



Clean Ocean Advocate

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- Officials & Groups Announce "Clean Ocean Zone"
- Groups Launch Project to Reduce Excess Nitrogen in Barnegat Bay
- Mom on a Mission for the Ocean: "Miami to Maine"
- Clean Rides for a Clean Ocean - Surf Clinic, August 24

August 2007 Highlights

*****Eco-Tip of the Month*****
Be a Water Watcher: Replacing a pre-1994 toilet with a new high-efficiency model can reduce water used for toilets by at least 60% and save about 14% of total indoor water use. Savings for a typical household would be more than 10,000 gallons per year, enough to fill a backyard swimming pool.
 Source: US Environmental Protection Agency

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Clean Ocean Action
 18 Hartshorne Drive, Suite 2
 Highlands, NJ 07732
 732-872-0111
 www.CleanOceanAction.org



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AUGUST 2007

August, Weekends

- (C.O.A.S.T.) Campaign, beaches and beach clubs in Monmouth and Ocean Counties, 10am-3pm.
 See inside for dates and locations.

August 18-19, Sat. & Sun.

- Clearwater Festival, Asbury Park, 11am-7pm. For music, artists, and more, visit www.mcclearwater.org.

August 24, Friday

- 1st Annual Clean Rides for a Clean Ocean Surf Clinic.
 See inside for details.

SAVE THE DATE

September 23, Sunday

- WATERSPIRIT's 10th Anniversary "Joys of the Sea" Gala, honoring Clean Ocean Action, Stella Maris Retreat Center, Elberon, NJ. For tickets, call 732-923-9788.

September 28, Friday

- COA's Sunset at Sandy Hook, 6-11pm, Sea Gulls Nest Restaurant, Sandy Hook. Tickets: \$100 pre-sale, \$125 day of event. For tickets and more information, visit COA's website.

Our COalition

Featuring...

The Seaweeders Garden Club

Organized in 1963, the Seaweeders Garden Club has 74 members from Bay Head and Mantoloking. The award-winning Seaweeders is a member of the National Garden Club and affiliated with the Garden Club of New Jersey.

The Seaweeders Garden Club focuses on year-round programming and projects in four areas: horticulture, flower design, conservation, and the environment. The club has many committees to carry-out projects and initiatives. Arboreal and beautification committee members take care of trees and maintain gardens in their communities. Recently, members created a "xeriscape" garden at Twilight Lake. Xeriscaping is a method of gardening that involves choosing plants that are appropriate to their site and creating a landscape that can be maintained with little watering.

The Seaweeders Garden Club also created a youth garden club call the "Seagulls." The Seagulls Club is a group of 25 children in grades 3-8. The Seagulls are creating an environmentally friendly garden at Bay Head School.

The Seaweeders' environmental committee engages members and citizens in local issues. Most recently, the club has joined the Nitrogen Project effort, led by Save Barnegat Bay (see article inside). Also, the club is a long-time friend of the ocean, participating in many campaigns to stop ocean pollution, including the Clean Ocean Zone (COZ).

"Our members live along the ocean and enjoy it every day. The ocean is the focal point of our towns," said Terry Hughes, President of the Seaweeders Garden Club. "We have lived through the ups and downs of the ocean, and seen the results of ocean dumping. But, we have also seen the results of working together to address problems and to make changes for the better."

For information about Seaweeders' public activities, contact Terry Hughes at 732-295-4608.

OFFICIALS & GROUPS ANNOUNCE INTRODUCTION OF CLEAN OCEAN ZONE



L to R (front): Wini Applegate, Suzanne Golas, Michele Plantamura, Joan Carey, Richard Lee, Bill Rosenblatt, Mayor Stephen Schueler, Cindy Zopf, John Weber L to R (back): Kari Martin, Anthony Gangone, Joseph Hagen, Willie deCamp, Adam West and Ryan Carbin of US Senator Menendez's office, US Rep. Pallone, Ryan Goodwin of US Rep. Smith's office, NJ Asm. Kean, Amanda Wheeler

On July 2, elected officials, organizations, and volunteers announced the introduction of "The NJ/NY Clean Ocean Zone Act" or H.R. 2854 into the 110th United States Congress. The announcement was made at the official kick-off event in Bradley Beach, NJ, for the annual Clean Ocean Action Shore Tips (C.O.A.S.T.) campaign (see inside article). US Congressman Frank Pallone, Jr. (NJ-D-6) introduced the bill as sponsor.

"For two decades we've had great success at cleaning up our beaches, but the future is always uncertain, and that's why we want to permanently write critical protections into law," said Rep. Pallone (NJ-D-6). "The COZ moves us into a new phase of protecting the Jersey Shore, and will help us preserve the NY Bight as a healthy marine environment for residents and visitors to enjoy."

"We have made great progress over the years working to clean up and protect our beaches from pollutants, debris and other harmful activities. The creation of a Clean Ocean Zone is the next logical step to ensuring that the quality of New Jersey's shoreline is no longer in jeopardy and best protected for generations to come," said Rep. Smith (NJ-R-4).

To date, cosponsors are US Reps. Smith and Donald Payne (NJ-D-10). This summer, Clean Ocean Action (COA) and COZ supporters will be touring the shore to gather support from elected officials for the COZ bill. While the bill was introduced in the US House of Representatives, a companion bill will be introduced in the US Senate in the future.

"The New Jersey shore is not only a major source of revenue for our state, but a major source of fun for residents and tourists alike," said US Senator Robert Menendez (D-NJ). "Keeping our beaches clean is of the utmost importance for the economy, the environment, and the people who enjoy them. COA's educational campaign and the creation of a 'Clean Ocean Zone' are important steps towards protecting one of NJ's favorite natural resources."

The COZ is supported by 102 organizations and 43 municipalities and commissions. Supporting groups participating in the COZ introduction event were: Fisherman's Conservation Association, Garden Club of New Jersey, ROW (Religious on Water), Save Barnegat Bay, Surfer's Environmental Alliance, Surfrider Foundation, and WATERSPIRIT. For updates on the progress of the COZ bill, visit www.cleanoceanzone.org.

COASTAL WATER QUALITY

Kari Martin, 732-872-0111, Outreach@cleanoceanaction.org

Save the Date! Wastewater Reuse Workshop



Fact: Approximately 65 billion gallons of effluent (treated wastewater), which is freshwater, is dumped into the Atlantic Ocean per year in New Jersey. If all 65 billion gallons of effluent were poured into one-gallon milk jugs and lined-up side to side, they would stretch 10,258,838 miles and circle the Earth 412 times!

At the same time, our aquifers and surface waters are drying up from overuse and mismanagement. To respond to the water crisis in the state, the New Jersey Water Resources Research Institute (NJWRRI) at Rutgers University is organizing a statewide workshop on water re-use issues. The event is scheduled for **November 28, 2007**, at the EcoComplex in Burlington County in the afternoon and evening. Agencies and organizations are being engaged to help develop a day-long meeting to discuss technical issues, as well as citizens' concerns related to the beneficial reuse of wastewater in the state. COA is participating in the organizing committee after having researched wastewater issues and dumping in the ocean off NJ each year. COA also reviewed water reuse programs in other states. Stay tuned for more details about the workshop.

New Water Quality Management Rules Proposed for NJ

The NJ Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) proposed new water quality management planning rules that will, among others: reassign wastewater management planning responsibility to County Freeholders; withdraw and re-designate general wastewater service areas where a Wastewater Management Plan (WMP) is not in compliance with the established schedule; require municipalities to pass an ordinance designed to assure septic maintenance; and require updated WMPs to address septic density. The proposed amendments also include standards to address wastewater, water supply, nonpoint source pollution, and habitat of threatened and endangered species. NJDEP extended the public comment period to August 20, 2007.

Dredging Forum for Monmouth County Bayshore Region

A citizen-based effort, led by the Bayshore Regional Watershed Council, is underway to develop a regional dredged material management for the Monmouth County Bayshore, from Aberdeen Township to Highlands. Over 50 citizens, county and municipal officials, marina owners, and representatives of groups and federal and state agencies participated in a June 14th public forum, the second for the project, to discuss next steps.

"Attendance was wonderful, participation was great, and the information exchange was excellent. We heard great ideas and a number of opportunities presented themselves," said Steve Taylor, Project Manager.

Presentations were given by Genevieve Clifton (NJDOT), Suzanne Dietrick, (NJDEP), John Tiedemann (Monmouth University), and Cindy Zipf (COA). For photos and audio files, visit www.bayshorewatershed.org. Two surveys are being distributed to entities that need to dredge, and to those parties interested in

beneficially using the material. The surveys will demonstrate regional dredging and use needs. For the surveys, go to COA's website (follow links for "Issues" and "Coastal Water Quality").



Wastewater Dischargers Must Monitor for PCBs

The NJ Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) announced a new PCB (polychlorinated biphenyls) monitoring requirement for all wastewater treatment plants that discharge into waterways that are listed as impaired for PCBs, including the Atlantic Ocean from Sandy Hook to Manasquan. The Neptune Township Sewage Treatment Plant and Two Rivers Water Reclamation Authority in Monmouth Beach are included in the current public notice. The remaining water treatment plants in the impaired area are renewing their permits; the PCB monitoring will be required in their new permits. Comments are due to NJDEP by late August. For information, contact COA and for a list of PCB-impaired waterbodies, go to www.state.nj.us/dep/wms/bwqsa/docs/2006AppendixB303d.pdf.

POLLUTION PREVENTION

Anna Will, 732-872-0111, Education@cleanoceanaction.org

Groups Launch Project to Reduce Excess Nitrogen in Barnegat Bay

Barnegat Bay is dying and nutrients are the cause. In June, COA joined a coalition of environmental groups led by Save Barnegat Bay to launch the Nitrogen Pollution Action Project, which is designed to stop excess nitrogen from entering Barnegat Bay. In proper amounts, nitrogen is essential to a marine ecosystem, but scientific research from the Jacques Cousteau National Estuarine Research Reserve, the Barnegat Bay National Estuary Program, and the Rutgers' Institute of Marine and Coastal Sciences reveals that the bay is overloaded with nutrients, specifically nitrogen. Excess nitrogen leads to massive algal blooms, which stress and kill the eelgrass that provides essential habitat for fish and shellfish species. In addition, high levels of nitrogen may also be responsible for the increased numbers of stinging nettles recently found in the bay.

Nitrogen entering the bay comes from a variety of nonpoint sources, including pet waste, lawn fertilizers, leaky septic systems, air pollution, and overdevelopment. The Nitrogen Pollution Action Project aims to teach citizens the importance of becoming "Nitrogen Free" by picking-up after pets, stopping fertilizer use, and planting native plants that help absorb nitrogen. For information on the project, visit www.SaveBarnegatBay.org.

COASTAL CREATURE FEATURE



Northern Moon Snail
Lunatia heros

The June Creature was the **Northern Moon Snail** (pictured top left). These snails can grow up to 5 inches high and wide. They live on the sandy bottoms of coastal waters up to 1,200 feet deep. This snail uses its powerful foot, called a radulae, to attack and then eat clams by boring neat, round holes in the valves (pictured top right). Last month's picture displayed their unique collar-shaped egg case (pictured at bottom). Congratulations to **Parker** and **Campbell Allen** of Yardley, PA, for being drawn from a pool of correct entries this month.

August Creature: This species, originally from the Far East, recently began appearing along the Jersey Shore. While the name of this creature makes it sound less threatening, its presence on the Atlantic Coast could potentially disrupt the existing ecosystem and the United States Fish & Wildlife Service lists this species as "Injurious Wildlife." The hairs and bristles on the claws of this "invader" inspired its name. To enter for a chance to win a COA T-shirt, send your guess by mail, fax, or email (18 Hartshorne Dr., Suite 2, Highlands, NJ 07732; 732-872-8041; education@cleanoceanaction.org).



August Creature

(Coastal Creature Feature appears every other month in the *Clean Ocean Advocate*.)

C.O.A.S.T.

Michele Plantamura, 732-872-0111, Coast@cleanoceanaction.org



Michele Plantamura, 2007 C.O.A.S.T. Coordinator, kicked-off this year's campaign in Bradley Beach. Michele is pictured with US Rep. Frank Pallone (back left), and NJ Asm. Sean Keane (right)

2007 C.O.A.S.T. Campaign Unveiled

This year's C.O.A.S.T. Campaign was successfully kicked off on July 2nd with a press conference at the Gazebo in Bradley Beach. COA extends special thanks to Bradley Beach for hosting the press conference and being such great supporters of the C.O.A.S.T. Campaign.

"A clean and healthy ocean is the continuing responsibility of us all," said **Stephen Schueler**, Mayor of Bradley Beach.

With smooth sailing, and great success in July, C.O.A.S.T. is prepared to reach more beach-goers and citizens. To date, the campaign has also been featured by many media outlets, including News Channel 12, Asbury Park Press, Coast Star, and WJZ Radio.

To help build excitement and support for the summer campaign, the official 2007 C.O.A.S.T. T-shirt, produced with the design assistance of **AdPro Imprints** of Ocean Township, NJ, was also unveiled and is available for purchase at C.O.A.S.T. sites. The "We Want You to be the Solution to Ocean Pollution" T-shirts, featuring "Uncle Salmon," raise funds to help COA continue efforts to stop ocean pollution. T-shirts are also available for purchase on COA's website or by using the order form in this newsletter.

Volunteer Opportunities Still Available

Through mid-August, C.O.A.S.T. tables can be found at locations along the shore in Monmouth and Ocean Counties (see *schedule below*). Stop by and support the summer education campaign, and pick-up our limited edition T-shirts. Also, there are still C.O.A.S.T. volunteer opportunities available. To be part of this amazing effort and help be the solution to ocean pollution, contact Michele.

AUGUST C.O.A.S.T. SCHEDULE

- August 4th & 5th** - Sands Beach Club, Bradley Beach, Avon, and Jenkinson's Pavilion
- August 11th & 12th** - Island Beach State Park, Seaside Park, Lavallette, Ortley Beach, and Brick Beach III
- August 18th & 19th** - Monmouth Beach Bath & Tennis Club and the Clearwater Festival in Asbury Park

FLOTSAM & JETSAM

Mom on a Mission for the Ocean: "Miami to Maine"

From early May to late July, **Margo Pellegrino** (pictured below) of Medford Lakes, NJ, paddled a 20-foot outrigger canoe nearly 2,000 miles, from Miami, FL to Camden, ME, to show her children how to make a difference in the world and inspire others to take an active role in the stewardship of our oceans.

Margo's effort also helped raise funds for groups working to solve coastal environmental problems, including all East Coast Surfrider Foundation Chapters, Oceana, and the Mordecai Island Land Trust. Margo's journey up the coast was tracked daily. For her weblog journal, pictures, and video clips, visit www.miami2maine.com. Congratulations, Margo!

