



BEACH SWEEPS REPORT

2022

*Beachy Clean Fun Since 1985!
A day of service, a lifetime of evidence
to make the ocean cleaner!*

8,315,027

Pieces of Debris

Collected Over 37 Years!

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“Feet on the Beach, Hands in the Sand” Since 1985: An Overview

Trash and litter find their way into our waterways from many sources and are harmful to animals that mistake it for food and/or become entangled. Litter often starts on land and is either windblown or carried by stormwater into waterways, where it ultimately flows into the sea. Some small percentage washes-up on beaches. In addition to endangering wildlife, litter-covered beaches also negatively affect tourism and the coastal economy.

In response, thousands of dedicated volunteers—the tall and the small—have mobilized for Clean Ocean Action’s (COA) Beach Sweeps every Spring and Fall for 37 years. Since launching the region’s first beach cleanup program in 1985, over 166,011 volunteers have participated and removed and tallied 8,315,027 pieces of debris from over 70 sites in 59 municipalities and parks along the Atlantic Ocean coast, bayshores, inland rivers, and streams. By removing, tallying, and learning more about litter, volunteers make beaches and waterways cleaner and safer for wildlife and people.

Year after year, plastic consistently accounts for the highest proportion of collected debris. Plastic in the marine environment breaks apart into smaller and smaller pieces, making it “bite size” for many more species and ages of marine life. This is a human-caused, and thus, human-solvable problem.

The goal of the Beach Sweeps is to reduce and eliminate sources of litter by engaging people to remove and document harmful debris, creating evidence that can be used to enact policies and identify solutions. Participants also become aware of the problems of a wasteful society and are empowered to make personal behavior changes.

COA compiles the data into an annual report that is used to advocate for legislation and ordinances to reduce sources of pollution. The annual report presents results, notes interesting finds, acknowledges volunteers and sponsors, and becomes a reference and resource about marine litter along the Jersey coast. The report also identifies trends, tracking new items and those that are becoming rare. In addition, COA gives the data a global boost by sharing Fall Beach Sweeps data with Ocean Conservancy’s International Coastal Cleanup (ICC).



“Litter: People Cause It, People Can Stop It.”



2022 Beach Sweeps Highlights:

- Straws, Bags, and Foam Decline! (pg. 4)
- “Dirty Dozen” history you DON’T want to miss! (pg. 7)
- Unusual items featured on this late night show (pg. 11)
- 8,148 volunteers removed 376,969 pieces of debris (pg. 4)
- New! Spotlight on MAST Student Coordinator (pg. 11)
- Trends in newest “ocean offenders”: a rapid review of new litter types added to the data card in 2021 (pg. 4)
- Who knew the “Roster of Ridiculous” could get even *more* ridiculous?! (pg. 5)

Beach Sweeps Data in Action

Reducing Sources of Marine Debris

NJ Takes Action in 2022 to Reduce Plastic Pollution

COA continues to use community science data to advocate for laws to reduce plastic pollution. In the past 3 years, COA has worked with environmental colleagues and elected officials to advance some of the strongest laws in the nation to stem the tide of single-use plastic waste. In fact, COA used the Beach Sweeps data to provide evidence of soaring numbers of single-use plastic items, including plastic shopping bags, straws, and foam plastic containers for the recent law, *Single-Use Waste Reduction Act (SUWRA)*.

After years of efforts for a comprehensive statewide law, NJ Senator Bob Smith led the effort to pass the SUWRA, which became fully effective in May 2022. The law bans plastic shopping bags, foam plastic takeout containers, paper bags (in larger stores), and limits plastic straws to “only upon request”. In just the first 5 months of the law in 2022, the New Jersey Food Council estimated that **3.44 billion** plastic bags and **68 million** paper bags were eliminated from the waste stream. COA’s Executive Director Cindy Zipf chairs the New Jersey Plastics Advisory Council which was formed by the law to monitor, assess, and evaluate the law’s implementation and effectiveness. The NJ Governor appointed the sixteen members to the Council.

While state agencies are responsible for implementation and compliance with the law, citizens can also be involved. Here are three simple steps:

- 1. Learn the Law:** become familiar with the law’s requirements at the NJ Department of Environmental Protection’s (NJDEP) “Get Past Plastic” website (www.nj.gov/dep/get-past-plastic).
- 2. Be on the Look-out:** Notice a store packing purchased items in a plastic bag? See take-out or leftover food being packaged in foam plastic containers? Receive a straw with a beverage at a business?
- 3. Take Action:** Report violations of the law by calling 1-877-WARN-DEP. Be sure to note the name, location, and the violation observed. Pictures are helpful.

Other 2022 Actions to Stem the Tide on Plastic Pollution in NJ:

In early 2022, the Recycled Content Law was signed, which establishes postconsumer recycled content requirements for rigid plastic containers, glass containers, paper and plastic carryout bags, and plastic trash bags in NJ. It also prohibits the sale of polystyrene loose fill packaging (e.g., “packing peanuts”). This law becomes effective in January 2024.

Late in 2022, Senator Smith introduced a new bill (S.426) to reduce packaging waste. This “Extended Producer Responsibility” or “EPR” bill aims to reduce excess packaging and save money and resources. While the bill must be made stronger, the intent of the bill is to place burdens of packaging material collection and disposal on the companies producing the materials.

Finally, balloons floating in the ocean, found on beaches, and tangled in trees and powerlines remind us that releasing balloons into the air is littering. Leaving balloons unattended outdoors can also lead to litter. COA developed a strong, model statewide bill that needs public support and legislative action to stop balloon releases and to better control balloon misuse. Balloons can be safely enjoyed inside, as they can be harmful and deadly to wildlife in the environment. To find out how to help, contact Clean Ocean Action.

Stay tuned in 2023 for actions to reduce balloon litter, packaging, and other initiatives that put community science data – collected by thousands of Beach Sweepers -- to work.

2022 Highlights

Cumulative Numbers Since 1985:

- **8,315,027** pieces of trash removed
- **166,011** volunteers donated **971,622** hours



2022 Beach Sweeps Data Highlights:

- Straws, Bags, and Foam Decline! (see insert)
- **82.43%** of debris collected was **Plastic**, including **Foam**
- **Cotton Swab Sticks** increase **55%** since being added to the data card last year; 274 were collected in 2021, compared to 424 in 2022
- **Plastic Pieces** account for **14.29%** of the total debris collected in 2022

2022 Dirty Dozen Highlights:

- **Plastic Pieces** dominate the list at **#1** with 53,869 pieces collected
- **Paper Pieces** drop four spots to **#12**
- On the Dirty Dozen list, **8** out of 12 items are single-use plastics
- **Plastic Cap Rings** return to the Dirty Dozen at **#11**, not seen since 2011

Seasonal Changes from Spring to Fall 2022:

- **58** debris items decreased out of **95** items, including: plastic bags, fishing line, cigarette filters, PPE litter and plastic beverage bottles
- All balloons decreased from Spring-Fall by **9.37%**
 - Spring volunteers picked up 1,547 balloons
 - Fall volunteers picked up 1,402 balloons
 - Mylar Balloons w/ Plastic String/Ribbon decreased the most by **31.07%**

Straws, Bags, and Foam Decline!

The law COA calls the *Single Use Waste Reduction Act* (P.L. 202, c.117) went into full effect in May 2022 (see details on page 3). Items affected by the law saw an encouraging downward trend including the following highlights:

-Plastic Shopping Bags make history leaving the Dirty Dozen list for the 1st time since **2007**.

-Straws/Stirrers fall to #6 on the Dirty Dozen list for the first time since 2016; decreasing **39%** from 2021.

-Foam Takeout Containers decreased by **29%** from Spring to Fall 2022; an overall decrease by **38%** from 2021-2022.

➔ **657** containers collected in 2022 compared to the **1,057** collected in 2021

Comparative Numbers: 2022 Data Results to 2021

Substantial decreases in new "Ocean Offenders" added in 2021:

Item:	Decreased by:	2022	2021
Dog Waste Bags	-20.52%	1,325	down from 1,667
E-Cigarette Cartridges, etc.	-31.88%	2,511	down from 3,686
Plastic Food Takeout	-16.39%	1,689	down from 2,020
Dental Floss Picks	-16.30%	1,818	down from 2,172
Disposable Wipes	-40.58%	905	down from 1,523
Disposable Face Masks	-39.90%	1,851	down from 3,080
Reusable Face Masks	-52.97%	253	down from 538
Disposable Gloves	-29.39%	925	down from 1,310

Substantial decreases (all data):

Item:	Decreased by:	2022	2021
Store/Shopping Bags	-37.31%	5,833	down from 9,305
Paper Pieces*	-38.28%	7,274	down from 11,786
Straws/Stirrers*	-39.04%	21,216	down from 34,801
All Balloons	-43.66%	2,949	down from 5,234
Plastic Bottle Caps/Lids*	-24.39%	52,512	down from 69,454
Volunteers	-18.54%	8,148	down from 10,003

*In the Dirty Dozen (see page 7)



This dynamic sister duo make waves as they collect trash and data

Roster of the Ridiculous: Everything and Anything All at Once!

For Foodies

Applesauce Cup, Asparagus, Chinese Candy Wrapper, Coconut, Coffee, Condiments, Dunkin Donuts, French Fry Container, Fruit Loop Container, GoGo Squeeze, Grapes, Ice Cream Wrapper, Lotus Rootlets Jar, Juice Box, Ketchup Packet, Lollipop Sticks, Milk Carton, Peach Pit, Rice Cake, Ring Pop, Salt Packet, Soy Sauce Packet, Tea Bag, Tortilla, Watermelon, Whiskey

Show Me the Money

Casino Rewards Card, \$10 Bill, \$20 Donated to ALO, (2) Lottery Tickets, Credit Card, Store Rewards Card

“Greased Lightnin’”

Antenna, Axle, Car (Batteries, Bumper, Door, Parts, Pieces, Plug, Tire), Exhaust Pipe, EZ Pass, Fuel Cap, Grease Gun Cartridge, License Plate Holder, Muffler, Rain X Glass Cleaner, Rearview Mirror, Seatbelt Buckle, Tire

Two Wheelin’

Handle Bar, Bike Light, Bike Lock, Bike Reflector, Bike Tire, Bike Wheel



Babes in Toyland

Action Figure, Baby (Pacifier, Shark Ball, Sneaker, Wipe), Barbie Arm & Shoe, Binky, Bubblegum Truck, Dirty Diaper, Dinosaur, Doll Head, Frankenstein Lego, Happy Meal Toy, Legos, Mermaid Toy, Motorized Motorcycle, Nerf Darts, Pin Wheel, Stuffed Llama & Animal, 3-Foot Teddy Bear & Pillow, Toy Soldier, Water Guns, Wheel to a Baby Stroller

Bob the Builder

Asphalt, Gasket, Home Insulation, Ladder, Landscaping Barrier, Measuring Tape, Pliers, Roof Shingles, Roof Tiles, Saw Blade, Screwdriver, Scrub Brush

It’s A Shore Thing

Beach (Umbrella, Chair, Toys), Fish Nets, Fishing Line & Hook, Flip Flop, Horseshoe Crab Shell, Life Vest, Lobster Trap, Picnic Buried in Sand, Pool Noodle, Sunscreen Bottle, Surf Wax, Wave Board

Beauty and the Beach

Acrylic Finger Nail, Chapstick, Curlers, Deoderant, Eyebrow Brush, Hair (Clips, Comb, Extensions, Spray, Tie), Headband, Lip Product, Mascara Tube, Scrunchy, Stick on Nail

A Year in Sports

Baseball, Boomerang, Exercise Foam Pad, Football, Golf Balls, Golf Tee, Ping Pong Ball, Rubber Ball, Shin Guard, Small Frisbee, Soccer Ball, Tennis Ball, Tennis Shoe

One Fish, Two Fish...

Animal Bones, Baby Land Shark, Bird Wings, Dead (Bass, Bird, Blowfish, Cat, Fish, Rat, Seagull, Striped Bass Carcas), Fish Head, Fish with Guts and Heart Out, Petrified Puffer Fish, Sea Horse, Turtle, Washed Up Big Fish

Ummm?

American Flag, Bottle of Pee, Bouquet of Flowers, Canadian Coins, Charcoal, Confetti, Crack Pipe, Crossword Puzzle, Dildo, Enhancers, Entire Birthday Party (Invitations, Cake Box, Candles, Balloons), Fireworks, Gallon of Tar, Glow Sticks, Halloween Finger, Joints (2), Joker Playing Card, Lock Attached to a Chain, Mechanical Pencil, Mouse Trap, Needles, Neosporn, Paint Brush, Plastic: Duck Head, Eyeball, Finger, Flowers, Frog, Lid, Mat, Mustache, Purple Crab, Polar Bear Figurine, Portable Firepit, Road Runner Magnet (Meep! Meep!), Rubber Duck, Rubber Snake, Sewer Pipe End Cap, Sex Toy, Shotgun Shell, Silicon Breast, Small Drug Bag, Sword Sheath, Syringe, Tags, Totes, Tyvek Body Suit, Unopened Blanket (still wrapped), Condom, Vape, Velcro, Whirly Popcorn Popper, Whole Bag of Trash, Wipe Containers, Wrappers from Water Bottles

Home Sweet Home

Aerosol Can, Band Aid, Christmas Decorations, Circuit Board, COVID Test Box, Cutting Board, Door Knob, Electric Box, Flower Pot, Foam Pillow, Folding Chair, Fridge Door, Furniture Cushion, Fuse, Garden Hose & Stake, Garden Shovel, Halloween Pumpkin, Hanger, Harmonica, Head Lamp, Ice Pack, Jell-O Mold, Knife, Laundry Detergent, Lawn Mower, Light Bulb, Medicine Bottle, Mop, Napkin, Propane Tank, Sandpaper, Satin Pillow Case, Scrub Daddy, Sponges, Toilet Paper, Toilet Seat Cover, Welcome Mat, Wine Corks, YETI Water Bottle

James and the Giant...

1/2 of a Dock, 5 Gallon Bucket, Boat, Boat Bumper, Floating Dock, Giant (Foam, Plastic Bag, Spoon), Large Deflated Raft, Metal Fence, Metal Frame, Refrigerator, Rusty Pipe, Shed Door, Stone Countertop, Tarp, Washer, Whole Rug, Wooden Boat

It Gets Personal

Adult Diaper, Asthma Inhaler, Bracelet, Cell Phone, Diabetic Needle, Ear Plugs, Eye Glasses, Glove, Hospital ID Bracelet, Maxi Pad, Men’s Underwear, Mouthguard, Panty Hose, Phone Case, Rubber Boot, Sandals, Shower Cap, Small, Pink Cowboy Hat, Sunglasses, Tampon Applicator, Tooth Brush, Tooth Flossers, Tweezers, Walking Cane, Wallet



	Spring Total	Fall Total	Total	% of Total	
PLASTIC	Food, Candy Wrappers/Bags	20,500	16,953	37,453	9.94%
	Store/Shopping Bags	3,779	2,054	5,833	1.55%
	Dog Waste Bags	712	613	1,325	0.35%
	Other Bags	1,927	1,649	3,576	0.95%
	Beverages/Soda Bottles	5,435	4,616	10,051	2.67%
	Other Bottles/Jugs	1,429	1,591	3,020	0.80%
	Bottle Caps/Lids	25,327	27,185	52,512	13.93%
	Cap Rings	3,105	4,415	7,520	1.99%
	Cigarette Filters	10,586	12,003	22,589	5.99%
	Lighters	442	416	858	0.23%
	Cigarette Packaging	684	781	1,465	0.39%
	Cigar Tips	5,071	4,483	9,554	2.53%
	E-Cigarette Cartridges/Caps/Pens	1,114	1,397	2,511	0.67%
	Bait Bags/Containers	219	177	396	0.11%
	Line (tangle)	495	426	921	0.24%
	Line (piece)	366	234	600	0.16%
	Lures, Floats	254	222	476	0.13%
	Fishing Nets	145	123	268	0.07%
	Beverage Cups	2,675	2,669	5,344	1.42%
	Forks, Knives, Spoons	1,546	1,773	3,319	0.88%
	Food Lids	1,822	1,383	3,205	0.85%
	Straws/Stirrers	10,900	10,316	21,216	5.63%
	Takeout Containers	1,064	625	1,689	0.45%
	Cotton Swab Sticks	107	317	424	0.11%
	Dental Floss Picks	980	838	1,818	0.48%
	Diapers	57	79	136	0.04%
	Disposable Wipes	432	473	905	0.24%
	Syringes	218	237	455	0.12%
Tampon Applicators	1,070	909	1,979	0.52%	
Light Sticks	220	183	403	0.11%	
Pens	423	389	812	0.22%	
Plastic Pieces	26,728	27,141	53,869	14.29%	
Ribbon/Tape (no balloon)	1,036	990	2,026	0.54%	
Rope	524	557	1,081	0.29%	
6-Pack Holders	106	79	185	0.05%	
Sheeting	102	78	180	0.05%	
Shotgun Shells	241	343	584	0.15%	
Strapping Bands	377	394	771	0.20%	
Toys	1,159	1,817	2,976	0.79%	
Other Plastics	4,949	6,799	11,748	3.12%	
FOAM PLASTIC	Building/Dock Material	957	603	1,560	0.41%
	Cups	1,008	885	1,893	0.50%
	Packaging Materials	2,130	1,168	3,298	0.87%
	Foam Pieces	13,913	7,812	21,725	5.76%
	Plates	221	159	380	0.10%
	Trays	89	56	145	0.04%
	Takeout Containers	385	272	657	0.17%
	Other Foam Plastic	2,645	2,383	5,028	1.33%
	Disposable Face Masks	1,263	588	1,851	0.49%
	Reusable Face Masks	185	68	253	0.07%
PPE	Disposable Gloves	477	448	925	0.25%

	Spring Total	Fall Total	Total	% of Total		
BALLOONS & RUBBER	Balloons - Mylar/Plastic	578	541	1,119	0.30%	
	Mylar With String/Ribbon	338	233	571	0.15%	
	Balloons - Rubber/Latex	475	473	948	0.25%	
	Rubber With String/Ribbon	156	155	311	0.08%	
	Condoms	195	175	370	0.10%	
	Rubber Bands	306	438	744	0.20%	
	Reusable Gloves	61	75	136	0.04%	
	Tires: Piece	130	140	270	0.07%	
	Tires: Whole	26	10	36	0.01%	
	Other Rubber	401	558	959	0.25%	
METAL	Batteries: Car	24	11	35	0.01%	
	Batteries: Other	74	45	119	0.03%	
	Bottle Caps	2,175	1,973	4,148	1.10%	
	Beverage Cans	2,659	2,575	5,234	1.39%	
	Other Cans	133	198	331	0.09%	
	Fishing: Hooks	60	83	143	0.04%	
	Fishing: Sinkers	42	16	58	0.02%	
	Foil	653	952	1,605	0.43%	
	Nails	532	248	780	0.21%	
	Wire	349	576	925	0.25%	
PAPER	Metal Pieces	552	426	978	0.26%	
	Pop Tabs	186	167	353	0.09%	
	Other Metal	397	370	767	0.20%	
	Beverage Cartons/Boxes	350	258	608	0.16%	
	Cardboard	852	902	1,754	0.47%	
	Cups	579	488	1,067	0.28%	
	Newspaper/Magazines	441	208	649	0.17%	
	Paper Bags	409	383	792	0.21%	
	Paper Pieces	3,013	4,261	7,274	1.93%	
	Plates	230	140	370	0.10%	
CLOTH	Other Paper	719	1,573	2,292	0.61%	
	Blankets/Sheets/Towels	252	180	432	0.11%	
	Clothing: Specify	315	417	732	0.19%	
	Shoes/Sandals	183	205	388	0.10%	
	String (No Balloon)	421	496	917	0.24%	
	Other Cloth	652	639	1,291	0.34%	
	WOOD	Ice Cream Spoon/Sticks	346	352	698	0.19%
		Lumber Pieces	3,093	3,241	6,334	1.68%
		Pallets	135	207	342	0.09%
		Other Wood	1,357	1,584	2,941	0.78%
Beverage Bottles		1,523	1,182	2,705	0.72%	
Other Bottles/Jars		203	226	429	0.11%	
Glass Pieces		4,041	5,339	9,380	2.49%	
Other Glass		469	397	866	0.23%	

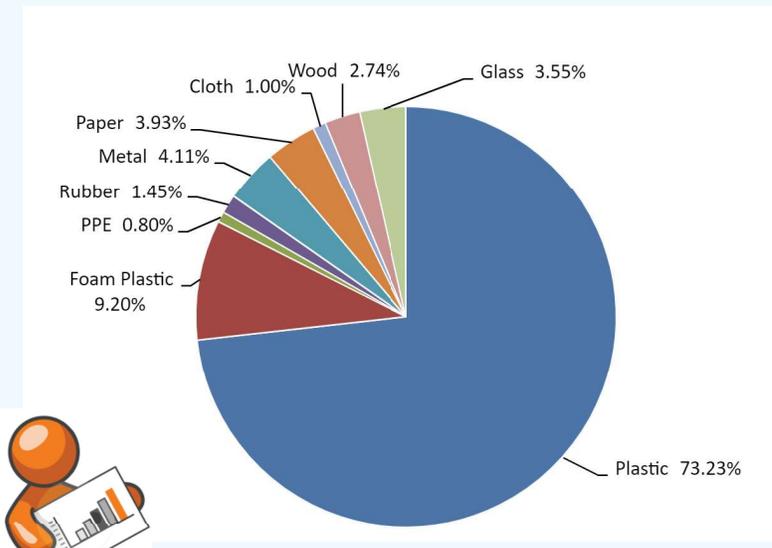
2022 Beach Sweeps	Spring	Fall	Totals
Total Items Collected	191,684	185,285	376,969
Number of Volunteers	4,428	3,720	8,148



Jr. Beach Captain, Grace Harrivan, and friend share their site setup with Spring tallies and more!

NOTES FOR BEACH SWEEPS DATA: The Annual Beach Sweeps Report can be used to study and understand marine debris. When analyzing annually or over time for trends, it is important to note that the amount of debris collected depends on a variety of factors, such as weather, tides, participants, and accuracy.

Percent Breakdown by Category/Debris Type



2022 Totals	Spring	Fall	Total	% of Total
Plastic	138,326	137,727	276,053	73.23%
Foam Plastic	21,348	13,338	34,686	9.20%
PPE	1,925	1,104	3,029	0.80%
Rubber	2,666	2,798	5,464	1.45%
Metal	7,836	7,640	15,476	4.11%
Paper	6,593	8,213	14,806	3.93%
Cloth	1,823	1,937	3,760	1.00%
Wood	4,931	5,384	10,315	2.74%
Glass	6,236	7,144	13,380	3.55%
Pieces of Debris	191,684	185,285	376,969	
Volunteers	4,428	3,720	8,148	



2022 Dirty Dozen:

The Most Commonly Collected Pieces of Debris

The Dirty Dozen lists the worst offenders of marine litter: the top twelve most commonly collected items at the Beach Sweeps. Plastic, especially single-use items, always dominates the list. Plastic shopping bags have held a spot on the Dirty Dozen for years. Following the NJ Plastic Bag Ban, they have fallen off the list for the first time since 2007. Joining the list for the first time in over 10 years is Plastic Cap Rings. Food, Candy Wrappers/Bags continue to dominate the number 3 spot since 2015.

- | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Plastic Pieces* | 4. Cigarette Filters* | 7. Other Plastics | 10. Glass Pieces |
| 2. Plastic Bottle Caps/Lids * | 5. Foam Pieces | 8. Plastic Beverage Bottles * | 11. Plastic Cap Rings* |
| 3. Food, Candy Wrappers/Bags * | 6. Straws/Stirrers * | 9. Cigar Tips* | 12. Paper Pieces |
- *Denotes Single-Use Plastics

^Due to the pandemic, 2020 data is irregular and not used for comparisons.

2022 Rank	Debris Items	2022	Change in Rank	2021	2021 Rank	2019^	2019 Rank	2018	2018 Rank
1	Plastic Pieces	53,869	↑	67,628	2	95,963	1	75,899	1
2	Plastic Bottle Caps/Lids	52,512	↓	69,454	1	67,011	2	61,358	2
3	Food, Candy Wrappers/Bags	37,453	■	58,589	3	50,270	3	40,780	3
4	Cigarette Filters	22,589	↑	32,460	5	27,751	5	21,998	6
5	Foam Pieces	21,725	↑	26,870	6	25,630	6	24,127	5
6	Straws/Stirrers	21,216	↓	34,801	4	35,124	4	36,156	4
7	Other Plastics	11,748	■	13,580	7	8,602	12	6,489	(13)*
8	Plastic Beverage Bottles	10,051	↑	11,394	9	13,908	8	16,358	7
9	Cigar Tips	9,554	↑	11,328	10	10,703	9	7,437	11
10	Glass Pieces	9,380	↑	9,773	11	15,399	7	14,078	8
11	Plastic Cap Rings	7,520	★	9,072	(13)*	6,859	(14)*	6,466	(14)*
12	Paper Pieces	7,274	↓	11,786	8	7,733	(13)*	6,462	(15)*
	Total Dirty Dozen	264,891		356,735		364,953		317,608	
	Percent of Total Debris	70%		69%		74%		70%	
	Number of Volunteers	8,148		10,003		10,724		10,148	

↑ moved up in rank
 ↓ moved down in rank
 ★ new to the Dirty Dozen
 ■ no change in rank
 * did not make rank for indicated year

Ocean Wavemakers

Special thanks to our Ocean Wavemakers, who contributed time effort, resources, and donations!

Beach Captains

Abigail Ostapovich, Allie Boden, Andrew Kaplan, Angela Romanowski, Anita Zolam, Ann Commarato, Anthony Edge, Arlene Sciarappa, Barbara Hood-Benz, Beth Collis, Brett Thompson, Brittany McLaughlin, Bruce Chesebrough, Carol Freas, Carol McCallum, Casey Deacon, Charlotte Moyer, Crystal DeCaro, Dakota Schaefer, Dave Finter, Derek Noah, Dodie Reagan, Donna Player, Emily Diangson, Emily Hackett, Emily Wilmoth, Emma Engle, Eric Hanan, Eugene Viereck, Evelyn Romanowski, Gene Casazza, Geoff Woolery, Graceanne Taylor, Greg Love, Derek Riddle, Jason McKairnes, Jeff Martin, Jessica Lisa, Jessica Mumford, JJ Walsh, John Benge, John Majeski, John Peterson, John Wnek, Joseph Pursel, Josh Peterson, Joshua Jaffe, Julia DeRosso, Julie Finnell, Julie Peterson, Katy Bungay, Kelly Thompson, Kylie Renna, Laura Padham Iaria, Laurel Allen, Leah Savia, Leslie Karvan, Linda Peng-Grooters, Lisa Cordova, Lynn Schambach, Lynne Kosobucki, Marianne Grant, Mark Haug, Mark Thompson, Mary Lenahan, Mason Whitman, Matt Schmidt, Megan Thomas, Meredith DeMarco, Michael Palmisano, Michael Rohal, Molly Dettlinger, Nancy Harrivan, Nichole Sherry, Pat Rogers, Paul Jeffrey, Peter Andross, Raven Wright, Ray LeChemin, Richard Allen, Richard Opiekun, Ryan Baine, Ryan Carr, Sandi Beyer, Sanura Nash-McKairnes, Scott McSorley, Shane Reese, Skye Donzelli, Stephanie Huynh, Stephen Camp, Ted Jarmansen, Tera Benjamin, Tim Vecchione, Toni Groet, Tony Kono, Troy Romanowski, Tyler Thompson

Junior Beach Captains

Madeline Branin, Grace Calandra, Chesebrough, Alex Cheung, Anthony DeAngelis, Maddy Demaree, Dan Espinosa, Brian Gomez, Grace Harriran, Cole Hashemi, Alex Kinsey, Katie Lynch, Katie Marra, Marian Moore, Caroline Nolan, Krish Patel, Alex Presutti, Maire Richman, Julie Rubenstein, Ava Rubenstein, Ryan Sheerin, Alicia Somma, Joe Taringo, Michael Taringo, Bella Valenzano, Charlie Wesolowski

Civic Groups & Parks

Borough of Ocean Gate, Borough of Palmyra, Borough of Seaside Park Mayor and Council, Borough of Seaside Park Public Works Department & Recreational Director, Borough of Stone Harbor, Cape May City Council, Clean Communities "Adopt-A-Beach", Environmental Stewardship of St. George, Fairlawn Environmental Commission, Friends of Ortley Beach, G2A GeoEnvironmental, Glen Ridge Department of Public Works & Environmental Advisory Board, Habitat for Humanity, IFF Union Beach R&D Green Team, Keyport Environmental Commission & Council, Kiwanis, Lions Club (Edison), Long Branch Environmental Commission, Mantoloking Environmental Commission & Green Team, North Wildwood Beach Beautification Brigade, Ocean City Environmental Commission, Ocean County Prosecutor's Office Employees, Palmyra Green Team, Point Pleasant Beach, Rotary Club of Bloomfield-Glenridge, Shark River Cleanup Coalition, South Amboy Green Team, Strathmere Fishing and Environmental Club (SFEC), Strathmere Plover Project, The Wetlands Institute, United States Coast Guard, Ventnor Green Team



Organizations

American Council of Engineering Companies of NJ, AAWMS, ACEC NJ, Alliance for a Living Ocean, American Conservation Coalition, American Legion Post Unit #129, Toms River: Juniors Program, Appalachian Mountain Club, Asbury Area Women's Missionary Society, Barnegat Light Tax Payers Association, BNI, Bradley Beach Democratic Club, Bradley Beach One Beach One Read, Brant Beach Tax Payers Association, Colony Club of Ocean City & County, Daughters of American Revolution: Francis Hopkinson Chapter, Shrewsbury Town Monmouth Chapter, & NJ, Delta Epsilon Mu, Delta Kappa Gamma Xi Chapter, Detox Planet, Eco Maniacs 4H Club, Ferro Monte Chapter DAR, Fun Club, Garden Club of LBI, Girls Friendly Society, GPAA CSL, Harrey Cedars Tax Payers Association, High Bar Tax Payers Association, Holgate Tax Payers Association, Ideal Beach Residents, International United Mics, International United Miss NJ Queen, Joint Council of Taxpayer Association: LBI, Keyport Recreation Commission, Kindness Club, Lambda Tau Omega Sorority, Inc. (Geminate Beta Chapter), Lavallette Environmental Cleanup Club, Local 269, Long Branch Rotary Club, Manasquan Beach Improvement Association, Manchester Township Soccer Association: Gladiators, Mercer County 4H Club, Middletown 4H Club, Monmouth Beach Earth Club, MPG, Noah's Ark Pet 4H Club, North Beach Tax Payers Association, Nu Alpha Phi Fraternity, Inc., Ocean 7 Condos, Ocean City Beach Buggy Association, Ocean County Board of Realtors, Oceanography Club, OCUTS Performing Arts Academy, Ortley Beach Citizens, Palmyra Improvement Association, Parrot Head Club (Phlock of South Jersey), Passaic River Rowing Association, Pathways to Success, Phi Theta Kappa, Phlock of South Jersey, Point Pleasant Garden Club, Point Pleasant Honor Society, Power Boat Squadron of Absecon, Precious Plastics Co., Remember BGA, Salt Water Warriors, SCE, Sea Girt Community & Neighbors, Send a Bag Pick Up a Bag, Sewa International Central Jersey Chapter, Ship Bottom Tax Payers Association, SHPE: NJIT, Rutgers, Stevens, Society of Hispanic Engineers, South Jersey Coastal Fly Anglers, Spring Lake Women's Club, Standard Chartered, Stone Harbor Property Owners Association, Strathmere Improvements Association, Surfriider Foundation, Tau Beta Pi (Rutgers), Unicorn Patrol, Viking Dragonboat, Women's Club of: Brielle, Manasquan, Spring Lake, Wyndham, YMCA

Businesses

Applegate Farm, AECOM, Aetna, Aqua Turf, LLC, Art for Sea, Asbury Hotel, Asbury Ocean Club, ASPCA, AT&T, Atlantic Physical Therapy Center, Atlantis Yacht Club, Bank of America, Barefoot Real Estate, Bayshore Recycling Corp, Berkshire Hathaway Real Estate, Block Staffing Co., Bloomberg, Boatsetter, Brother, Brother International Corporation, Citizens, Clarins USA Inc., Colliers Engineering & Design, Columbia Bank, Compass Real Estate, CRDC USA, Delta Dental of New Jersey, Inc., Ed O'Malley Real Estate, Ellen's Brunch, First Atlantic Federal Credit Union, Foglios Flooring, Food for Thought by the Sea, FPA Engineers, GAF, Gilbane Building Company, Grounds for Sculpture, Hackensack Meridian Health, Harrison Tepper's Bar Mitzvah Project, Icon, PLC, Janney Montgomery Scott, LLC, Jersey Divas, Jersey Shore Partnership, Jersey Shore University Medical Center, JFK Medical Center at Hackensack Meridian Health, Johnson & Johnson, JoyFit World LLC, JP Morgan Chase, LaFontaine & Budd, Inc., Langan Inc. /Engineering, Learning Experience, Manasquan Bank, MARS Wrigley Co., Merck, Met Life, Monmouth County Career Center, Monmouth Ocean Realtors, MTF Biologics, New Jersey Music Education Association, New Jersey Natural Gas, NJ.com/The Star Ledger, Ocean 7 Motel, Ocean First Bank, Ocean Medical Center, Ocean Network Express (ONE), Old Navy,



Pella Windows and Doors, Pro-Trait Enterprises, Pur Power Engineering, Pure Yoga Center, RCSD, Redfin Corporation, ReMax Realtors, Ricoh USA, Inc., Riverview Medical Center, Sage Hospitality Group, Sandy Hook Yacht Sales, Seabrook, Slalom Consulting, Staffing the Universe, Standard Chartered Bank,

Starbucks, Subaru, SVM E-Marketing Solutions, Symrise, Target, Telecom Pioneers, The Allied Group, Timberland Co., United Natural Foods, UPS: Woodbridge, Valley Bank, Vantage Apparel, Verizon Wireless, Visiting Nurse Association Health Group, Vydia, Inc., Wayside Technology, Wells Fargo, Whitestone Associates, Wing It, WSB

Faith-Based Groups

Asbury Park Baptist Church, Brick Presbyterian Church, Church of St. Anselm, Green Stewards, Holy Innocents Confirmation, Nativity of Our Lord (Monroe Township), Ocean Heights Presbyterian Church, Saint Gobain, St. George Greek Orthodox Church, St. George's Youth Group, St. Mark's CCD, St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish, St. Rose Church, St. Rose of Lima, St. Rose Religious Education, St. Uriel's Church Youth Group

Pre/Elementary/Middle Schools

Alpine Montessori, Bayshore Middle School, Belhaven Middle School, Bradley Beach Elementary School, Central Regional Middle School, Dwight D. Eisenhower Middle School, Forked River Elementary School, Forrestdale Middle School, Frank Antonides School, Galloway Township Middle School, George Catrambone School, GIDE, Green Brook Middle School, Hazlet Junior Honor Society, Jersey City Community Charter School, Joseph T. Donahue Elementary School, Lacey Middle School, Lacey Middle School National Honor Society, Lake Riviera Middle School, Lavallette Elementary School, Long Branch Middle School, Manasquan Elementary School, Monmouth Beach School, Monroe Middle School, Neptune Middle School, Newark Academy, Oak Knoll School of the Holy Child: Caring Kids Klub, Ocean Ave. School, Ocean Gate Elementary, Palmyra School District, Portuguese School Centro Romeu Cascaes, Red Bank Charter School, Ridgewood Ave. School, Ross School, Rumson Country Day School, Sea Lavender Montessori, South Amboy Middle School, Spotswood, St. Rose of Lima School, Thompson Middle School, Thorne Middle School (Honor Society), Tighe School (Surfrider Club), Toms River Elementary, Upper Township Middle School, Upper Township School District: Strathmere, White Hall Elementary School, William R. Satz Middle School

High Schools

Academy of The Holy Angels, ACIT Key Club, Allentown High School, Asbury Park High School National Honor Society, Bayshore School, Bayville High School (Key Club, National Honors Society, Ocean Club), BCIT (Westampton, Westech), Bernardsville High School, Biotech High School, Brick High School, Brick Memorial High School (Key Club, MATES), Burlington County Institute of Technology (Key Club), Cape May Technical High School, Cape May Technical National Honor Society, Carteret High School: Pathways, Central Regional High School (JROTC), Christian Brothers Academy, Colts Neck High School (ROTC), Communications High School, Donovan Catholic High School, East Brunswick High School, Emmaus High School, Freehold Township High School, Glassboro High School, Glen Ridge High School, H. W. Mountz School, Henry Hudson Regional High School, High Technology High School, Holmdel High School (National Honor Society), Holy Cross Preparatory Academy, Homdel High School, Howell Township High School, Jackson Liberty High School (Internet Club), Jackson Memorial, Kent Place & Banyan Schools, Keyport High School (Environmental Club),

Lacey Township High School, Long Branch: Junior Honor Society, Lower Cape May Regional High School, Lyndhurst High School, Manalapan High School, Manasquan High School (Honor Society), Marine Academy of Techology + Environmental Science, Marlboro High School (Key Club, Leo Club), Mater Dei Prep, Mendham High School (Surf Club), Middletown North, Middletown South, Monmouth Regional High School (Environmental Club), Monroe Township High School, Mt. Olive High School, Neptune High School (Environmental Science), New Jersey Honors Society, NJHS & Bidder Science Class, North Bergen High School, Ocean City High School (Key Club), Ocean Township High School (Key Club), Pennsbury High School,



Luna's Lemonade is a hit during the Fall Beach Sweeps!

Point Boro High School, Point Pleasant Beach High School (Key Club), Ranacocus Valley High School, Ranney School, Raritan High School, Red Bank Regional High School, Rumson-Fair Haven High School, Rutgers Preparatory School, Sayerville War Memorial High School, Shore Regional High School (Shore Rider Club), Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School, Somerville High School, South Amboy High School, South Brunswick High School, South Plainfield High School, St. John Vianney High School, St. Rose High School, The Hun School, The Pennington School, Thompson Honor Society, Toms River High School, Toms River High School East (Surf Club), Toms River High School North (Green Team), Trinity Hall, Union County Magnet High School, Wall Township High School, Wayne Hills Green Club, Wildwood High School, Wildwood High School (Eco Club)



Colleges

New Jersey Institute of Technology, Ocean County College, Ocean County College (Stars Program), Ramapo College, Raritan Valley Community College, Rider University, Rowan REAL (Rowan Environmental Action League), Rutgers Society of Woman Engineers, Rutgers University, Rutgers University (AFS Subunit), Rutgers University (Oceanography Club), Stevens Institute of Technology (SHPE), Stockton University, SUNY Purchase College, The College of New Jersey

Boy Scouts

Boy: 2, 3, 6, 18, 32, 47, 53, 59, 76, 83, 92, 109, 111, 113, 122, 143, 280, 63210, 19 (New Egypt), 241 (Asbury Park), 95 (South Amboy), 97 (Sayerville), Boy Scouts of Seaside Heights
Cub: 34, 39 (Lindwood), 73, 122, 205, 318

Girl Scouts

Girl: 329, 343, 491, 574, 762, 1311, 1425, 1436, 1684, 11046, 20414, 20472, 43175, 50241, 60299, 60543, 61122, 83670, 94230, 97786, Girl Scouts of East Windsor, Roselle Park Girl Scouts
Brownie: 501, 750, 836
Daisy: 197



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2022 County Sponsors



Additional support provided by Enterprise Holdings Foundation

2022 Site Sponsors

ACECNJ-American Council of Engineering Companies New Jersey, Appalachian Mountain Club-New York, New Jersey Chapter, Applegate, Art for Sea, Atlantic City Electric, Baine Contracting, Boatsetter, Ciocca Subaru of Pleasantville, Colliers Engineering & Design, DHL Express, Enterprise Holdings, Inc., Janney Montgomery Scott LLC, Jenkinson's Aquarium, Manasquan Bank, OceanFirst Foundation, Slalom

Special Thanks

The following have contributed important resources: Gateway National Recreation Area Sandy Hook Unit, Island Beach State Park, Marine Academy of Science & Technology, Middlesex County Parks System, Monmouth County Parks System, NJ Clean Communities Council, Ocean Conservancy, Palisades Interstate Park Commission, & Data Guru Rick Jones



County Sponsor Bayshore Recycling



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Corporate Beach Sweeps



COA's team-building Corporate Beach Sweeps program had an excellent year in 2022 with **21** companies and **576** employees removing **30,300 pieces of debris**. To learn more, call 732-872-0111.

“Meanwhile” & Spotlights

Waves of Buckets Hit the Jersey Shore: Success with BYOB Initiative

In 2019, COA successfully launched the Bring Your Own Bucket (BYOB) campaign to further reduce plastic use. Volunteers are encouraged to bring their own reusable container for debris collection, eliminating the need for a plastic garbage bag.



Four years later and BYOB is stronger than ever! From the small to the tall, volunteers all around are participating to reduce and reuse, together.

Roster of the Ridiculous Items Featured on Stephen Colbert Show!

In April of 2022, the Late Night Show with Stephen Colbert featured the Beach Sweep’s Roster of the Ridiculous in his “Meanwhile...” segment! It was based on an Associated Press article by Wayne Parry.



Meanwhile... Jared Leto's Method Problem | Jersey Shore's Trash

Clean Ocean Action Spotlights MAST Student Coordinator: Chelsea Delalla



Each year, the Marine Academy of Science and Techonology (MAST) helps coordinate the Beach Sweeps at Sandy Hook. Liza Baskin, oceanography teacher and the COA-MAST liaison, connects COA with a rising senior at MAST who is interested in serving as the “student coordinator” for the Beach Sweeps as part of their senior internship. The student coordinator is responsible for recruiting and organizing MAST volunteers who will help ensure a successfull Sandy Hook Beach Sweeps.

“I am so honored to have this opportunity as it has given me a new appreciation and understanding of non-profit organizations, as well as opened my eyes to the work that goes into sparking positive legislative change. COA’s determination and relentless efforts have inspired my interest in environmental issues, which I hope to further explore in college.”

This year, we are delighted to highlight and applaud senior, Chelsea Delalla! Chelsea started her internship at COA in the Fall of 2022 where she not only organized and packed Beach Sweeps supplies, but also ran QA/QC reviews on Sandy Hook data to ensure numbers were tallied/totalled accurately, and scanned materials returned from beach captains to then file alphabetically. We cannot wait to see what Chelsea’s future has in store for her!



WAVE OF THANKS TO ALL OF OUR

WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERS!



Aberdeen, Allenhurst, Asbury Park, Atlantic City, Atlantic Highlands, Avalon, Avon-by-the-Sea, Bay Head, Bayville, Belmar, Berkeley, Bradley Beach, Brick, Brigantine, Cape May, Deal, Englewood Cliffs, Gateway National Park at Sandy Hook, Glen Ridge/Montclair, Highlands, Island Beach State Park, Keansburg, Keyport, Lavallette, Loch Arbour, Long Beach Island, Long Branch, Longport, Manasquan, Mantoloking, Margate, Middlesex County Park System, Middletown, Monmouth Beach, Monmouth County Park System, Neptune, Normandy Beach, North Wildwood, Ocean City, Ocean Gate, Ocean Grove, Ortley Beach, Palisades Interstate Park Commission, Palmyra, Point Pleasant, Point Pleasant Beach, Red Bank, Rumson, Sea Bright, Sea Girt, Sea Isle City, Seaside Heights, Seaside Park, Spring Lake, Stafford Forge Wildlife Management Area, Stone Harbor, Toms River, Union Beach, Ventnor, Villas, Wildwood, Wildwood Crest

**74 Sites
in 2022**



**2023 CORPORATE BEACH SWEEPS APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN!
VISIT CLEANOCEANACTION.ORG OR CALL 732-872-0111 TO LEARN MORE.**

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