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CLEAN OCEAN ADVOCATE December 2017

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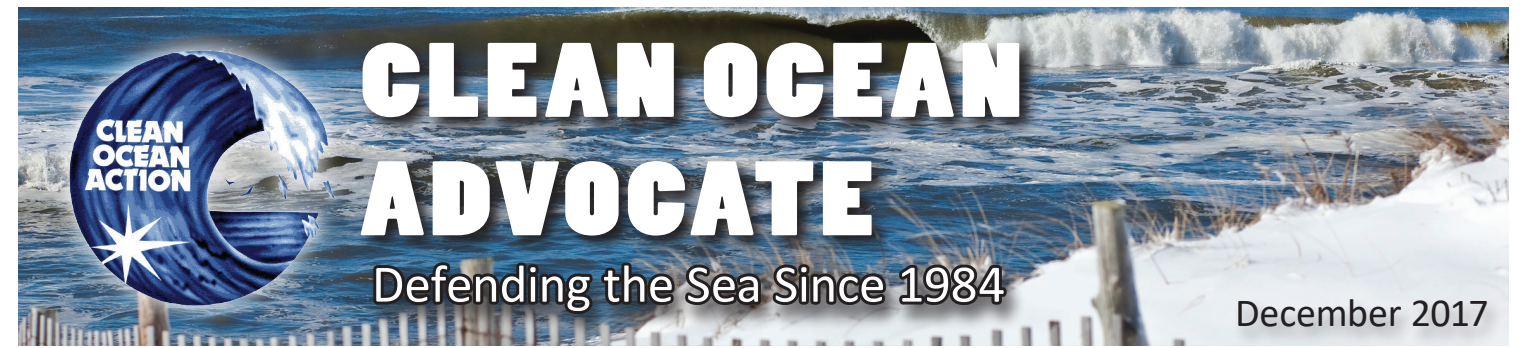


Photo courtesy of Ryan Struck Photography

What Do NJ's Election Results Mean for the Ocean? – Reflections of Executive Director Cindy Zipf

As most know, there is a new Governor-elect in town. Phil Murphy will be sworn-in on January 16, 2018. While many believe he will be better than Chris Christie on the environment, only time will tell.

What is Murphy's Ocean Protection Agenda?

He was generally vague about specific ocean protection issues with the exception of opposing oil and gas development off the Jersey Shore, and perhaps beyond. He joins every NJ Governor since 1982, which will be important as President Trump drives the expansion of ocean drilling in the coming months. However, as of yet, he's been publicly silent on the issue of offshore LNG terminals. Additionally, will his support of offshore wind be protective of living marine resources?

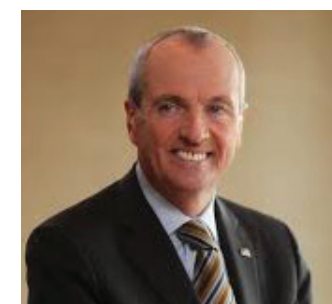
As a first indication of his environmental priorities, Phil Murphy's Environment and Energy Transition team leans toward renewable energy and climate change issues, a hopeful sign. Among others, the team includes:

Environment and Energy

- David Crane, former President and CEO, NRG Energy
- Jeanne Fox, former President, New Jersey Board of Public Utilities and a past Commissioner of the NJDEP
- Kathleen Frangione, former Senior Advisor, Senator John Kerry
- Lisa Garcia, Vice President of Litigation for Healthy Communities, Earthjustice
- John S. Watson Jr., Vice President, D&R Greenway Land Trust



NJ stands strong against offshore oil & gas drilling! Does Phil Murphy?



The next big clue about the Murphy Administration's environmental policies will be his appointment of the Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection; at press time it was unknown.

COA is ready to guide, educate and motivate the new Governor and his administration on actions to protect the extraordinary marine ecosystem and the clean ocean economy upon which it depends. Indeed, already COA helped prepare and supports several documents developed for the new Governor with specific actions to be taken to improve and protect coastal and ocean water quality.

Additionally, there are several new members of the NJ state legislature in 2018 who will also need to be educated and guided to ensure the ocean is a priority.

Leadership Needed to Push Back Against "Environmental Enemy #1"

New Jersey and New York elected officials must be strong leaders to defend our ocean from the Trump Administration. Already the Executive Orders, the many actions of his appointments to USEPA and Departments of Interior, his budget cuts, and staunch opposition to the need to address climate change are unabashed attacks on a sustainable, healthy quality of life for today and into the future.

You Can Help!

COA's watchdog role will keep you posted and highlight opportunities for action, including a March for the Ocean on June 9th. Find more at "marchforocean.com." In the meantime, 2018 is an election year for the entire Congress. Making environmental issues a top priority must be of highest urgency and importance.



March for the Ocean on June 9th, 2018!
www.marchforocean.com

Tributes

In Memory of:

- Betty Ann Farro
- Mary Hanlon
- Ryan Hoblitzell
- Samuel Karinja
- Abby Litwin Mooney
- Carol Anne Ross
- Karen Shatto
- Lillian Sustick
- Kit Rowett White

In Honor of:

- Merry Christmas to Elaine & Doug Denman
- Happy 60th Birthday to Steven Donohue
- Gordon Litwin
- Merry Christmas to Colin Loch
- James Oliveira's 3rd Birthday
- Emily Pederson
- Dorothy Spreeman
- Mary-Beth & Scott Thompson
- Amanda Wheeler
- Cindy Zipf



Photo courtesy of Joe Reynolds

Season's greetings

Wishing you and yours waves of joy this holiday season!

For tips on how to have a green holiday, check out COA's blog and follow us on social media!

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

Tory Woods, Development Director, Development@CleanOceanAction.org

20th Anniversary of a Dumpsite Free Jersey Shore!

Did you know there used to be eight ocean dumpsites just miles off the New Jersey coast? In fact, back in the 1980's, NJ was known as the Ocean Dumping Capitol of the World! In 1988, almost a century after people began dumping waste off the coast of New Jersey, Clean Ocean Action's coalition of more than 100 groups against ocean dumping began to see movement from the government to close the dump sites. This fall marks the 20 Year Anniversary to the End of Ocean Dumping! Find out more by visiting COA's blog.



COA led the COAlition charge to end ocean dumping and works to keep it free from harm!

Clean Ocean Action led the coalition that took on these dumpsites. In fact, that is why COA was formed. Using a model of **research** (what is the source, what is the impact and if it is harmful what are the environmental solutions), **education** (sharing the information far and wide), and most importantly, **citizen action** (coordinating countless battles to oppose ocean dumping by the small and the tall) COA was successful. Finally, in 2000, the ocean was dumpsite free.

The Complete Roster of Dirty Ocean Dumpsites:

SEWAGE SLUDGE DUMP SITE 1924 - 1992 (12 miles offshore)	NORTH ATLANTIC INCINERATION SITE Proposed in 1985 and blocked in 1988 (140 miles offshore)
DEEPWATER DIGESTER SEWAGE SLUDGE DUMP SITE 1985 - 1992 (106 miles offshore)	WOODBURNING DUMP SITE 1960 - 1993 (17 miles offshore)
DEEPWATER INDUSTRIAL DUMP SITE 1951 - 1992 (106 miles offshore)	CELLAR DIRT DUMP SITE 1908 - 1993 (8 miles offshore)
ACID WASTE DUMP SITE 1948 - 1988 (15 miles offshore)	TOXIC MUD DUMP SITE 1914 - 1997 (6 miles offshore)

Today, the Jersey Shore is a premier destination and COA remains ever vigilant to keep it that way.

Despite recent serious threats of ocean industrialization, the Jersey Shore remains free from harm, but that can change.

To read more about each dumpsite, the heroes, and the campaigns, COA has written a book, *True Blue, 30 Years of Making Waves*. To purchase, contact COA.



COA's Watershed Protection Coordinator, Alison McCarthy

COA Merrily Welcomes New Coastal Watershed Protection Coordinator

Alison McCarthy joined the staff in late October and brings experience in water testing, watershed stewardship programs, citizen science, and community organizing to the COA crew.

She previously worked as a Hydrologic Technician for US Geological Survey and an Environmental Services Technician with the NJDEP. Alison was also an Americorps NJ Watershed Ambassador with the NJDEP. She is a summa cum laude graduate of Hobart and William Smith Colleges with a B.S. in Biology and B.A. in Environmental Studies where she completed Honors Research Studies and was a Biology Teaching Fellow.

Alison finds baking and reading are fun ways to unwind and relax, and she also enjoys hiking and being outdoors.

Allison's passion for science, and desire to share it through community engagement and education will help improve and promote COA's programs to protect the ocean.

SCIENCE

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

Long Awaited Updates for Stormwater Control Regulations



Abnormal blue, shiny discharge from an overflow stormwater drain

Nonpoint source pollution, especially runoff from stormwater, has been identified as a major contributor to water quality impairment of waterways. The New Jersey Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NJPDES) and the Municipal Stormwater Regulation Program aim to protect the quality of NJ's ground and surface waters.

There are four general permits issued for stormwater discharges from municipal separate stormwater sewers (MS4) under this program: (i) Tier A Municipal

Permit (applicable to densely populated regions and communities along the coast); (ii)

Tier B Municipal Stormwater Permit (mostly rural and non-coastal); (iii) Public Complex Stormwater Permit (iv); and Highway Agency Stormwater Permit.

These permits are applicable to redevelopment, and existing and new development. Permit conditions require the implementation of Statewide Basic Requirements (SBR) to assure stormwater quality.

The final stormwater rules published in 2004 require the adequate treatment and management of stormwater before it is discharged into different types of waters throughout the state. However, these rules needed to be upgraded as they were somewhat confusing, and most were largely ignored by municipalities resulting in increased water pollution. The final renewal permits for Tier A and B municipalities were issued by DEP on November 9, 2017, and will become effective on Jan 01, 2018. The existing permits will remain in full force and effect until renewal permits are issued.

The renewed Tier A and Tier B permits include some welcoming updates that include the following: (i) reorganization of the SBRs to align with the EPA's NPDES regulations, which will improve clarity between Federal and state criteria; (ii) enhanced public education and outreach requirements; and (iii) increased focus on municipal enforcement of the post-construction development regulations. See Clean Ocean Action's Blog for more details.

Celebrating Rally for the Navesink: Success in 2017!

On November 30th, Clean Ocean Action held the final meeting in 2017 of Rally for the Navesink. Thanks to the generosity of the Cosgrove family, owners of Bahrs Landing in Highlands, NJ, this special event invited volunteers, supporters, and members to gather at Bahrs Landing for an evening of networking and celebration, and delicious seafood fare buffet!



Volunteer Water Quality Monitors pose with their personalized mugs after being honored at the final Rally for the Navesink meeting of 2017, held at Bahrs Landing.



Contact COA to find out how to purchase your very own mug!

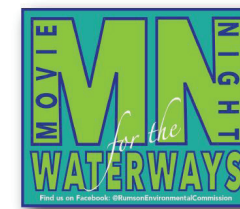
Folks mingled with representatives from several organizations that make up the Rally for the Navesink Alliance, including American Littoral Society, Monmouth Conservation Foundation, Sierra Club – Jersey Shore Group, Monmouth Boat Club, and Oceanport Water Watch. Special honorees for the evening included Brian Rice of the Navesink River Municipalities Committee, NJDEP's Rally for the Navesink River Team, and the volunteer water quality monitors who dedicate several hours every week to ensure the success of the Navesink Ambient Citizen Water Quality Monitoring program. Volunteers received a personalized Rally for the Navesink mug, which will now be available for purchase at future events.

Thank you Cosgrove family and all who supported the Rally for the Navesink effort in 2017 and beyond! The first public Rally for the Navesink meeting of the new year will be held on January 25th, 2018 at 6:30 pm at Bingham Hall in Rumson.

OUTREACH & EDUCATION

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

Movies for the Waterways, Fun for the Whole Family!



Kristen Hall, member of the Rumson Environmental Commission, was inspired to host environmental-themed movie nights for children and families in her community. Join Rumson Environmental Commission, Forrestdale Environmental Club and Clean Ocean Action at the first movie night for a screening of WALL-E on Tuesday, January 23rd at 4 p.m. at Surf BBQ in Rumson. Fit for kids and adults, small and tall, enjoy an eco-friendly film while learning about how our daily actions impact our waterways.

The next movie night will be held in February in conjunction with Kevin Sullivan, Middletown High School South science teacher, as well as the advisor of the Middletown High School South Environmental Club. For more information and updates about Movies for the Waterways, follow Rally for the Navesink on Facebook.

Watershed Mindfulness Comes to Viola L. Sickles School

Third graders in Fair Haven are more mindful of their Navesink watershed after finishing Mrs. June Sustick's Watershed unit at Viola L. Sickles School. Once a week for seven weeks, Mrs. Sustick, the Media Specialist, engages students in important lessons that teach them about inhabitants of the watershed, how water moves through the watershed, and how water quality suffers as a result of runoff.



COA's Volunteer & Education Coordinator, Amanda Wheeler, enviroscape presentation at Sickles School

Students leave this unit of study with a deeper appreciation and understanding of the problems that the river faces and how they and their families can make a big difference in the health of the river.

Clean Ocean Action is honored to be a part of this program by sharing its "Soak It Up" curriculum which helps students visualize the way water moves through a watershed and picks up contaminants. It gives them the tools and background needed to recognize solutions to help "slow the flow". To find out more about COA's educational programs, contact AWheeler@CleanOceanAction.org.

Watershed Mindfulness: an understanding that we are all (tall and small) connected to and responsible for the health of our vast network of waterways that ultimately leads to the ocean.

Edrington Sponsors 'Be the Sea Change'

Many thanks go out to our friends at Edrington for their generous support of the "Be the Sea Change" program which will enter its third season this spring. Local volunteers, COA staff and Edrington storytellers will be visiting elementary schools to share Joel Harper's inspiring story of how one young child can make a difference in his/her marine environment. From motivating students and their families to joining COA's Beach Sweeps and banning straws in their school cafeteria, the impact that these presentations have had on communities is powerful. For more information on how this FREE program can come to your local school, contact AWheeler@CleanOceanAction.org.



COA crew celebrates Edrington's \$5,000 donation toward "Be the Sea Change" with Marc Bromfeld, Director of Corporate Affairs and Social Responsibility, and Tom Stein, Vice President-South Division who is the inspiration behind this education program. Stein, although unable to attend in person, joined everyone in a fun, larger than life way!