



September 2019



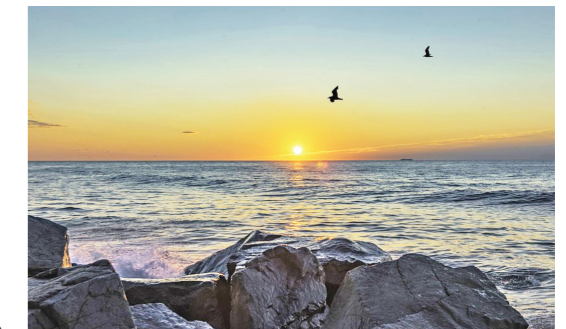
## POLICY *Peter Blair, Policy Attorney; Policy@CleanOceanAction.org*

### NJDEP Extends NESE Comment Period, Decision on Coastal Permits Coming in Late September

Based on a flood of public comments, the New Jersey DEP agreed to extend the public comment period to Friday, August 23, 2019 which allowed hundreds more to oppose. The DEP is still legally obligated to make a decision on the coastal permits for the pipeline by September 25. All focus now shifts to Governor Murphy. Please call the governor at 609-292-6000 and urge him to stop this pipeline permanently. Stay tuned to COA's social media for the next big event and visit CleanOceanAction.org to view COA's comments.



**Save the Date for Press Conference/Rally to Say "No" to NESE on September 14th at Marine Park in Red Bank at 10am!**



### Bayshore Elected Officials Continue to Oppose the NESE Pipeline

Following the reapplication from Williams for the NESE Pipeline, elected officials all along the Bayshore are doubling down on the unanimous opposition achieved during the last application process. To date Senator Gopal (11th district), Senator O'Scanlon (13th district), Assemblywoman DiMaso (13th district), The Board of Chosen Freeholders for Monmouth County, as well as the towns of Atlantic Highlands, Middletown and Union beach have all reaffirmed their opposition and sent letters to the NJDEP urging them to take action against the pipeline. Waves of thanks for your continued action against the pipeline!

### New York Continues to Oppose the NESE Pipeline



In New York the opposition to the NESE Pipeline continues to grow. Executive Director Cindy Zipf joined allies in the Empire State at a rally outside Governor Cuomo's Manhattan office to send a loud and clear message that our air, water and climate will not be sacrificed. Currently, in New York over 280 organizations, 80 elected officials, and over 35,000 citizens have told Governor Cuomo to kill the pipeline.

### Save the Bay Action Stations

This July & August COA staff members were spotted all along the Bayshore, educating residents about the impacts from the proposed NESE pipeline and assisting them in submitting comments to the NJDEP opposing the project.


*Stations were located at the Highlands Farmers Market, outside D'Alessio's Bagel Express in Leonardo, and the Raritan Bay Brewing Co. in Keansburg (pictured left)*



- Say "No" to the Williams NESE Pipeline
- COA featured by National Geographic
- The Open Surf Contest
- Bucket Hats

## Inside this Issue

Clean Ocean Action  
49 Avenue Blvd.  
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LABEL

September 2019  
CLEAN OCEAN ADVOCATE

**Mark Your Calendars**  
Say "No" to NESE Press Conference Rally  
**Saturday, September 14, 10am**  
Marine Park, Red Bank

**Summer Yoga Series**  
**Sunday, September 15**  
Asbury Park Yacht Club, 8:30am to 9:30am

**Sea.Hear.Now. Festival**  
**Saturday, September 21-22**  
Asbury Park, NJ  
Volunteers Needed! If interested, call COA.

**Rally for the Navesink Public Meeting**  
**Thursday, September 26, 7pm - 8pm**  
Red Bank Public Library  
Red Bank, NJ

**COA Open Surf Contest**  
**Sunday, September 29, 7am**  
Seven Presidents Oceanfront Park  
Long Branch, NJ

**Fall Student Summit**  
**Thursday, October 3**  
Island Beach State Park

**Fall Beach Sweeps**  
**Saturday, October 26, 9am - 12:30pm**  
60 NJ Locations

**Ocean Celebration**  
**Friday, November 1, 6pm - 10pm**  
Windows on the Water  
931 Ocean Ave, Sea Bright, NJ

## Tributes

Photo courtesy of Joe Reynolds

### In Memory of:

Peter Cauterucci	Theodore Josberger
Kevin James Day	Donna Madden-Kaznica
James DeMarco	Carol Anne Ross

### In Honor of:

Elisabeth Allcock's 69th Birthday  
Janine Karoly  
Cindy Zipf

**CHEERS to 35 YEARS**  
of Ocean Advocacy!

# PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

Spencer Munson, Resource and Event Coordinator, [Programs@CleanOceanAction.org](mailto:Programs@CleanOceanAction.org)



## The COA Open: A Surf Contest Fundraiser for Ocean Protection!

We're just over one month away from the 2nd Annual Open Surf Contest which will take place at Seven Presidents Oceanfront Park in Long Branch on September 29th! Contest divisions are filling up fast so hurry to the registration page ([COASurfContest.Eventbrite.com](http://COASurfContest.Eventbrite.com)) and get yourself signed up for the best contest to protect the ocean! The contest features divisions for all ages and skill levels ranging from 12 & Under to an Invite-Only Pro Division which will feature

some of the most talented surfers in the NJ/NY region! It's a contest that has a little something for everyone and most importantly, it raises money to protect the ocean! This year, a special CrowdRise fundraising competition is underway alongside the surf contest. The contestant that raises the most money via CrowdRise before September 29th will be crowned the Ocean Defender and awarded special surf gear prizes. The link for that page will automatically be sent to everyone who signs up for the competition or After-Party.

The After-Party will be held at 2nd Jetty Seafood in Sea Bright immediately following the conclusion of the competition. Contestants will receive free access to the party; all other attendees will be required to purchase tickets in advance via the Eventbrite link. This party may be even bigger than last year and will feature a buffet style food spread prepared by the talented chefs at 2nd Jetty, live music, the contest award ceremony, a chance to meet local pro surfers, prizes & giveaways, craft beer, wine and Tito's for adult attendees, and more! So if surfing isn't your groove or if you want to support a surfer, come to the After-Party for a \$50 donation to have fun and help support COA!

**Volunteers are vital to the success of this event and COA is in need of help. If you are interested in volunteering to help with set-up, registration, breakdown, etc. please email [Programs@cleanoceanaction.org](mailto:Programs@cleanoceanaction.org) and find out how you can help! All volunteers will receive a free Contest T-Shirt!**

## COA featured by National Geographic!

COA is thrilled to share National Geographic's latest Planet or Plastic feature which focuses on cigarette pollution! It highlights COA and the Beach Sweeps program, and seeks to challenge the social norm of littering cigarette filters.

Who hasn't seen someone "flick" their cigarette butt and wonder, "why do they think that is acceptable behavior?" Littered cigarette filters seem to be the last form of "acceptable" litter, but we all have the power to change this social norm. In 2018 Beach Sweeps volunteers collected an astonishing 21,998 cigarette filters in just six hours along the Jersey Shore. No butts about it – use an ashtray! Visit [CleanOceanAction.org](http://CleanOceanAction.org) to watch the latest video online and read the article!



Behind the scenes from the June 28 Corporate Beach Sweeps with Goldman Sachs that was featured in National Geographic's latest Planet or Plastic video which focuses on cigarette pollution



National Geographic's Gabrielle Ewing and Jonah Lincoln Best interviewing COA's Executive Director Cindy Zipf on cigarette filter pollution

# SCIENCE

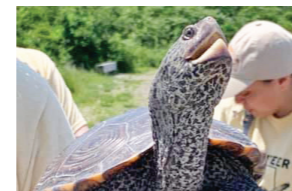
Swarna Muthukrishnan, PhD, Staff Scientist; [Science@CleanOceanAction.org](mailto:Science@CleanOceanAction.org)  
Alison McCarthy, Watershed Protection Coordinator; [Outreach@CleanOceanAction.org](mailto:Outreach@CleanOceanAction.org)

## COA's Rally for the Waterways expands in Navesink and to Deal Lake and Barnegat Bay

- COA's Staff Scientist Swarna Muthukrishnan evaluated twelve new possible water quality testing locations along the Navesink River, using the IDEXX method. This is a simpler screening method to help track down sources of Enterococcus bacteria (poo-llution). COA established a testing lab thanks to a grant from the US EPA Citizen Science Program. Following this evaluation, eight feasible locations were selected, as part of the ongoing COA-DEP study.
- In Deal Lake, wet-weather sampling took place in July that will be used to determine the impacts of stormwater runoff on bacteria concentrations. The samples were collected by COA staff, interns, and COA-trained citizen scientist volunteers from the Deal Lake Watershed Alliance. Samples were shipped to Environmental Canine Services (ECS) in Maine for "ship and sniff" testing. This innovative method uses canines trained to detect the presence or absence of potential bacteria from sewage contamination. This initiative is in partnership with the Deal Lake Commission.
- Testing is anticipated to be expanded to the Barnegat Bay, thanks to a grant from the NJDEP to identify and reduce sources of pathogen pollution from sewage bacteria.



COA's Marine Debris and Water Quality Intern Megan Andreasen conducting wet-weather sampling in Deal Lake



Join us for the next Rally for the Navesink meeting on Thursday, September 26th, 7pm at Red Bank Public Library to learn more about the fascinating creatures that live in the Two Rivers area including Project Terrapin and more!

## New Volunteer Citizen Scientists Tracking Down Poo-llution in the Navesink!

At the last Rally for the Navesink meeting in July, over 20 citizens from throughout the Navesink and Shrewsbury watersheds were trained to collect water quality samples for weekly water quality monitoring. Starting in August, these new citizen scientist volunteers began collecting water quality samples alongside seasoned volunteers every Wednesday. We welcome this new group of volunteer water quality monitors and thank both the new and veteran volunteers for their commitment to reducing pollution in the Navesink River! New volunteers include Harshdeep Brar, Lauren Craven, Jennifer DiRossano, Dana Franznick, Kevin Halek, Bill Jaeger, Mary White, and Thom White.

A green straw (pictured right in red circle) was found inside this Mahi Mahi caught off New Jersey in August that was photographed by fisherman Cooper Bohner. Another image of a Mahi Mahi caught off New Jersey, photographed by fisherman Josh Arvin was sent to COA showing a yellow balloon found inside its belly. Thank you to these ocean advocates for sending the photos! If you are a fisherman and find plastic inside a fish's stomach please take photos, note the location and send it to COA at [info@CleanOceanAction.org](mailto:info@CleanOceanAction.org).



## POLICY Peter Blair, Policy Attorney; [Policy@CleanOceanAction.org](mailto:Policy@CleanOceanAction.org)

### NJ Legislative Joint Hearing Focused on Recycling Issues

NJ Senate & Assembly Environmental Committees held a joint hearing in Toms River on August 15 to discuss challenges facing recycling. Industry experts, environmentalists, and the Department of Environmental Protection called on the state to take action to redevelop recycling markets in the state and revive the struggling sector. NJ recycles about 44% of the municipal waste collected at curbside, a number above the national average. However, costs are increasing and burdening municipalities and counties across the state due to Asian markets banning these items. Some towns' budgets have increased over 100%.



Assemblyman McKeon, Assemblywoman Lopez, Assembly Chairwomen Pinkin, and Senate Chairman Smith at the Joint Senate and Assembly Environment Committee meeting to discuss recycling problems and solutions

# OUTREACH & EDUCATION

Kari Martin, Education Coordinator; [Citizens@CleanOceanAction.org](mailto:Citizens@CleanOceanAction.org)

## Hats-off to COAST 2019

COA's Nonprofit Intern, Isabelle Rosa coordinated the 2019 COA Shore Tips (COAST) Campaign this summer, which educated citizens about being the solution to ocean pollution at seven Monmouth County beach clubs in July and August. COAST volunteers and COA staff spoke to beach-goers enjoying the beautiful Jersey Shore about threats to our ocean, as well as ways they can protect it. Thanks to this year's COAST volunteers, beach-goers learned about our organization, signed petitions against the harmful proposed NESE pipeline, provided \$1700 in donations and sales of COA t-shirts and the new and limited-edition COA bucket hats.

### NEW! Limited-edition COA Bucket Hats



**Available NOW for a \$20 donation!**  
To order a hat, call COA!

Nonprofit Intern Isabelle Rosa (left) is all smiles with COA's new bucket hat. Paul Katz (right) of Marta Heflin Foundation, who supports our work to reduce climate change, pollution and plastic in the ocean, is shown sporting the bucket hat.

## Lights, Camera, Action!

In July, COA was a proud partner with Indie Street Film Festival in the New Jersey premiere of Artfishal at Bow Tie Cinemas in Red Bank, NJ. Artfishal is a film about people, rivers, and the fight for the future of wild fish and the environment that supports them. Kari Martin, Education Coordinator, spoke to movie-viewers about COA's efforts to stop sources of human-caused pollution in the ocean, and educated movie-goers at a citizen action table about being the solution to pollution during the post-movie plastic-free BBQ. Thanks to Jay Webb, Jim Scavone, and the nonprofit ISFF crew for selecting COA as a partner.



**How did you enjoy your summer? Let us know the people, places, or things that made the Summer of 2019 special! Check your mailbox for COA's Making Waves appeal.**



## Thank You Interns!

Waves of thanks to COA's Summer Interns Megan Andreasen, Marine Debris Water Quality Intern; Patricia Dunkak, Communications and Resource Intern; and Isabelle Rosa, Nonprofit Intern! Please join us in wishing our interns farewell and good luck at college! COA celebrated their summer season with a walking trip to local Strollo's Lighthouse for ice cream.