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- Middlesex Towns Threatened by LNG Pipeline
- A National Ocean Policy & The Mid-Atlantic
- COA Welcomes New Development Director

December 2010 Highlights

NY/NJ Bight "Bit-" The New York-New Jersey metropolitan area is the most populated region of the United States. New York City, with a population of about 8 million people, is the largest city in the United States, and the NY/NJ metropolitan area, with a population of approximately 20 million people, is the second largest such area in the world. Unfortunately, the NY/NJ harbor estuary is the ultimate sink for polluted runoff from this area, which includes litter, pet waste, fertilizers, pesticides, sewer overflows, and street fillth.

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



✂ Please clip and send to COA.

STAY INVOLVED IN YOUR COALITION!

➔ If you are already a member, and would like to receive the *Clean Ocean Advocate* via **email only** please detach this form and include your email address.

Please print clearly. Thank you.

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Please include organization name & contact, if applicable:

Please take a minute to answer the following questions:

➔ _____ I agree with and support Clean Ocean Action's decision of an electronic newsletter. If not, here is why _____

➔ _____ On a scale of 1-10 (one being minimum and 10 being maximum) please rate the effectiveness of the *Clean Ocean Advocate* on keeping you up to date with the latest ocean issues and events.

Additional Comments: _____

Mail to: Clean Ocean Action, 18 Hartshorne Drive, Suite 2, Highlands, NJ 07732

COA is a 501(c)(3) organization and contributions are tax deductible.

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 16, 2010

- **Restaurant Celebrates COA: 15% of Customer's Check Benefits COA on this day at McLoone's Rum Runner, Sea Bright, NJ.** Must bring coupon on page 2.

January 1, 2011

- **8th Annual Sons of Ireland Polar Bear Plunge, Convention Hall, 1300 Ocean Avenue, Asbury Park, 10am Check-in & Registration, 1pm plunge.** See page 3 for more information.



Fishing for Holiday Gifts?
See COA's online store for fun gifts that help support a clean ocean.
Go to www.CleanOceanAction.org and click "Join/Donate."

Our COALition

Featuring...

Friends of Island Beach State Park

The **Friends of Island Beach State Park** is a nonprofit volunteer organization formed to enhance interpretative, educational, recreational, and research programs and events at Island Beach State Park, located next to Seaside Park, NJ. The organization's mission is to further public appreciation and stewardship of the park.

Each year, the Friends of Island Beach State Park organizes and helps sponsor various events during the spring, summer, and fall months, including birding by kayak, a junior naturalist program, and an annual Beach Plum Festival in September with crafts, food, games, and beach plum jelly making demonstrations. The Friends also publish a yearly Visitor Guide with information about the park, its history, and seasonal programs. The guide can be found after May 1st at local businesses, public libraries, and on the organization's website.

This year, the Friends joined Clean Ocean Action (COA) during the Fall Student Summit, held at the park. **Jeanne Brower, President of the Board of Directors** of the organization, kicked-off the event by welcoming the students. The Friends also helped COA logistically with the event, by providing access to their facilities to make the day run smoothly.

"We appreciate the ongoing efforts of COA in motivating and educating the public on the importance of keeping the beaches and waterways free of pollution. We are happy to assist them whenever we have the opportunity," said **Jeanne Brower**.

To learn more about the Friends, go to www.friendsofislandbeach.com.



ADVOCACY & EDUCATION

Meg Gardner, Citizens@cleanoceanaction.org
Tavia Danch, Education@cleanoceanaction.org

Middlesex Towns Threatened by LNG Pipeline

At a November 8, 2010, press conference in Trenton, NJ, statewide environmental, safety, and industry leaders took a unified stance against Liberty Natural Gas, a corporation that has filed an application to install and operate both a pipeline through communities and an offshore Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) facility off New Jersey's coast. The company, despite the clear message from NJ Governor Christie that he would veto any LNG facility off the New Jersey Coast, has moved forward with its application to install a pipeline that would run through the communities of Perth Amboy, Woodbridge, Carteret, and Linden.

"Liberty's application highlights their corporate arrogance and disregard for New Jersey. There is nothing liberating about Liberty's project. They want to addict

us to another foreign fossil fuel, increase our energy costs, and strip us of our energy independence for natural gas. Thousands of lifelong community



Jim Walsh of Food and Water Watch speaks at the press conference against LNG.
In back (L-R): **Dave Pringle of the NJ Environmental Federation, and COA's Cindy Zipf**

members, elected officials, community organizations, and New Jersey businesses have stood along side Governor Christie and made it clear that liquefied natural gas is not welcome in New Jersey, or off our shores," said **Cindy Zipf, Executive Director of Clean Ocean Action (COA)**. "To move forward with this ill-fated project is a slap in the face to New Jersey."

Representatives from Food & Water Watch, Surfrider Foundation, Sierra Club, New Jersey Environmental Federation, Environment New Jersey, and Garden State Seafood Association also spoke at the press conference.

NJ Environmental Federation's Dave Pringle said, "What part of 'no' does Liberty's leadership and political handlers not understand? The Governor said he would veto this project, yet these guys keep pushing for increased reliance on foreign fossil fuel instead of clean renewables and energy independence."

See page 3 "LNG Pipeline" for an additional map.

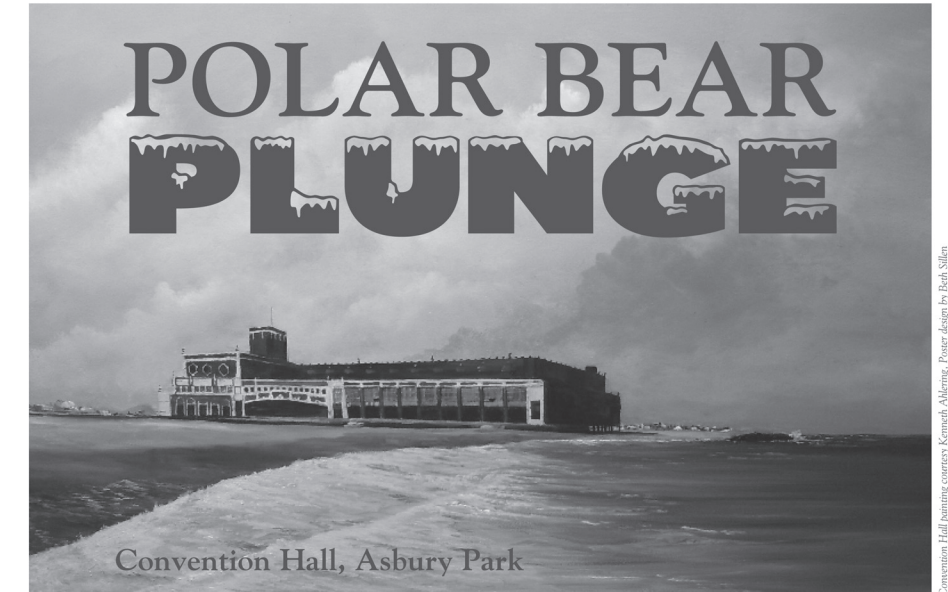


The arrows point to the white line, which is the approximate path of the LNG pipeline through Perth Amboy and Woodbridge, NJ

EVENTS

Tom Harris, Events@cleanoceanaction.org
Emily Hackett, Programs@cleanoceanaction.org

8th Annual  Sons of Ireland



New Years Day
Saturday, January 1, 2011

}	10am-12pm	Check-in
	12:45pm	Bagpipe to Beach
	1pm	Plunge
	1-3pm	Entertainment by The Nerds

1300 Ocean Ave. Asbury Park, NJ



Start the New Year off the right way by helping raise money for four highly deserving local charitable organizations.

Please visit www.sonsofireland.org for pre-registration or to learn more about the event or charities.

The Polar Bear Plunge will benefit Clean Ocean Action, The Ashley Lauren Foundation, The Sisters Academy - Mercy Center, and Campership of Monmouth County.

FLOTSAM & JETSAM

NJ Trails the Country in Voting for Conservation in 2010

In this past election, conservation fared well at the ballot box nationwide, but not here at home. Voters in the United States overwhelmingly approved a variety of measures for land conservation, generating a total of \$2 billion, according to results tallied by The Trust for Public Land, a national conservation organization. Nationwide, 80% of all state and local ballot measures to fund land conservation and parks were approved.

However, New Jersey's results were not as encouraging. Only two of four measures to continue or increase Open Space taxes were approved. Furthermore, four of four measures to reduce Open Space taxes were approved.

Preserving land protects clean air, clean water, farm lands, and other natural resources. Support your local and state efforts to save land.

STAFF NEWS



COA welcomes **Tom Harris (left)**, our new Development Director. Tom is a graduate of Salisbury University on the Eastern Shore of

Maryland, where he majored in American Environmental History and interned with the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. Tom spent ten years in Massachusetts serving as executive director of the Thoreau Society in Concord and director of the Framingham Historical Society and Museum. In 1995, Tom moved to Highlands, NJ, with his wife Sarah, a native of Red Bank, to take the position of development director for the American Civil Liberties Union of New Jersey. More recently, Tom established an after-school program at Hope Academy Charter School in Asbury Park, where students participate in a wide range of academically challenging activities.

Tom's background in fundraising and development will be a great asset to COA as we broaden and deepen our activities and influence in the region.

"Our first COA event was the Beach Ball in May. It was so much fun for us and our kids," said Harris. "I could tell that not only was COA 'the ocean advocacy group,' but the COA staff and supporters were the kind of people that I wanted to be around."

Welcome to the COA Crew, Tom!

LNG Pipeline (cont'd from page 1)



The arrows point to the white line, which is the approximate path of the LNG pipeline through Sewaren, Port Reading, Linden, and Carteret, NJ

Want to Take Action and Say No to LNG?
Go to www.CleanOceanAction.org for updates and information, or call Meg at COA at 732-872-0111.

COASTAL CREATURE FEATURE



Sea nettle (*Chrysaora quinquecirrha*)

The October creature feature was the **sea nettle**. Rising nuisance sea nettle populations in the New Jersey region may be due to a variety of human activities. Increased coastal development has resulted in more hard surfaces from bulkheads, docks, and pilings, creating habitat for sea nettles during its polyp life phase. Salinity changes due to drinking water withdrawal that reduces groundwater input to our waterways, and rising sea levels may also be affecting sea nettles. Predator removal and increased nutrient loadings due to fertilizer misuse and land development -- the problem in Barnegat Bay -- also may be contributing to the increase in the sea nettle population. Judge Jell E. Fish thanks all who submitted guesses and congratulates the contest winner, **Doug Brown of Belmar, NJ**.

The **December** creature is a soft coral species that can look like a giant feather sticking-out of the seabed. The creature is a suspension feeder, passively extracting food and plankton from seawater. The species can completely withdraw into the sediment to hide from predators, such as sea stars. This species occurs in deep waters along the western Atlantic seaboard. For a chance to win a COA T-shirt, submit your guess to Judge C. Coral by mail, fax, email (18 Hartshorne Dr., Suite 2, Highlands, NJ 07732; 732-872-8041; science@cleanoceanaction.org) or at www.CleanOceanAction.org. One entry per person.



December Creature

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

SCIENCE & POLICY NEWS

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

Dredging into the Future

In a Manhattan skyscraper, overlooking the NY Harbor and the NY/NJ Bight, COA met recently with Judith Enck, the Regional Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), on dredged material management issues. COA has a long history of working with EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers on dredged material management systems and options, and continued this history by asking the Administrator for an increased emphasis on innovation. Specifically, COA discussed the state of dredged materials technology and how the level of innovation has remained static. Much like the oil spill response sector, few new ideas have been successfully developed in the past thirty years; according to Enck, this trend should not continue.

As a first step toward resolving this shortcoming, COA agreed to provide Administrator Enck with some background information on new dredged material technologies and to work with EPA in furthering the state of research into the matter. In addition to the discussion on innovation, COA discussed the need for enhanced public involvement in dredged material decision-making. At present, not enough public participation occurs before decisions are made. These concerns were echoed by Enck, and the Administrator noted that efforts were already underway at EPA to address public involvement.

A National Ocean Policy & The Mid-Atlantic

Last month, COA submitted recommendations to representatives of the National Ocean Council at a town-hall meeting on ocean governance at Monmouth University. The National Ocean Council is a group established by the recently-released Presidential Executive Order on Ocean Policy. The Council's objective is to implement the National Ocean Policy, a guidance document developed by ocean experts that is designed to bring a fresh perspective on the management of the marine ecosystem and coastal resources.

While the National Ocean Council is getting organized, COA has been working to ensure that the Mid-Atlantic ocean policy changes do not simply add another layer of bureaucracy to the alphabet-soup of agencies that have some authority over marine affairs. COA recommended that policy changes in this region be developed with full public participation, that any rules or regulations acknowledge and promote existing uses of the coastal zone, and that the federal government not simply develop a system that facilitates the industrialization of the ocean. It is not a "new" ocean policy to want to build pipelines, drill for oil, or dump hazardous materials; this new policy initiative will only succeed by working with those of us that have been here working hard for decades to protect the ocean from harm and pollution.



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Thursday - December 16, 2010

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15% of your check to benefit



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