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- Citizens Turn-Out to Support Barnegat Bay
- Join Us for "Sunset at Sandy Hook" - October 1
- Welcome, Jennifer Thompson: New to COA Crew

October 2010 Highlights

NY/NJ Bight "Bite:" Marine fossils show the history of our offshore area. In the 1800s, fishermen reported that "coral reefs" existed in the NY/NJ Bight. The Shrewsbury Reef, off Sea Bright, NJ, was one such reef where an abundance of encrusting coral on submerged rocky outcrops probably had a similar appearance to more tropical reefs.

Clean Ocean Action
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Highlands, NJ 07732
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www.CleanOceanAction.org
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✂ Please clip and send to COA.

STAY INVOLVED IN YOUR COALITION! ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER SIGN-UP FORM

➡ 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.

 **Name** _____
Email _____
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

October 1
- **COA's Sunset at Sandy Hook, Sea Gulls' Nest, 6-10pm.** Dinner, dessert, and dancing to live music. Sunset bars of beer and wine. Hot auction items and top restaurants. \$100 per person, \$125 at the door. Reservations available online.

October 7
- **Student Summit, Island Beach State Park.** Central & South Jersey schools must apply and pre-register. Call Meg for details.

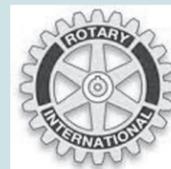
October 23
- **Fall Beach Sweeps, 9am-12:30pm,** statewide sites. Individuals, groups, and families welcome. See inside flyer or COA's website for sites. Group registration online.

Volunteer for the ocean by volunteering for COA!
See inside for opportunities, or call Meg.

Our COALition

Featuring...
Rotary Club of Point Pleasant

Welcome to our newest Participating Organization, **The Rotary Club of Point Pleasant.** The Club, which is part of Rotary International, includes volunteers who work locally, regionally, and internationally to combat hunger, improve health and sanitation, provide education and job training, and promote peace under the motto "Service Above Self."



Every year, the Rotary Club helps countless families in need through fundraisers and other support measures. Their annual Christmas Party brings food, gifts, and fun to many underprivileged kids. Also, the Club works extensively with St. Gregory's Pantry in Point Pleasant Beach, providing money, food, and equipment. The Club also hosts annual highway cleanups to remove litter and prevent it from entering storm drains.

As part of an international organization, the Club's reach goes beyond their own community. They have raised funds to buy several bio-sand water filters for towns in Guatemala and Peru. These filters take polluted water and make it drinkable.

"Ninety percent of the world doesn't have access to clean water," said **Craig McClean, current President of the Rotary Club of Point Pleasant.** "Rotarians are involved in making sure everyone has access to clean water."

Due to the Club's support, a new bridge was built in a community in Africa so that citizens could have more direct access to drinking water.

The Rotary's decision to join COA was based on our mission to improve NJ's water quality. The Rotary Club is working with COA to reject proposed LNG facilities in the region and to raise funds and support for the Clean Ocean Zone.

The Club was established in 1925 and has 28 current members. The Club meets every Tuesday night at the Wharfedale Restaurant.

COASTAL WATER QUALITY

Citizens Turn-Out to Support Barnegat Bay

Clean Ocean Action (COA) and NJ environmental organizations attended the Ocean County Board of Chosen Freeholders meeting on September 15th to ask the Freeholders to support the "Four for the Shore" bills that would collectively improve water quality in Barnegat Bay and throughout New Jersey. These bills were approved at a joint hearing (right) of the environmental committees of the NJ Senate & Assembly in August and now face the full consideration of the NJ Legislature.



Since these bills greatly affect Ocean County, support from the Freeholders would be most welcome and send a good message. Attendance at this recent meeting was meant to inspire the Freeholders to show their support for these bills. Over 100 people crowded the meeting and several spoke during the public comments section of the nearly four hour meeting to ask the Freeholders to continue to protect Barnegat Bay by supporting the "Four for the Shore."

Encouragingly, the Freeholders did say they supported the passage of both the statewide fertilizer and soil compaction bills. However, they do not support the two bills that would give Ocean County the future right to establish and fund stormwater utility and management programs to combat stormwater pollution.

All four bills would go a long way in helping to clean-up and prevent polluted run-off from entering the waterways. COA, along with Save Barnegat Bay, American Littoral Society, NJ Environmental Federation, Environment NJ, Sierra Club, Pinelands Preservation Alliance, and others are asking the Freeholders to sign a resolution supporting the two statewide bills in order to help the passage of those bills in the legislature and, eventually, by the Governor.

Stay tuned for more information and action opportunities to protect Barnegat Bay and coastal water quality. To stay up-to-date, be sure to join our email action list, The Wave, at www.cleanoceanaction.org.

BP Oil Smothering the Gulf Sea Floor

Researchers from the University of Georgia have discovered a layer of oil over two inches thick on the sea floor north of the BP Deepwater Horizon well head. Initial observations point to recently deposited oil from the spill instead of natural seepage, but scientists plan to conduct molecular fingerprinting of the oil to confirm the source. Dr. Samantha Joye said she expected to find some oil on the bottom, but not the thick, dense layers observed in 10 of 14 samples taken.

Under the layer of oil were dead shrimp and other bottom-dwelling animals. In fact, Dr. Joye said she did not find anything alive on the bottom where the oil was found. This latest finding, combined with the recent discovery of a 20 mile long, 1.2 mile wide, and 656 feet high underwater oil plume, provide further evidence that the federal government's assertion that over 50% of the oil had already disappeared from the Gulf is inaccurate.

Correction: Clean Ocean Action apologizes for an error in the article "Oil in the Ocean" in last month's *Clean Ocean Advocate*. The estimated amount of crude oil released into the Gulf of Mexico and ocean was not 4.9 million gallons, but rather 4.9 million barrels (which equates to 205.8 million gallons). For developments on the Gulf oil spill disaster, see articles above and inside.



ADVOCACY & EDUCATION

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

Fall into Action: Volunteer with COA

This fall, COA seeks volunteers to help staff information and action tables. Volunteer for a 2-4 hour time period. This is a great opportunity for students to earn community service hours. To sign-up for the following events, contact Meg:

- 10/1 - Sunset at Sandy Hook, noon-11pm (high school students please)**
- 10/2 - Rumson Recreation Fair, 9am-12pm, Rumson Borough Hall**
- 10/3 - Cattus Island Nature Festival, 9am-3:30pm, Toms River**
- 10/10 - Coast Day NJ, 11am-4pm, Cape May**



Participants remember the victims of the oil disaster at the recent interfaith vigil

Gulf Vigil

On August 11, 2010, COA partnered with GreenFaith and WATERSPIRIT in an interfaith vigil for the Gulf of Mexico. The vigil took place on the beach at Sandy Hook. About 40 participants gathered to remember the victims of the oil disaster, to commit to reducing their own personal use of fossil fuels, and to call for policies to promote a transition to clean, renewable energy.

Reverend Fletcher Harper of GreenFaith and Sister Suzanne Golas of WATERSPIRIT welcomed and led the group through the ceremony, consisting of several prayers from a myriad of faiths. The program was interactive and invited participants to light candles for the ocean, despite the windy evening. Before ending, vigil participants signed a letter to the New Jersey Congressional delegation, calling for the support of the Clean Ocean Zone, legislation to permanently protect the NY/NJ Bight from any non-renewable energy project.

GreenFaith is an interfaith environmental coalition whose mission is to educate, inspire, equip, and mobilize diverse religious communities for environmental leadership. WATERSPIRIT is a ministry of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace committed to informing, inspiring, and enabling people to deepen their consciousness of the sacredness and interdependence of all creation, with a focus on the role of water as critical in sustaining all life.



Rev. Fletcher Harper of GreenFaith lead participants in an interfaith prayer

STAFF NEWS

Welcome, Jennifer Thompson: New to COA Crew



COA welcomes Jennifer Thompson (left), who joins COA as our Communication and Public Relations Coordinator. Jennifer received a Master of Social Work/Contemporary Social Issues from Columbia University, and a Bachelor of Social Work from Kansas State University.

Prior to arriving at COA, Jennifer served as a Senior Aide to NYC Mayor Bloomberg, where she was responsible for corresponding with a diverse portfolio of agencies. Recently, Jennifer was Multi-State Director for the Alliance for Safe Roads. Jennifer is experienced in legislative actions, coalition building, and community and public relations.

At COA, Jennifer will manage, maintain, and expand communications and public relations activities to support and enhance COA policies, issues, and campaigns. Jennifer's work will include publications, social networking campaigns, and maintaining media strategies. Welcome aboard, Jennifer!

Note: Jennifer is not related to COA's Operations Director, Mary-Beth Thompson!

FLOTSAM & JETSAM

Oil Spill Dooms Tiny Sea Horse

The Zoological Society of London and Project Seahorse says the Gulf oil spill disaster could cause extinction for the world's smallest sea horse – the dwarf sea horse (above). Also called "pixies," the dwarf sea horse grows to a maximum length of 2.5 centimeters (the width of a penny). It can only be found in the ocean waters off the US Gulf Coast.



The spill is affecting all sea horse populations, but the dwarf sea horse is at greatest risk because its habitat was mostly devastated by the spill. Unlike other sea horses, this species lives near the ocean surface in floating mats of sea grass. Spilled oil accumulated in these mats and BP burned mats to prevent them from carrying oil onto the shore.

This creature is also vulnerable due to its small size, limited habitat, inability to migrate great distances, and low birth rate. The oil spill occurred during the sea horses' primary breeding time.

In addition, dispersants used to treat the oil spill may have added further toxicity to the dwarf sea horses' habitat.

Adapted from Basic Science, 9/8/2010

COASTAL CREATURE FEATURE



Kemp's Ridley Turtle (*Lepidochelys kempii*)

August's creature is the **Kemp's Ridley Sea Turtle** -- the rarest of all sea turtles in the world, and one of the smallest at two feet across. Listed as endangered since 1970, these marine turtles primarily nest on the shores of the Gulf of Mexico from May to July. Thus, the impacts from BP's oil disaster on the nests are feared to cause significant harm to the population. When these turtles hatch, they head to the open sea. But, as adults, they spend their lives migrating the shallow waters of the Atlantic Ocean, especially up and down the East Coast. As frequent visitors to Barnegat Bay, they have unfortunately been found impinged on intake screens of the Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station. Other human activities including collecting eggs, harvesting for meat, and development, have been the main cause of the turtles' decline. In addition, pollution and trash have impacted them. Sea turtles eat jellyfish and feed on balloons and plastic bags, which mimic jellyfish, causing harm or death. Congratulations to **Dennis Von Linden, Bridgewater, NJ**, for being chosen among the correct entries.

October's creature has become more abundant in estuaries of the Mid-Atlantic region, most recently in a popular NJ coastal bay. This type of jellyfish is recognized by its bell-shaped cap. The long, string-like tentacles can grow to more than a meter in length and are packed with stinging cells. This type of jellyfish is a nuisance to swimmers and boaters and may be an indicator of a dangerous ecological problem. For a chance to win a COA T-shirt, submit your guess to Judge Jell E. Fish at www.CleanOceanAction.org, or by mail, fax, or email (18 Hartshorne Dr., Suite 2, Highlands, NJ 07732; 732-872-8041; Science@CleanOceanAction.org).



October Creature

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

Join Us for Sunset at Sandy Hook

Friday, October 1, 6-10pm
\$100 per person, \$125 at the door

Dinner Served 6-8pm, followed by dessert and dancing
Over 30 Premier Jersey Shore Restaurants & Caterers
Sunset Bar of Beer and Wine

Live Music by Art Servilla,
The Green Earth Troubadour,
and The Thom White Band

Event is Rain or Shine
For reservations, go to www.CleanOceanAction.org,
or call Emily at COA.

SCIENCE & POLICY NEWS

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

September 27th Environmental Q&A Session in NJ District 11

The public is invited to the 6th Environmental Summit Question-and-Answer Session, hosted by the Wall Township Environmental Advisory Committee (WTEAC), with NJ District 11 Senator Kean (R), Assemblyman Rible (R), and Assemblywoman Angelini (R). The session is on **September 27th**, at 7pm at the Wall Twp. Municipal Complex, 2700 Allaire Road. Meet the legislators to discuss environmental legislation, concerns, and issues. For information, contact Wilma Morrissey (732-938-3550 or wilmamorrissey@optonline.net).

COA urges citizens to attend and consider asking the following questions: *What is your position on LNG facilities off our coast? Offshore drilling? "4 for the Shore" bills? What is your ocean protection agenda? How are you protecting our coast from pollution? What will you do to support the Clean Ocean Zone to permanently protect our ocean from harmful polluting activities?*

State Regulations for Wind and Solar Energy Projects

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) recently adopted rules on wind and solar installations in the state, including offshore wind projects located in state waters. The rules allow for an offshore wind pilot project with up to six turbines within three miles off the coast. It also requires one year of pre-construction monitoring for marine organisms, birds and bats, plus two years post-construction monitoring.

COA supports a pilot proposed by Fishermen's Energy of New Jersey, which would be located 2.5 miles off Atlantic City, NJ. A true pilot-scale project is an important step to assess viability and to provide initial environmental data that can help inform future commercial-scale deployment.

Red Tide in NY/NJ Harbor

A 10-mile long slick of red algae was spotted in the Upper Bay of the NY/NJ Harbor over Labor Day weekend. Although NJDEP determined the species of algae was non-toxic, large blooms can deplete the oxygen in the water and cause fish kills.

Large algal blooms can deplete the oxygen in the water and cause fish kills

Elevated water temperatures and high nutrient concentrations help fuel algal growth and lead to blooms. It is not uncommon to find such conditions in the Harbor, especially after a hot summer.

The NJDEP and the US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) both conduct aerial monitoring for algal blooms during the summer months in the Harbor and along the NJ coast. When blooms are detected, water samples are taken to determine the species of algae and the threat to humans and/or aquatic organisms.



October 23, 2010
9 am - 12:30 pm Rain or Shine!
 Choose from over 65 sites throughout New Jersey!

For Complete List of Sites Visit:
www.CleanOceanAction.org
(follow links for Beach Sweeps)

~ Tips for Sweepers ~

- Wear closed, hard-soled shoes
 - Stay off Dunes
 - Respect Wildlife
 - Bring and Wear Gloves
 - Dress for the Weather
 - Wear Sunscreen
- ***Groups of 10 or more should pre-register at www.CleanOceanAction.org*****

Special Thanks to our Statewide Sponsors:



Additional Sponsors:



In-Kind Support Provided by:

Please post flyer in your community.



Fall 2010 Sites
October 23, 2010
9:00 am- 12:30 pm
Rain or Shine

ESSEX COUNTY

GLEN RIDGE - Toney's Brook in Glenfield Park

MIDDLESEX COUNTY

OLD BRIDGE - Old Bridge Waterfront Park at parking lot off PRATT Ave.

MONMOUTH COUNTY

ABERDEEN- Fisherman's Parking Lot at Cliffwood Beach

ASBURY PARK - Convention Hall on the Boardwalk -

Sponsored by Monmouth County Assoc. of Realtors

ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS - Harbor parking lot on First Ave.

AVON - Avon Pavilion at Norwood and Ocean Ave.

BELMAR - 2 sites

- 1) Belmar Fishing Club at First and Ocean Ave.
- 2) 16th Ave. Beach

BRADLEY BEACH - Gazebo at 5th & Ocean Ave. - *Sponsored by New Jersey American Water*

BRIELLE- Fisk Ave. and the public access point at drawbridge

DEAL - Philips Ave. Beach - *Sponsored by Surfrider Foundation, Jersey Shore Chapter*

HIGHLANDS- 2 sites

- 1) Popamora Point on Shore Drive
- 2) Snug Harbor Ave. Beach; meet behind Community Center

KEANSBURG - Laurel & Beachway Aves. - *Sponsored by NuStar Energy*

KEYPORT - 2 sites

- 1) Cedar Street Park; waterfront at First Street
- 2) Beach Park; waterfront at Broad Street

ALLENHURST - Euclid Avenue

LONG BRANCH - Turning Point Cafe, Pier Village

MIDDLETOWN - 4 sites

- 1) Leonardo Public Beach North
- 2) Leonardo Public Beach South, at Beach Ave.
- 3) Ideal Beach at Ocean Ave. and Bayside Pkwy.
- 4) Bayshore Waterfront Park at Fishing Pier

MONMOUTH BEACH - Bathing Pavilion at 29 Ocean Ave.

OCEAN GROVE - Main Street Beach; Flagpole

SANDY HOOK - Seagull's Nest Restaurant; Parking Lot D

- Sponsored by Bayshore Recycling, Enterprise Rent-A-Car, New Jersey Natural Gas, Ricoh Americas Corporation, United Teletech Financial, and Wakefern Food Corp. ShopRite

SEA BRIGHT - 4 sites

- 1) Ferguson Beach Parking Lot
- 2) Meet at Gaitor's Restaurant
- 3) Meet at Mirasol Restaurant
- 4) Public Beach

SEA GIRT - Beacon Ave. Beach - *Sponsored by Brook 35 & West*

SPRING LAKE - South Pavilion at Atlantic & Ocean Aves. - *Sponsored by Brook 35 & West*

UNION BEACH - Florence Ave. at Front Street - *Sponsored by New Jersey American Water*

OCEAN COUNTY

BARNEGAT - Municipal Dock at end of East Bay Ave.

BAY HEAD - Central Market; Rt 35 & Mount St.

BEACHWOOD - Public Beach, Compass Ave.

BRICK - Brick Beach III; meet next to Ocean Club on Rt 35N

LAKEWOOD - Lake Carasaljo across from St. Mary's Church

LAVALLETTE - Philadelphia Ave. Beach

MANTOLOKING - Downer Ave. Beach

NORMANDY BEACH - Labrador Lounge; Peterson St & Rt 35 N

OCEAN GATE - Wildwood Ave. Pier

ORTLEY BEACH - 3rd Ave. Beach

PT. PLEASANT - Beach at Maxon Ave. & River Ave.

PT. PLEASANT BEACH - 2 sites

- 1) Jenkinson's Aquarium - *Sponsored by Jenkinson's Aquarium and Monmouth County Association of Realtors*
- 2) Maryland Ave. Beach

SEASIDE HEIGHTS - 2 sites

- 1) Grant Ave. Beach
- 2) Pedals N Paddles; north boat launch

SEASIDE PARK - 4 sites

- 1) Stockton Ave. Beach
- 2) Island Beach State Park, Ocean Bathing Area #1
- 3) Midway Beach at 6th Lane
- 4) 2nd Ave. Beach

ATLANTIC COUNTY

ATLANTIC CITY - Boardwalk at Rainforest Cafe; Missouri Ave. & Columbia Place

BRIGANTINE - 17th St. Beach, South

EGG HARBOR TWP. - Longport Dog/Malibu Beach

LONGPORT - 33rd & Atlantic Aves.

MARGATE - Granville Ave. Beach

OCEANVILLE - Forsythe Wildlife Refuge, Visitors Center

VENTNOR - Newport Ave. - *Sponsored by Adventure Aquarium*

CAPE MAY COUNTY

AVALON - 30th St. Beach

CAPE MAY - 2 sites

- 1) Nature Center of Cape May; 1600 Delaware Ave.
- 2) 2nd. Ave. Beach - *Sponsored by Lower Cape May Regional Education Association*

DEL HAVEN - Sunray Beach at Roosevelt Blvd.

NORTH WILDWOOD - 15th Ave. Beach

OCEAN CITY - 2 sites

- 1) 9th St. Music Pier
- 2) 57th St. Beach

SEA ISLE CITY - JFK Blvd. Beach

STRATHMERE - Webster Ave. Beach

STONE HARBOR - 95th St. Beach

WILDWOOD - Poplar Ave. Beach

*****Sites are subject to change*****

Visit www.CleanOceanAction.org for most recent information and Google map of site locations.