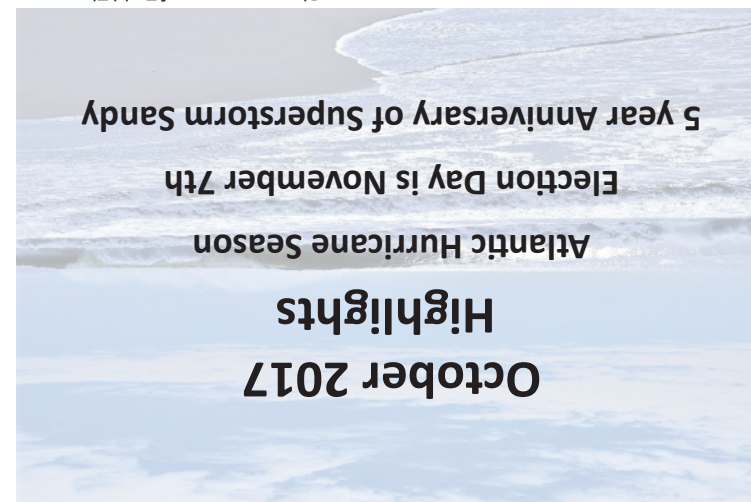




Follow COA on Social Media For Ocean Updates!

LABEL



CLEAN OCEAN ADVOCATE October 2017

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Photo courtesy of Ryan Struck Photography

Water Quality Preparedness During the Atlantic Hurricane Season and Beyond

The Atlantic Hurricane season runs from June 1st to Nov 30th. Impacts from the devastating storms cause loss of life, destruction of property, and ecological harm due to heavy rains and excessive winds. These storms continue to effect other areas as the storm weakens and runs its course.

Recently, four devastating storms ripped through the Atlantic region including Harvey, Irma, Jose and Maria. These storms result in a great need for government and public support to restore the communities. What is often under reported is the chemical and biological contamination of the waterways in the wake of these storms.

Storm preparedness is key to ensure personal safety which is the top priority during storms, but preparing your property to minimize environmental impact is also important. COA recommends the following "water quality" preparedness actions to reduce our adverse footprint on our waterways, especially during the Atlantic Hurricane Season.

- Minimize the escape of floatables, trash and debris entering our waterbodies: (i) Remove all objects left outdoors (garbage cans, bikes, small gear etc) and bring them indoors, if possible. (ii) If not possible, secure them tightly so they don't fly or float away.
- Minimize the escape of organic and inorganic contaminants: (i) Move any chemicals, oil, salt, deicers, and fertilizers off the ground above the flood

or puddle zone outside homes, businesses, and municipalities, as well as in sheds and garages. (ii) Park your car and other mechanical equipment such as mowers, snow plows away from flood waters.



- Minimize the entry of solid waste and microbial pathogens: (i) To minimize the entry of microbial contaminants and solid waste into our waterways, cover and secure all outdoor garbage cans including pet waste trash collection bins, recycling cans etc. (ii) Dispose the contents of outdoor litter boxes appropriately. (iii) Bring pets indoors and close down "outdoor" pet housing securely.

Events

Thursday, October 5th, **Fall Student Summit**
Island Beach State Park, Ocean County
Free for 5th – 8th graders!

Sunday, October 15th, **Sandy Paws**
Asbury Park & locations throughout the nation
3rd Annual Sandy Paws, Dog Walk Fur Clean Water! Visit COASandyPaws.org!

BEACH SWEEPS Saturday, October 21st, Beach Sweeps
Over 65 NJ beaches
Gather along waterways to clean our beaches!

Saturday, December 2nd, **Dancing in the Moonlight**
Windows on the Water, Sea Bright
A fun night to celebrate year-round ocean advocacy!



TRIBUTES



Photo courtesy of Joe Reynolds

In Memory of:

- Joe Blazejewski
- Carlotta Emmons
- Joan Hall
- Teena Hartung
- Will Jakubecy
- Samuel Karinja
- William Lavin
- Carol Anne Ross

In Celebration of:

- Earth Day 2017
- Birth of Gordon Sverre Publitz

REMINDER!!! Mark your calendars! This November 7 is Election Day

Voting is an essential action to help protect the ocean. Do your homework and research where the candidates stand on ocean industrialization or pollution. In addition, there are state and local ballot questions that will directly impact the environment. Here are the questions for your review that will help or harm water quality.

New Jersey Public Question #2: The Revenue from Environmental Damage Lawsuits Dedicated to Environmental Projects
"Do you approve amending the Constitution to dedicate all moneys collected by the State relating to natural resource damages in cases of contamination of the environment? The moneys would have to be used to repair, restore, replace, or preserve the State's natural resources. The moneys may also be used to pay legal or other costs incurred by the State in pursuing its claims".

This is written fairly straight forward. The need for this amendment is a result of multiple cases against Exxon for polluting the Passaic River. Without this limitation, Governor Christie planned to spend only \$103 million of the \$580 million received on restoration. The case is being appealed, but clearly funds that are a result of environmental damage should be directed to restore the areas, and payback the legal costs.

Monmouth County Ballot Question: Protect Open Space, Water, and Floodplains
Everyday we see acres of trees cut for development. However, it's not too late to save our remaining open lands, protect our water quality, and ensure our property taxes are kept in check by avoiding overdevelopment. A newly formed group Save Open Space in Monmouth County has formed for the sole purpose of guaranteeing that sufficient funds are available to

protect our dwindling natural resources in Monmouth County. Now is the time for action to protect the remaining natural lands, create urban parks, and ensure recreation opportunities for the public.

Listed as the last question on the ballot, voters are being asked to continue their support through an increased dedication in the annual collection rate that translates to approximately 16 cents to the average taxpayer. The Monmouth County Open Space Trust Fund provides funding to guarantee residents have permanently preserved lands for recreation, water quality protection, floodplain protection, and to maintain the operations of a nationally accredited park system. Since its inception in 1989, the Trust Fund has maintained a clean record of public spending.

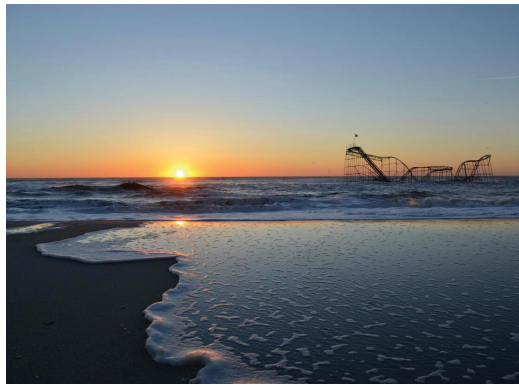
Spending decisions are carefully overseen by a public board with numerous citizen representatives in order to properly use and allocate the fund. For more information contact Amanda Brockwell, ABrockwell@MonmouthConservation.org.



PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

Tory Woods, Development Director, Development@CleanOceanAction.org
 Abigail Eastwood, Program Assistant, Programs@CleanOceanAction.org

Rally Across the Boards: A Five Year Commemoration of Superstorm Sandy



On Sunday, October 29th on the Asbury Park Boardwalk at 1:30pm there will be a commemoration of lives, homes and businesses lost as a result of Superstorm Sandy. There will be a rally followed by brief comments from various elected officials and the major candidates for Governor.

Attendees will line the Asbury Park boardwalk from end to end demonstrating the urgent need to address climate change. The call to action will be captured by aerial photography as attendees hold hands across the boardwalk. For more information or to get involved, contact Ed Potosnak, NJ League of Conservation Voters at ed.potosnak@njlc.org. RSVP today at njlc.org/sandy

A Plastic Ocean Screening on LBI

Clean Ocean Action and Lighthouse International Film Festival screened *A Plastic Ocean* at Ship Bottom Firehouse on Long Beach Island to a full crowd on Saturday, September 23rd at 5:30pm. The viewing was followed by a Q & A Panel Discussion with panelists Kyle Gronostaski from Alliance for a Living Ocean, Teresa Hogan on the Balloon Launch Ban, Jay Mann from the Sand Paper and moderator Cindy Zipf of COA. Partnering organizations include Alliance for a Living Ocean, Garden Club of Long Beach Island, ReClam the Bay, and Long Beach Township.



A Plastic Ocean is a feature-length adventure documentary that brings to light the consequences of our global disposable lifestyle. The results astound viewers just as it did the adventurers in the film who captured never before seen images of marine life, plastic pollution and its ultimate consequences for human health.

More screenings are being organized. Stay tuned for updates and if you are interested in hosting a screening, contact info@cleanoceanaction.org.



Did You Go Straw Free This September?

Clean Ocean Action in partnership with NY/NJ BayKeeper went straw free this September! Learn more about our straw free campaign and more ocean advocacy tips by following us on social media!

SCIENCE

Swarna Muthukrishnan, Staff Scientist; Science@CleanOceanAction.org

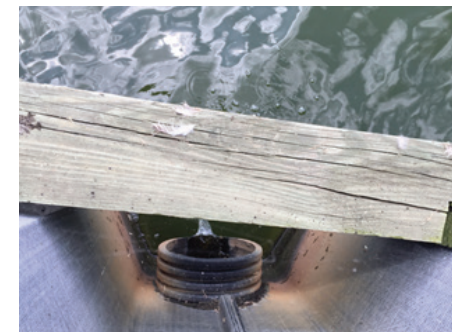
Ship and Sniff Study in Deal Lake Watershed – Phase 1 Sampling Update

As mentioned in our September newsletter, Clean Ocean Action is collaborating with the Deal Lake Commission (DLC) and Environmental Canine Services (ECS) to coordinate a “Ship and Sniff” study using scent-trained canines. This study will help to identify potential sources of human pathogen pollution within the “five-finger” Deal Lake watershed. On August 28, 2017, a team comprising of COA staff, DLC, and their volunteers collected 26 samples under dry weather conditions (no rainfall for preceding 72 hours), adhering to recommended sampling procedures. COA shipped these samples to the ECS office in Maine, where they were “sniffed” by canines for the presence of human fecal pathogens. Each sample was scent tested by two different dogs, and when a mixed response was observed, the samples were scent-tested again by a third dog to confirm the result.



Citizen Water Quality Sampling Along Deal Lake

Results from this sampling showed that samples from two locations strongly indicated the presence of human fecal sources.



Suspicious Dry Water Flows into Deal Lake

The results showed that about 50% of the locations tested had some level of human fecal contamination in the water. Samples with a mixed response indicated the presence of human fecal pollution, most likely at very low levels due to having been tested preceding dry weather in the watershed. These will be confirmed by repeating the sampling and scent-testing at all locations during wet-weather. The Tier 2 sampling will be coordinated by COA with the DLC again within the next few weeks during a rain event (min. 1” rain criteria for sampling).

Turning Data into Action: Strategies for Protecting the Navesink River



Chris Obropta from Rutgers Cooperative Extension excited community leaders with easy steps to reducing stormwater pollution at a workshop on “green infrastructure” organized by (ANJEC) Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions and Clean Ocean Action on September 18th at the Huber Woods Environmental Center.

OUTREACH & EDUCATION

Amanda Wheeler, Volunteer & Education Coordinator; Citizens@CleanOceanAction.org

Dancing in the Moonlight – Celebrate 20 Years of a Dumpsite-Free Ocean!

Keep the joys of sea alive all year long by attending COA’s winter celebration, Dancing in the Moonlight on Saturday, December 2nd with live music, delicious food, silent auction, and more, while the full moon rises over the ocean!

This fall we are celebrating 20 years of dumpsite free oceans! Did you know there used to be eight ocean dumpsites just miles off the coast? In the 1980’s, NJ was known as the Ocean Dumping Capitol of the World! Clean Ocean Action lead the coordination of citizens, elected officials, organizations, and government agencies to close all ocean dumpsites and continues to ensure there are no new sources.

Since then, COA’s tenacious work has stopped all ocean industrial threats from offshore oil and gas drilling and LNG facilities. COA is also reducing land-based sources of pollution to improve and protect the beautiful waters we all enjoy.

Mark your calendars and support COA’s work through a tax-deductible sponsorship, donation for the silent auction or raffle, and/or by attending the event. Your support is greatly appreciated and will make waves of a difference. Let’s Dance in the Moonlight to celebrate year-round ocean advocacy!

Summer Community Outreach Success Stories

Clean Ocean Action had a remarkable community outreach season along the Jersey Shore. Waves of thanks go out to all the volunteers who gave so much of their valuable free time to advocate for the ocean and to all the venues and partners that welcomed and supported COA!

Here are some quotes from our Action Table Volunteers:

“A gentleman stopped by the table and gladly signed all of the petitions and said to me, ‘I don’t know much about COA, but I do know there is an incredible difference in the water on the NJ shoreline. Years ago the water was murky, and I wouldn’t even think of swimming in it and now it’s beautiful ever since they stopped that dumping.’ Then he continued to tell me how he moved closer to the shore.” –Vivian Pisano



Carole Davis at the Plainfield Municipal Utilities Authority Green Fair



Kailey Flynn and Emma Scales at the West End Utilities Authority Green Fair Farmers Market

“Volunteering at various Clean Ocean Action events this summer reinforced my mindset that even though I am only in high school I can still make a difference. I hope that in some way I have shown anyone who comes up to the table that they too can alter their habits to create change. I have truly enjoyed my time working with the Clean Ocean Action team and will continue to spread their message while I study the environment and sustainability in college!” –Kailey Flynn