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- Join COA for "Tour for the Shore 2012!"
- A Coastal Assessment of Seafloor Life
- COA Crew & Intern Updates

June 2012 Highlights

- TAKE 3 ACTIONS TO HELP OUR OCEAN:**
1. Get in motion for the ocean and join the Tour for the Shore at www.CleanOceanZone.org.
 2. Volunteer for COA at a festival or C.O.A.S.T. 2012.
 3. Attend (with friends!) COA's fun upcoming events.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

June 9

Landshark Fantastic Voyage, 9am-11:30, Seaside Heights, NJ. Join COA and Ocean Conservancy for a beach cleanup followed by paddle-boarding and beer sampling. See "Events" inside for details.

June 19

Yoga on the Pier, 6pm, Ocean City Music Pier, Boardwalk at Moorlyn Terrace, Ocean City, NJ. See "Events" inside for details.

July-August

Clean Ocean Action Shore Tips (C.O.A.S.T.) Campaign 2012, dates and locations TBD. See "C.O.A.S.T." inside for details.

August 10-24

Tour for the Shore 2012
Visit www.CleanOceanZone.org for details.

August 12

Summa Love Surfing and Yoga Surf Camp, 10am-12pm, Ocean Lane, Deal, NJ (Phillips Beach). See "Events" inside for details.

COA CREW & INTERN UPDATES



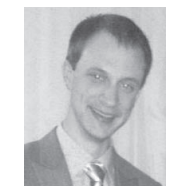
Lindsay McNamara joins the COA staff as the Ocean Advocacy Fellow. She will assist and manage aspects of outreach, communications, and marketing, as well as resource development. Lindsay graduated from the University of Delaware with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Environmental Studies with a concentration in Environment, Society, and Sustainability.



Krista Barone, Beach Sweeps Intern, will assist in the planning, organization, and coordination of the Corporate Beach Sweeps and Scavenger Hunt programs, as well as pre-planning for the statewide bi-annual Beach Sweeps programs. Krista was a former member and co-chair of COA's Student Ocean Advocate program in Ocean County from 2009 to 2011, and is pursuing a degree in chemistry and natural science at Ithaca College.



Joanna Simon, C.O.A.S.T. Intern, will be organizing all aspects of this year's summer C.O.A.S.T. campaign, including coordinating educational materials for action tables, arranging and informing volunteers to staff the tables (she may be calling you!), and coordinating media activities. Joanna, a Jersey Shore "local," is working toward a Bachelor of Arts degree in Environmental Studies from Tulane University in New Orleans.



Jonathon Panico, Science and Policy Intern, will research and develop "issue papers" and advocacy summaries of COA's key policy issues and compile a report on the state of the New York/New Jersey Bight. Jonathon completed his first year at Pace University School of Law and is a graduate of Ramapo College of New Jersey, where he received a degree in Environmental Studies.

COAlition Rallies for the COZ

Founded in 1984, Clean Ocean Action (COA) is a broad-based coalition of 135 active boating, business, community, conservation, diving, environmental, fishing, religious, service, student, surfing, and women's groups. These "Ocean Wavemakers" work to clean up and protect the waters of the New York Bight, having joined together to investigate sources of pollution, study the effects of that pollution, and identify and implement solutions.

This coalition recognizes that we've come a long way from the days of dead marine life, raw sewage, medical waste and garbage washing-up on beaches, ocean dumping of sewage sludge, acid waste, toxin-laden muck, and many other harmful activities. Today, the ocean off the NJ/NY coast is dumpsite-free, cleaner, and healthier. The groups are rallying now to help lock-in these victories. Get your group involved and join the "Tour for the Shore 2012!"

Tentative Shore Tour Dates and Route Rally Stops

- August 10:** Cape May Point – Avalon
- August 11:** Avalon – Ocean City – Atlantic City
- August 12:** Atlantic City – South Long Beach – Barnegat Light
- August 13:** Barnegat Light – Seaside – Point Pleasant Beach
- August 14:** Point Pleasant – Belmar – Sandy Hook
- August 15:** Sandy Hook – Keansburg – Staten Island – Manhattan
- August 16:** Weather Day
- August 17:** Manhattan – Coney Island – Atlantic Beach
- August 18:** Atlantic Beach – Robert Moses State Park
- August 19:** Robert Moses State Park – Mastic Beach
- August 20:** Weather Day
- August 21:** Mastic Beach – Shinnecock County Park
- August 22:** Weather Day
- August 23:** Shinnecock County Park – Montauk Point
- August 24:** Long Island Century Ride & Final Celebration in Montauk

TOUR FOR THE SHORE 2012

Prior to the Memorial Day weekend, the "unofficial" start of summer, Clean Ocean Action (COA) and its coalition members -- from South Jersey to the East End of Long Island -- announced an unprecedented bi-state, multi-organizational campaign to raise awareness for the Clean Ocean Zone or "COZ" that will run from August 10th to 24th, 2012. The **Tour for the Shore 2012** is a 15-day tour along hundreds of miles of beaches with rallies and tour stops in nine coastal counties, and dozens of towns.

As part of the tour, ocean advocate and paddling enthusiast **Margo Pellegrino** will travel by outrigger canoe along the shoreline, while COA's own Coastal Policy Attorney **Sean Dixon** hits the pavement on a bike. Friends and supporters of a clean ocean are invited to join them by road or by sea as they progress up the coast. Rallies, action tables, and beach teams will be held along the way in every coastal district, where citizens, businesses, groups, and elected leaders will be urged to participate and support the initiative. COA is calling on the public to "Get in Motion for the Ocean."

The tour is scheduled to take place during the peak of the shore's tourism season, providing the coalition the opportunity to reach tens of thousands of people with one message: "The time is now for the Clean Ocean Zone." The tour kicks-off on Friday, August 10th in Cape May, heading up the coast to Manhattan for **Surfers' Environmental Alliance's** SEApaddleNYC on Friday, August 17th, and heading along the South Shore of Long Island to finish at Montauk Point on Friday, August 24th with the **Concerned Citizens of Montauk** and a Long Island "Century" Bike Ride for the Ocean.

To announce the Tour for the Shore, COA held a Tele-Press Conference, with groups from Atlantic City to Montauk, including: **Alliance for a Living Ocean, Concerned Citizens of Montauk, Food and Water Watch, Garden Club of Long Beach Island, Long Beach Island Foundation, ReClam the Bay, Surfrider Foundation, Surfers' Environmental Alliance, WATERSPIRIT, and Water Watch International.**

For this 2012 Clean Ocean Zone campaign, COA re-vamped the Clean Ocean Zone website with information on the COZ, the Tour for the Shore, and the organizations and businesses that are working toward a clean ocean future. Check out www.CleanOceanZone.org for information on the NY/NJ Bight and Tour, such as maps, logos, partners and supporters, and how to get involved.



GO ON TOUR!

Join COA -- by land or sea -- for the Tour for the Shore to raise awareness of the threats to our NY/NJ Ocean and the need for a Clean Ocean Zone. Organizations, businesses, and citizens are invited to participate and get involved. To participate go to www.CleanOceanZone.org or contact Zach at citizens@cleanoceanaction.org.

A BEACH BALL OF FUN!



Perfect Beach Ball weather at Ship Ahoy Beach Club



Once again, Random Test got the crowd dancing!

Clean Ocean Action's 8th annual **Family Beach Ball** took place on Sunday, May 20, at Ship Ahoy Beach Club in Sea Bright, New Jersey. Two hundred guests celebrated the ocean and the forthcoming summer season with reggae music and great food and drink. **New Jersey State Senator Joe Kyrillos (R-13)** attended and showed his support for the Clean Ocean Zone, and complimented COA's efforts to enact permanent protections for the New York/New Jersey Bight.

With new and renewed sponsors, this year's Beach Ball raised more than \$26,000! New this year was entertainment for kids by **Mr. Scott the Music Man** and **Ray Anderson**. Many thanks to Beach Ball sponsors, guests, in-kind donors and volunteers! Event photos above, on page 4, and on COA's website are generously donated by supporter **Bob Lisiesky** of Robert Roman Studios. See all the event photos at www.CleanOceanAction.org or on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/cleanocean.

SEA SCENES

This month's Sea Scene is dedicated to the supporters and sponsors of our Family Beach Ball!

***Waves of thanks to The Jackson Family and Ship Ahoy Beach Club
and to our 2012 Family Beach Ball Sponsors:***

Salt Water Taffy Sponsors

Medallion Financial ~ Torcon

Skee Ball Sponsors

Becker & Poliakoff, LLP ~ The Huber Family ~ Shore Point Distributors

Cotton Candy Sponsors

Carriage House Marina ~ Gordon Litwin ~ New Jersey Natural Gas
Monmouth County Memorial Park Cemetery Association
Victor Maisano, CPA, of German, Vreeland and Associates

Frog Bog Sponsors

Kennedy & Ward Insurance Agency ~ Main One Marina
The McDonald Family ~ Chip and Maria Schulz

In-Kind Support

Ray Anderson (aka Mr Ray) and Mr Scott the Music Man
Beach Chik Designs ~ Guaranteed Plants & Florist ~ Hall Family
Bob Lisiesky ~ New Age Flooring ~ Sandy Hook Child Care Center
Summa Love Surfing & Yoga ~ Sperry Tents of New Jersey
Waste Management ~ WasteNot Solutions

Tasty Bites, Drinks, and Treats From

Brennan's Delicatessen ~ Fisherman's Dock Cooperative
The Flaky Tart ~ Gracie and the Dudes ~ Holly Crest Winery
Island Margaritas ~ Lusty Lobster Seafood Market and Catering
Sugarush ~ Wegmans

PHOTOS FROM THE FAMILY BEACH BALL



Student volunteers assisted Sandy Hook Child Care Center and Beach Chik Designs in their eco-friendly crafts and games



Bryan Zinski (at right) of Summa Love Surfing and Yoga donated his time to show kids on-sand surfing techniques



Lisa Bagwell displayed her sculptures made of beach litter



Ray Anderson and guest singer Nico Cordova entertained the crowd



Guests enjoyed seafood from the Lusty Lobster



Mr. Scott kept the kids movin' and groovin'!

Photos generously donated by Bob Lisiesky of Robert Roman Studios

SCIENCE & POLICY NEWS

Heather Saffert, Ph.D., Science@cleanoceanaction.org
Sean Dixon, Esq., Policy@cleanoceanaction.org

Seismic Blasting in the Atlantic: Public Comment Period Extended

COA has been challenging – loudly – a plan by the Obama Administration's Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) to open up the Atlantic Ocean to a decade of seismic surveys. These surveys send powerful soundwaves deep below the seafloor in an attempt to locate oil and gas reserves. The deafening blasts threaten marine life (from whales to shellfish), and will be detrimental to our NY/NJ diving, boating, tourism, and fishing economies.

COA teamed-up with environmental groups across the nation to organize a coordinated response. COA is working with people from around the NY/NJ Bight to get our state elected officials to take a stand against these surveys and safeguard our ocean's health.

Thanks to **US Representatives Frank Pallone, Jr. (D-6)** and **Rush Holt (D-12)**, BOEM extended the comment period to July 2. Submit comments on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) for Atlantic G&G Activities to: Mr. Gary D. Goeke, Chief Regional Assessment Section, Office of Environment (MS5410) Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Gulf of Mexico OCS Region, 1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard, New Orleans, LA 70123-2394. Comments by email should be sent to GGEIS@boem.gov; the subject heading must read: "Comments on the Draft PEIS for Atlantic G&G Activities." To sign onto COA's regional comments, contact Zach.

Fighting Fracking for Natural Gas

Regional advocates are gearing-up for a fight against the dumping of wastewater from "hydro-fracking" operations into our streams, estuaries, and oceans via wastewater treatment plants. "Fracking" for natural gas involves sending millions of gallons of chemically-treated water deep underground to break up rock formations and release trapped gas. This water – which can contain a dangerous chemical cocktail – in many cases spills into the waterways near production sites in states like Pennsylvania and Ohio. Recently, there has been a huge up-tick in wastewater from fracking, which has forced these energy companies to look for a place to "dispose" of this waste; they centered their targets on NY/NJ sewage treatment plants.

Disposing these chemicals in our water treatment plants is very dangerous because the chemicals in the water in many cases cannot be "treated," so they just pass through the plant and into our waters and oceans. Each gallon of water delivered to these plants contains a different deadly cocktail of toxins, making it nearly impossible to plan meaningful treatment steps. COA is working with safe water, safe community, and public health groups to make sure these chemicals stay out of our waters and ocean. A day of action is planned in Trenton, NJ, on June 14; for more information, go to www.foodandwaterwatch.org.

Advocating NJ's Fertilizer Law

Recently, COA's Staff Scientist Heather Saffert, Ph.D. presented on the New Jersey Fertilizer Law at a New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission (NEIWPCC) conference on nonpoint source pollution. Saffert reviewed the history and requirements of NJ law and presented some of the challenges in its development and implementation.

The meeting was also useful to learn about nonpoint source issues and solutions, including the University of New Hampshire's stormwater studies. The UNH-designed gravel wetlands stormwater basin that remove nitrogen is being used as a model for retrofit projects in the Barnegat Bay watershed in NJ. Also, New York City initiated over 30 pilot projects using green infrastructure to reduce stormwater and combined sewer overflows (CSOs). Most of these monitored projects have been effective at reducing stormwater.

CITIZEN ACTION

Zach McCue, Citizens@cleanoceanaction.org

Volunteer for a Clean Ocean

Spring is a fun time to volunteer for COA at great festivals near the shore. Volunteer to staff our action table! Contact Zach to sign-up for the following festivals:

June 3: *Barnegat Bay Festival*, Waterfront, Island Heights, 10am-4pm

June 16: *Cape May Harbor Fest*, Delaware Avenue, Cape May, 10am-5pm

C.O.A.S.T.

Joanna Simon, Coast@cleanoceanaction.org

C.O.A.S.T. Campaign 2012: Get Ready to Volunteer & Take Action

This summer's **Clean Ocean Action Shore Tips (C.O.A.S.T.)** campaign is gearing-up to advocate, educate, and activate citizens about the Clean Ocean Zone and the Tour for the Shore this summer. Through action tables along the Jersey Shore at beach clubs, festivals, and fairs, the C.O.A.S.T. campaign gives COA and our partners the opportunity to reach the public as they enjoy a day at the beach! To volunteer or for more information on the campaign, contact the 2012 C.O.A.S.T. intern, Joanna Simon.

Science & Policy News (continued)

A Coastal Assessment of Seafloor Life



Tharyx sp. was one of the most abundant worms identified

Rutgers University released the most comprehensive study of the ocean's benthic life along the Jersey Shore done to date. This study documented the numbers, types, and distribution of benthic sea life, animals that live in the sandy seafloor, including clams, worms (see left photo), snails, and other critters. Scientists cataloged over 270 different kinds of animals (113,177 critters total) from samples within the first three nautical miles of shore (the study's geographic extent). An average of 432 animals per sampling station was found in 2007, and 1,321 in 2009.

There have been concerns about seasonal low "Dissolved Oxygen" (DO) levels in coastal waters – the source of oxygen for sea life underwater – and its impacts. The study, conducted in 2007 and 2009, provides an encouraging snapshot of benthic animal life. Average DO levels were 6.2 mg/L in 2007 and 4.9 mg/L in 2009. Very low DO levels (less than 2 mg/L) were not observed, and healthy, long-lived critters were found along the shore. The community structure (abundance, diversity, etc.) – which can tell much about the health of an ecosystem – was found to be influenced by natural sources of variation, including depth, sediment type, and levels of organics. While the shore showed strong levels of sea life, a few areas were identified in 2009 as potentially showing signs of degradation that merit further monitoring. Low DO levels remain a concern, as do the potential influence of toxins that were not evaluated due to funding limitations.

The data generated has also been used to develop a new index, or measuring tool-system that once finalized can be used for future monitoring and as a model for determining the health of similar coastal areas.

Ongoing comprehensive assessments of sea life in nearshore and deeper ocean waters are critical to understanding human impacts on marine life, and efforts should continue to limit and reduce pollution to the ocean. See COA's blog for more details.

Waiver Rule Lawsuit

Recently, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) adopted a "Waiver Rule" that would give DEP authority to let permit applicants (in over a hundred programs) avoid complying fully with environmental and public health protection regulations. With dozens of other environmental, public health, faith, and community organizations, COA joined a lawsuit against DEP to fight this Waiver Rule. Led by lawyers from the Columbia University Law School, this coalition hopes to defeat the Waiver Rule in court before August 1 -- the date DEP said it will begin accepting applications for waivers. This rule rolls back decades of carefully-crafted environmental and public health protections.

ADVOCACY & EDUCATION

Tavia Danch, Education@cleanoceanaction.org

Student Scientists for a Day

On May 15 and 16, over 400 middle school students and teachers from 18 schools in northern and central New Jersey were scientists for a day at COA's 24th Annual **Spring Student Summit** at Sandy Hook. Students participated in six hands-on learning activities, which included live horseshoe crabs (*right*), identifying seashells, studying invertebrates (*below*), observing a model of nonpoint source pollution, and learning the lethal effects of litter on the marine environment. Students from the **Marine Academy of Science and Technology**, a Monmouth County vocational high school, served as peer teachers at the activity workstations.



In addition, naturalists and other education professionals lead students in twelve field activities throughout the park. Students used seine nets to collect and identify common marine species of Sandy Hook Bay and learned about key bird species and the important role of Sandy Hook in bird migration. Students participated in a beach cleanup, tested water quality,

learned fishing & surfing techniques, and traversed trails with park naturalists.

Special thanks to **Kathleen Gasienica** for her enlightening horseshoe crab lecture. Waves of thanks to the **Gateway National Recreation Area - Sandy Hook** for providing the space for the day's activities.

EVENTS

Emily Hackett, Events@cleanoceanaction.org

Get out and have some fun for COA! Check out these fun upcoming events:

Landshark Fantastic Voyage: June 9, 9-11:30am, Seaside Heights, NJ.

Join COA and Ocean Conservancy for a morning beach cleanup followed by an afternoon of paddle-boarding and beer sampling. Register at <http://act.oceanconservancy.org/site/PageNavigator/Landshark.html>.

Yoga on the Pier: June 19, 6pm, Ocean City Music Pier, on the Boardwalk at Moorlyn Terrace, Ocean City, NJ. Celebrate a clean ocean and join other yogis and yoginis to welcome summer and practice yoga. Yogi participation is a \$15 donation per person with proceeds going to COA.

Summa Love Surfing and Yoga Surf Camp: August 12, 10am-12pm, Ocean Lane, Deal, NJ (Phillips Beach). Join us for this 7th Annual event!

Register with Bryan at 908-910-4552 or info@summalove.com.

Camp asks for a \$50 donation per person with all proceeds going to COA. All equipment is included for use during camp. More info at www.summalove.com.



TRIBUTES

In Memory of Gabriel Madison
In Honor of Mark McAuliffe
In Memory of Kenneth Louis Baril, Sr.