saints Church, Aston Presbyterian, Holy Cross Church, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Kings of Kings Lutheran Church, Latter Day Saints Church, Rumson Presbyterian, Sacred Heart Church, Saint Leo Church, Saint Mark Church, Waterspirit.

Business Teams:

Adventure Aquarium, Aegis Arma LLC, AMEC Earth & Environmental Inc., Atlantic City Electric, Bank of America, Berger Realty, Broadway Bar & Grill, Comcast, Eddie Bauer, Enterprise Rent-A-Car, First Bank of Sea Isle City, Fred Little Custom Builder, Gloria Nilson Real Estate, GMAC Real Estate, Goddard School, goosiecards.com, Kiddie Kollege, Labrador Lounge, Merrill Lynch, NuStar Energy, Palisades Insurance Group, Prudential Zack Shore Properties, Ray Catena Motor Corporation, Sand Shack LLC, Sea Bright Beach Club, Seabrook Village, Starbucks, Stripersonline.com, United Teletech Financial, Vantage Apparel, Verizon, Wakefern, Weichert Realtors, Whole Foods Market.



Daisy Troop 297 joins the Point Pleasant Beach Sweep Site at Maxson Ave.



Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts pictured with Brigantine Sons of Italy and Brigantine Knights of Columbus



buildON, Atlantic City Electric, and Sovereign Avenue volunteers gather on the Atlantic City boardwalk.

Government Agencies & Environmental Commissions (EC):

Aberdeen Township Council, Atlantic Highlands (EC), Barnegat Township Council, Bradley Beach (EC), Brigantine Clean Communities, Keansburg (EC), Keyport (EC), Manasquan (EC), National Park Service at Gateway National Recreation Area- Sandy Hook, NJ Department of Environmental Protection Adopt-A-Beach program, Ocean City (EC), Ocean Gate Beach & Boardwalk Commission, Ocean Gate (EC), Sea Bright Town Council, Sea Isle City (EC), Spring Lake (EC), US Coast Guard.

"This particular event enables our employees to build a strong relationship with the communities we serve and gives us the opportunity to inspire thousands of people to protect and clean-up our local waterways and beaches."
-Arthur Garcia, Atlantic City Electric

Beach Sweepin' Highlights

South Jersey

SPRING:

Oceanville - Local Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, church groups, businesses, and families helped to sweep eight miles of waterfront and removed over 2 tons of debris.

Sea Isle City - Had one of their best-attended Sweeps so far with over 100 volunteers.

FALL:

Atlantic City - Over 100 citizens picked up 1,015 plastic straws/stirrers, 511 cigarette filters, and 284 plastic bottles. NJ Senator Whelan (D-2), participated to show support for a clean ocean. Special thanks to Rainforest Café for generously donating breakfast for the hungry volunteers.

Ocean City - A volunteer found a herring seagull whose head and wing were entangled in monofilament fishing line. The gull was able to be caught and freed.

Ocean County



COA's Next Generation

SPRING:

Seaside Heights - Ocean County College Waterwatch members picked up mostly tiny bits of plastic from the beach.

Point Pleasant Beach - Approximately 250 volunteers collected and removed nearly 6,000 pieces of debris.

FALL:

Seaside Park - A Resolution was passed to grant free parking to Beach Sweepers! Thanks Seaside Park!

Brick - The storm held off long enough for nearly 50 volunteers who removed over 2,000 pieces of debris.

Monmouth/Middlesex

SPRING:

Belmar - In the past the 16th Avenue site attracted roughly 20 volunteers, this spring over 100 volunteers participated.

Sandy Hook - A record 900 people gathered at Sandy Hook and collected a record number of 5,592 plastic bottle caps. Also, long time volunteer Ginger Tatem found a message in a bottle from a young Middletown school boy.



COA's Executive Director Cindy Zipf rallies the crowd at Sandy Hook

South Amboy - Over 100 people enjoyed the beautiful weather while collecting and removing over 7,000 pieces of debris.

FALL:

Aberdeen - Volunteers collected 1,157 pieces of debris from Cliffwood Beach.

Manasquan - Beach Captain Rick Thomas reported, "the amount of volunteers reached their largest number this fall with 94 volunteers gathering to clean the beach." In addition, "volunteers usually collect one syringe; however, 11 syringes were found and disposed of properly," Thomas added.

Sandy Hook - Over 250 volunteers picked up 1,879 plastic candy/food wrappers, 3,091 plastic bottle caps, and 3,222 plastic pieces among many other pieces of "pointless" pollution. One of the most unusual items found were mannequin legs with socks. Congressman Frank Pallone (D-6) attended the Beach Sweeps rally, supported the volunteers' efforts, and discussed important legislation such as the Clean Ocean Zone.

"The Beach Sweeps are popular, important, and fun events that people look forward to! It's great to see such a demographic variety take responsibility for their home."

-Valerie Lysenko, Beach Captain, South Amboy

Roster of the Ridiculous

While all the debris collected from our beaches should be considered unusual or unnatural, the items below are some items that were specifically listed by volunteers as the most unusual found on the beach:

Acrylic Nail
Air Conditioner
Baby Crib
Blow-up Dolphin
Breathing Mask
Cactus
Cage
Christmas Tree with Lights
Coconut
Driver's License
Electric Box
Fire Hose
Fisher Price Picnic Table
Flash Drive
Golf Clubs
Guitar
Gutter
IPhone
IV Bag
Japanese Seafood Snack
Lump of Coal
Mannequin Legs with Socks
Oxygen Tank

Plastic Nose
Pots and Pans
Rubber Squid
Running Shoes
Table Top
Tea Bags and Dried Fruit
Telephone Pole
Trawling Line
Soiled Underpants
Vampire Teeth
Working Boomer-rang
7-inch Knife in Case



A collection of ridiculous items found during the Beach Sweeps

New Jersey's Dirty Dozen

The "Dirty Dozen" are the top 12 items most frequently collected and recorded during the 2009 Spring & Fall Beach Sweeps. These items accounted for 65 percent of the debris collected. By Reducing, Reusing, and Recycling we can all work together to decrease the potential of litter washing-up on our beaches and waterways.

According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Americans generated 250 million tons of trash in 2008. Of that trash, a whopping 31% (77 million tons) was plastic containers and packaging, which are single-use disposable plastics that could have easily been avoided. Additionally, the EPA reported that the total amount of plastic in the municipal solid waste (MSW) stream in 2008 was over 30 million tons. Surprisingly, only 7% of that total was recycled.

Pieces	Item	2009 Ranking	2008 Ranking	2007 Ranking
33,532	Plastic Caps & Lids	1	2	2
30,734	Cigarette Filters	2	1	1
28,508	Plastic Pieces	3	4	4
21,904	Plastic Straws & Stirrers	4	5	5
19,843	Food Wrappers/Bags	5	3	3
16,693	Foam Plastic Pieces	6	6	6
11,051	Plastic Beverage/Soda Bottles	7	7	7
8,196	Plastic Caps Rings	8	12	12
6,760	Metal Bottle Caps	9	*	*
6,442	Lumber Pieces	10	*	*
5,705	Plastic Store Shopping Bags	11	10	*
5,702	Cigar Tips	12	8	8
195,070	Total	65% of Total Items Collected		

As the "Dirty Dozen" chart illustrates, the majority of the debris collected was single-use disposable plastics ~ items that are designed to simply be thrown away. Examples of single-use disposable plastics are packaging, food containers, beverage bottles, disposable utensils, bags, and straws/stirrers. These items play a short and insignificant role in our lives and can easily be avoided by reducing, reusing, and recycling.

The major problem with plastic is that it doesn't biodegrade. Instead it photo-degrades, meaning it breaks down into smaller and smaller pieces. Knowing that plastic will last forever, we should strive to only use plastic that is necessary and that can be reused and recycled. Invest in products that are safe to reuse, such as stainless steel water bottles and canvas bags.

**Did not qualify for "Dirty Dozen"*

10 Tips for Shore Visitors

- 1. Leave only footprints in the sand.** Use garbage receptacles or bring home what you bring to the beach.
- 2. Bring a bucket to the beach** to build sandcastles and at the end of the day collect litter for trash or to recycle.
- 3. The beach is not an ashtray.** Cigarette filters are not biodegradable and can be lethal when eaten by birds and fish that mistake them for food. Use an ashtray, bucket, or even your pocket.
- 4. Carpool, walk, or bike to the beach.** Cars are a leading source of air and water pollution. Turn off your car if idling for more than a few minutes; this will conserve fuel, save money, and reduce pollution.
- 5. Scoop the poop!** Bring a bag or newspaper to clean up after your pet (it's the law). Flush the waste (not the bag or newspaper) down the toilet or place in the trashcan.
- 6. Reduce, reuse, recycle!** Find out about local recycling programs and recycle properly. Buy reusable or recyclable products.
- 7. Watercrafts should not be operated in shallow areas.** Operate in deeper water where you are less likely to disturb habitat. Obey "fragile area" and "slow no wake" signs.
- 8. Watch what you're dune.** Dunes and grasses protect inland areas from wind and wave action and help preserve the shore. Dunes provide habitat for birds and animals.
- 9. Don't go overboard.** Never discharge wastes overboard. If you have an installed toilet in your boat, use the nearest pump out facility. If you own a portable toilet, empty it at home or at a shore side dump station.
- 10. Critter encounter.** The shore is home to thousands of creatures. Observe them from a distance. If you see an animal entangled, injured, or in danger, contact a lifeguard, local health department, or wildlife rehabilitator.

Support Your Local Beach Captain!



Beach Captain Mark Woldseth pictured with local volunteers

The success of the Beach Sweep program is only possible through our committed and dedicated **Beach Captains**. These exceptional volunteers work with Clean Ocean Action staff to coordinate and organize each individual Sweeps site. Beach Captains also assist with the recruitment of volunteers, request support from the community, direct participants during the event, and tabulate the volunteer-collected data that makes this report possible. Be sure to give thanks to your local Beach Captain at the next Beach Sweeps! If you are interested in becoming a Beach Captain please contact Tavia Danch at education@CleanOceanAction.org.

"For the past 15 years it has been such a pleasure to see all the local kids grow up and come each year to sweep the Sea Bright Public Beach and learn about how important it is to keep our waterways clean." - Mark Woldseth, Sea Bright Public Beach Captain

Clean Ocean Action's 2009 Beach Sweeps Results & Data*



PLASTIC

	Spring	Fall	Total	Percent of Total
6-Pack Holders	255	93	348	0.12%
Food Wrappers/Bags	12,221	7,627	19,848	6.58%
Store/Shopping Bags	3,577	2,130	5,707	1.89%
Trash Bags	1,738	860	2,598	0.86%
Other Bags	2,992	1,571	4,567	1.51%
Beverage/Soda Bottles	6,130	4,926	11,056	3.67%
Bleach/Cleaner Bottles	259	224	483	0.16%
Milk/Water/Gallon Jugs	2,029	1,664	3,693	1.22%
Motor Oil/Lube Bottles	262	178	440	0.15%
Tan Oil/Lotion Bottles	284	193	477	0.16%
Other Bottles	858	643	1,501	0.50%
Buckets/Crates/Bins	416	158	574	0.19%
Caps/Lids	16,798	16,753	33,551	11.12%
Cap Rings	6,282	1,932	8,214	2.72%
Cigarette Filters	20,360	10,424	30,784	10.22%
Cigarette Lighters	755	618	1,373	0.45%
Cigarette Packaging	2,161	1,148	3,309	1.10%
Cigar Tips	3,322	2,380	5,702	1.89%
Cups	2,061	1,373	3,434	1.14%
Diapers	81	49	130	0.04%
Fish Bait Bags/Cont.	412	230	642	0.21%
Fishing Line	420	466	886	0.29%
Fishing Lures, Floats	228	315	543	0.18%
Fishing Nets (small)	116	65	181	0.06%
Fishing Nets (large)	199	48	247	0.08%
Fork, Knives, Spoons	2,115	1,617	3,732	1.24%
Hard Hat	18	41	59	0.02%
Light Sticks	797	331	1,128	0.37%
Pieces of Plastic	15,920	12,588	28,508	9.45%
Ribbon/Tape (no balloon)	1,173	601	1,774	0.59%
Rope	1,111	608	1,719	0.57%
Sheeting & Tarps	116	95	211	0.07%
Shotgun Shells	572	508	1,080	0.36%
Strapping Bands	555	243	798	0.26%
Straws & Stirrers	11,920	10,016	21,936	7.27%
Syringes	101	149	250	0.08%
Tampon Applicators	2,143	1,390	3,533	1.17%
Toys	1,073	1,122	2,195	0.73%
Vegetable Sacks	97	49	146	0.05%
Other Plastic	3,462	1,601	5,063	1.68%
PLASTIC TOTAL	125,105	86,929	212,034	70.26%

FOAM PLASTIC

	Spring	Fall	Total	Percent of Total
Buoys & Floats	332	255	587	0.19%
Cups	2,222	1,468	3,680	1.23%
Egg Cartons	80	29	109	0.04%
Fast Food Containers	623	312	935	0.31%
Meat Trays	89	64	153	0.05%
Packaging Material	2,314	1,010	3,324	1.10%
Pieces of Foam Plastic	8,338	8,395	16,733	5.54%
Plates	350	240	590	0.20%
Other Foam Plastic	2,512	829	3,341	1.11%
FOAM TOTAL	16,860	12,618	29,478	9.77%

METAL

	Spring	Fall	Total	Percent of Total
Bottle Caps	3,899	2,875	6,774	2.25%
Cans - Aerosol	176	104	280	0.09%
Cans - Beverage	3,255	2,274	5,529	1.83%
Cans - Food	241	121	362	0.12%
Cans - Other	142	122	264	0.09%
Crab/Fish Traps	48	31	79	0.03%
55 Gallon Drums (old)	1	1	2	0.00%
55 Gallon Drums (new)	16	4	20	0.01%
Foil	554	305	859	0.29%
Nails	1,462	407	1,869	0.62%
Pieces of Metal	388	171	559	0.19%
Pull & Pop Tabs	213	164	377	0.13%
Wire	434	232	666	0.22%
Other Metal	428	211	639	0.21%
METAL TOTAL	11,257	7,047	18,304	6.07%

PAPER

	Spring	Fall	Total	Percent of Total
Bags	575	316	891	0.30%
Cardboard	826	269	1,095	0.36%
Cartons/Boxes	349	163	512	0.17%
Cups	1,143	557	1,700	0.56%
Newspapers/Magazines	995	361	1,356	0.45%
Pieces of Paper	3,303	1,521	4,824	1.60%
Plates	263	104	367	0.12%
Other Paper	928	277	1,205	0.40%
PAPER TOTAL	8,382	3,568	11,950	3.96%

GLASS

	Spring	Fall	Total	Percent of Total
Beverage Bottles	3,013	1,973	4,986	1.65%
Food Jars	206	108	314	0.10%
Light Bulbs	48	34	82	0.03%
Light Tubes - Fluorescent	22	3	25	0.01%
Pieces of Glass	2,926	1,449	4,375	1.45%
Other Bottles/Jars	462	244	706	0.23%
Other Glass	498	110	608	0.20%
GLASS TOTAL	7,175	3,928	11,103	3.68%

Clean Ocean Action's 2009 Beach Sweeps Results & Data*

WOOD

	Spring	Fall	Total	Percent of Total
Crab/Lobster Traps	36	7	43	0.01%
Crates & Baskets	76	19	95	0.03%
Ice Cream Spoons/Sticks	400	322	722	0.24%
Lumber Pieces	4,001	2,471	6,472	2.15%
Pallets	147	59	206	0.07%
Other Wood	1,571	1,192	2,763	0.92%
WOOD TOTAL	6,231	4,103	10,334	3.42%

RUBBER

	Spring	Fall	Total	Percent of Total
Mylar Balloons (only)	372	169	541	0.18%
Mylar Balloons (w/string)	318	161	479	0.16%
Rubber Balloons (only)	817	521	1,338	0.44%
Rubber Balloons (w/string)	489	305	794	0.26%
Condoms	238	102	340	0.11%
Gloves	255	191	446	0.15%
Tires	111	58	169	0.06%
Other Rubber	663	387	1,050	0.35%
RUBBER TOTAL	3,263	1,898	5,161	1.71%

CLOTH

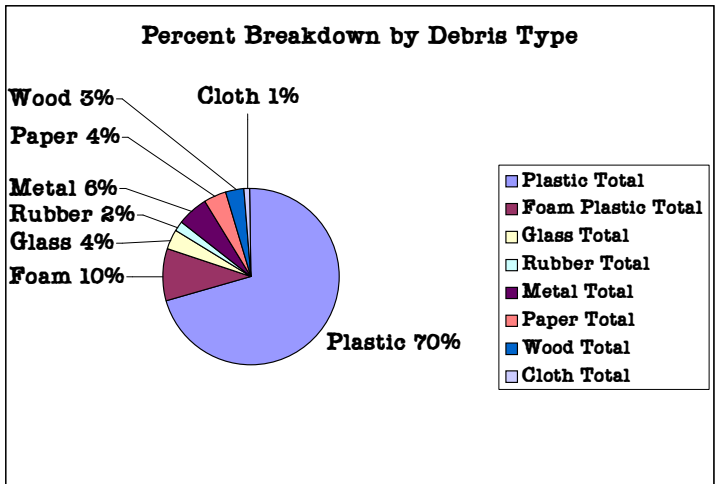
	Spring	Fall	Total	Percent of Total
Blankets/Sheets/Towels	202	116	318	0.11%
Clothing	456	233	689	0.23%
Shoes & Sandals	286	353	639	0.21%
String	723	432	1,155	0.38%
Other Cloth	377	241	618	0.20%
CLOTH TOTAL	2,044	1,375	3,419	1.13%

The data collection aspect is critical to the success of the COA Beach Sweeps. Through the data collection citizens are getting involved in the scientific process, collecting important information, and making people think about the kinds and quantity of debris and where it comes from.
- Cara Muscio, Ortley Beach Captain

GRAND TOTALS

	Spring	Fall	Total
Items	180,317	121,247	301,564
Volunteers	3,506	2,050	5,556
Items Collected			
Per Person	51	59	54
Pounds of Debris Removed	37,190	22,080	59,270

*Additional volunteers picked-up debris without completing and returning COA's data cards. Therefore, the numbers in this report are considered conservative.



TRASH THAT LASTS...

It takes weeks, decades, and generations for litter to break-down in the ocean, harming marine life and polluting our oceans and beaches. Plastics never disappear, but break down into smaller pieces.



Newspaper: 6 weeks



Plastic bag: 10-20 years



Cigarette filter: 1-5 years



Foam plastic cup: 50 years



Aluminum can: 80-200 years



Disposable diaper: 450 years



Plastic bottle: 450 years



Fishing line: 600 years

Source: Pocket Guide to Marine Debris, The Ocean Conservancy © 2003.



18 Hartsborne Drive, Suite 2
Highlands, N.J. 07732
(732) 872-0111
www.CleanOceanAction.org



BEACH SWEEPS

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Monmouth County Assoc. of Realtors - Sea Bright
NuStar Energy- Atlantic Highlands
Ricoh- Sandy Hook
Wakefern Food Corp., ShopRite - Sandy Hook

In-Kind Support Provided by:



Additional Support provided by:

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Clean Ocean Action's Beach Sweeps were made possible through the generous support of our sponsors.

For more information about sponsorship opportunities please contact Jennifer Smiga at (732) 872-0111 or Events@CleanOceanAction.org.