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Follow COA on Social Media For Ocean Updates!

LABEL

CLEAN OCEAN ADVOCATE
October 2020

Registration is required.
Visit CleanOceanAction.org to register.
Saturday, October 24th, 9am



- A Huge Win for the Ocean!
- Plastic Pollution in Delaware River
- Enter to Win a Hand-Shaped Surfboard, and more!

Inside this Issue

Clean Ocean Action
49 Avenel Blvd.
Long Branch, NJ 07740
www.CleanOceanAction.org
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Save the Date

- Fall Student Summit
October 5 - October 9
- COA Open Surf Contest
Saturday, October 10
- The Ocean is Calling
Thursday, October 22
- Beach Sweeps
Saturday, October 24

Tributes

Photo courtesy of Joe Reynolds

In Memory of:

- Cindy Briggs
- Peter Cauterucci
- Kevin James Day
- Jody DiStasio
- Michael Linkin
- Carol Anne Ross

In Honor of:

- Congratulations to Amanda Cusack
- Diana and John
- Adrian D'Orlando
- Kelly, Noah & Ann Mascarenhas
- Joe Schluter



Waves of Thanks to Our Beach Sweeps Sponsors!

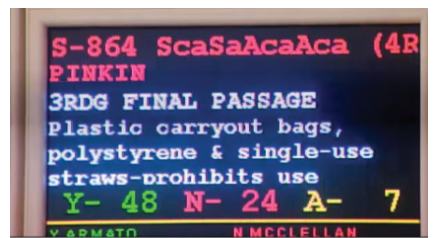
County Sponsors



POLICY Kari Martin, Advocacy Campaign Manager, Citizens@CleanOceanAction.org; Peter Blair, Esq., Policy Attorney, Policy@CleanOceanAction.org

Strong Single-Use Waste Ban Passes NJ Legislature Citizens Help Push Bill Forward to Governor Murphy's Desk

With one more step to go, beach-goers will hopefully be picking-up less trash on New Jersey's shorelines thanks to a bill that passed the NJ Legislature on September 24. The NJ Assembly and NJ Senate passed S864/A1978, now the strongest legislation in the country to reduce single-use waste items. The legislation, which goes into effect in spring 2022, bans single-use plastic carryout bags and polystyrene foam food service ware, allows plastic straws on demand, and phases-out paper bags at large grocery stores.



The YES votes have it! The bill to ban single-use waste items passes in NJ!

The bill now goes to NJ Governor Murphy, who has 45 days to act on the legislation.



Call NJ Governor Murphy at 609-292-6000 to urge him to sign S864/A1978 into law!

COA commends the NJ legislators who led the bill through the process: Senator Smith (D-17), Assemblywoman Pinkin (D-18), and Assemblyman McKeon (D-27), as well as state legislative leaders Senate President Sweeney (D-3) and Assembly Speaker Coughlin (D-19), who brought the bill to the floor for a successful vote. For additional co-sponsors check-out COA's website under "Issues." If Gov. Murphy signs the bill into law, there will be less plastics in the ocean to cause harm and death to marine life.

You can help make a difference by participating in Clean Ocean Action's 35th Fall Beach Sweeps on Saturday, October 24th, 9am-12:30pm! Visit CleanOceanAction.org to register at a beach near you. In 2019, Beach Sweeps Volunteers collected 6,854 plastic bags, 1,920 foam food containers, and 35,124 straw/stirrers. Give the beaches a clean sweep and collect valuable data to support the need for a single-use waste ban!



Learn More: Wind Energy Offshore



Windmills off Block Island
Photo by Mary-Beth Thompson

COA has been closely monitoring the efforts and plans for offshore wind energy development. Over 150 participants attended COA's July 2020 webinar on the subject. In an effort to provide information to residents and groups on the ever-developing subject and emerging projects, COA compiled questions asked by participants in the webinar and provided answers based on available science and policy. COA's "Offshore Wind Energy Development Q&A" is posted at CleanOceanAction.org (click Issues/Campaigns tab, Offshore Energy, then Wind).

Protect Wildlife from Balloons!

Bill A4322, introduced by NJ Assembly Members Houghtaling (NJ-11) and Downey (NJ-11), prohibits the intentional outdoor release of balloons throughout the state, and requires better control of balloons outdoors. Join over 16,000 people who signed our petition to ban balloon releases at CleanOceanAction.org.



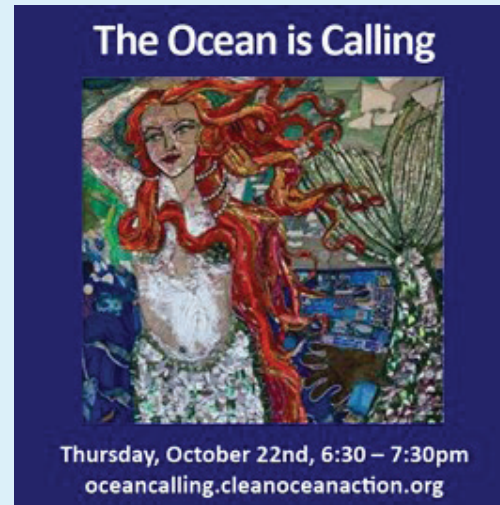
Bird wing tangled in balloon string
Photo by Amanda Wheeler

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

Laurie Bratone, Development Director, LBratone@CleanOceanAction.org

Support a Clean Ocean

Join Clean Ocean Action for a festive, virtual celebration, "The Ocean is Calling" on Thursday, October 22nd, 6:30 – 7:30pm. Meet colorful characters from COA's rich history and celebrate 35 Years of Beach Sweeps with host Tim McLoone. This 21+ event will honor First Lady Tammy Murphy for her Climate Change Education Initiatives and includes a toast from Tito's Vodka. In addition, the event features an online silent auction that is currently live. The ocean is calling and you can answer by supporting COA with a donation, participating in the online silent auction, becoming a sustaining supporter, and sharing this with your family and friends!



Celebrating 35 Years

BEACH SWEEPS

Be a Sustaining Supporter at \$35/month!

protected and healthy ocean for years to come. The first 35 sustaining supporters will receive 10 metal straws and a Tito's Bandana! Learn more by visiting oceancalling.cleanoceanaction.org.

Help Sustain a Healthy Ocean for Years to Come!

Honor COA's 35th anniversary of the Beach Sweeps! Consider becoming a sustaining supporter. Donate \$35/month in honor of 35 years of Beach Sweeps to help support Clean Ocean Action's work. Your monthly gift of \$35 will move the needle toward a

Enter to Win a Custom, Hand-Shaped Surfboard!

The 2020 COA Open Surf Contest will be held on Saturday, October 10th at Seven Presidents Oceanfront Park. In the event of inclement weather or a lack of contestable waves, the contest will be held on Sunday, October 11th. The Open is one of COA's few annual fundraising events; therefore, the money raised from the contest is vital to continuing the organization's ocean conservation efforts.



All COA Supporters have the opportunity to win a custom surfboard, hand-shaped to the dimensions of your choosing by legendary shaper Tom Eadon! Tom is one of New Jersey's finest craftsmen, keeping surfers stoked on great equipment since the 1960s. The contest is open to the general public, not just competitors in the COA Open Surf Contest.

Contestants must raise a minimum of \$250 to qualify for the prize.

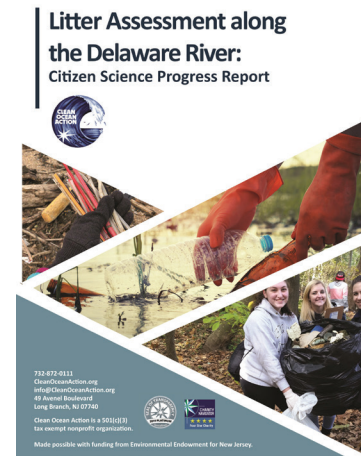
The contest will end on Friday, October 9th at 11:59pm. The contestant who raises the most money will earn the prize and will be put in contact with Tom Eadon to discuss the details of their dream board! IMPORTANT NOTE: The winner is responsible for picking up the board or paying for delivery. Visit surf.cleanoceanaction.org to learn more.

SCIENCE

Swarna Muthukrishnan, PhD, Staff Scientist, Science@CleanOceanAction.org
Alison Jones, Watershed Protection Coordinator, Outreach@CleanOceanAction.org

Plastic Pollution Exposed in Delaware River

COA released the "Litter Assessment along the Delaware River: Citizen Science Progress Report" on September 23rd in honor of National Estuary Week. Plastics and other manufactured debris pollute waterways, embankments, and beaches, and can be found even in the most remote locations and deepest trenches in the ocean. In New Jersey, the shoreline of the Delaware River is no exception. Indeed, concentrations of marine debris found in "hotspot areas" of litter accumulation along the tidal portion of the river are even higher than along the ocean shoreline. In 2015, Clean Ocean Action launched the Reduce Litter in the Delaware River project to determine why, and to reduce sources. The goal of this project is to monitor litter and reduce the land-based sources of trash that contribute to pollution along and in the river, and that ultimately flow into the ocean. This report summarizes the results of the initial phases of the project, which included a citizen science initiative to remove debris and conduct a comprehensive assessment of litter accumulation. To read the report visit CleanOceanAction.org.



Education for All Ages at Rally for the Navesink Meeting

September's Rally for the Navesink virtual meeting was full of learning opportunities – for citizens, families, and teachers alike. Mayor Perry of Middletown joined the meeting to urge Middletown residents to vote "Yes" on the Open Space Fund referendum, which will be on the General Election ballot for Middletown residents on November 3. Local business owner and President of Friends for the Oceanic Bridge Association, Todd Thompson, reviewed the latest Preliminary Preferred Alternative (PPA) for the Oceanic Bridge, which proposes replacing the current bridge with a 65 foot high fixed bridge. After answering questions, Thompson urged residents to stay informed and engaged in the process, and to provide their input on the PPA by submitting comments to Monmouth County by October 16. Finally, environmental organizations including Monmouth Conservation Foundation, Save Coastal Wildlife, NJ Audubon, and American Littoral Society shared their virtual educational resources and upcoming in-person activities, all ideal for supplementing virtual school lesson plans. To view the recording of this meeting and related informational links, visit Rally for the Navesink on Facebook or CleanOceanAction.org.



EDUCATION

Kristen Grazioso, Education Coordinator, Kgrazioso@CleanOceanAction.org
Kari Martin, Advocacy Campaign Manager, Citizens@CleanOceanAction.org

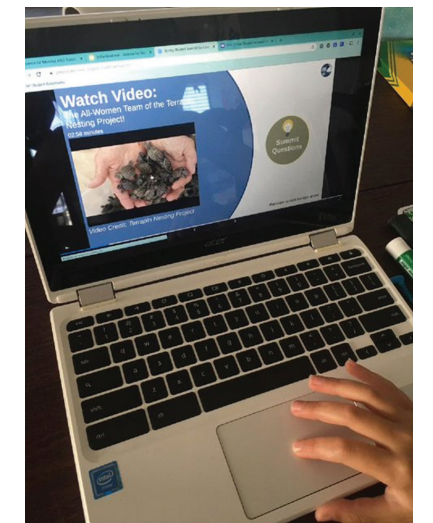
Calling All Beach Sweepers!



Join Clean Ocean Action with feet on the beach and hands in the sand on Saturday, October 24th, 9am-12:30pm! COA will be implementing COVID-19 protocols at the Beach Sweeps, in accordance with state and CDC guidelines. Waves of thanks to the Beach Captains, towns, sponsors, and participants who are making the 35th Annual Fall Beach Sweeps possible! To view COA's COVID-19 protocols for Beach Sweeps volunteers and register for the event, go to CleanOceanAction.org. Registration is required.

COA's Fall Virtual Summit is Now Available!

Our Fall Student Summit typically takes place at Island Beach State Park, but this year we get to bring it to students virtually! Just like our popular in-person Summits, COA's Virtual Fall Student Summit will aim to expand learning beyond the classroom. The Summit will be designed to provide public and private middle school (Grades 5-8) students from southern NJ with an interdisciplinary marine and environmental education experience from home! Through virtual presentations from local scientists, teachers, and volunteers, this year's Fall Student Summit will bring students an interactive "day at the beach".



Thanks to sponsors OceanFirst Foundation and Eloise & John Pound, and a recent, very generous grant from The John Ben Snow Memorial Trust, COA's Virtual Fall Student Summit will have new additions and updates, creating the best experience possible for all attendees! The Fall Student Summit is available October 5th - 9th. For information on participating, contact Kristen at Citizens@CleanOceanAction.org.

Industry Magazine's Power Players

COA's Executive Director Cindy Zipf was featured in the latest edition of Industry Magazine NJ's Power Player section. The feature in Industry Mag's Fashion Issue explains what inspired Cindy to create Clean Ocean Action and its mission and goals for the future. Cindy also reveals her favorite fashion designer and other fun facts. Visit industrym.com to read Cindy's story.

