



Clean Ocean Advocate

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- Offshore Monitoring Will Go On!
- Profit The Buck Starts Here: Nature is Dollars and Sense
- Aveda's Global Network Raises Awareness for Clean Water
- Welcome, Anna!

July 2007 Highlights

*****Eco-Tip of the Month*****
Be an Eco-Smart Traveler: The US has 232 million registered vehicles, equal to 30% of the world's total automobiles. Each year we drive the equivalent of 10 million trips to the moon. Reduce your impact. Obey speed limits. Smph over can cut average fuel economy by 6%. Good maintenance can save up to 165 gallons of gas per year. Bike or carpool to work, the park, or the beach.
 Source: *Natural Awakenings Magazine, June 2007*

Clean Ocean Action
 18 Hartshorne Drive
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 www.CleanOceanAction.org
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MAILING LIST RENEWAL OR SIGN-UP FORM

- ➔ If you received a message on your address label, it's time to renew.
 - ➔ Your contribution will ensure that you receive this monthly newsletter, action alerts, and notices of events for one year.
 - ➔ To renew, please detach this form and enclose with your check.
- Thank you.

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Please include organization name & contact, if applicable:

Please make check payable to
 Clean Ocean Action, 18 Hartshorne Drive, Highlands, NJ 07732
 To pay with MasterCard or Visa, please call 732-872-0111.

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

JULY 2007

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

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. Over 20 restaurants and caterers on board! Tickets: \$100 pre-sale, \$125 day of event.
 For tickets and more information, visit COA's website.

October 4, Thursday
 - COA's Ocean Golf Classic, 1pm shotgun, Rumson Country Club.
 To register or for more information, visit COA's website.

Our COalition

Featuring...Religious On Water

"What are the impacts from our property and presence on the ocean?" This is a question that prompted the establishment of **Religious on Water**. The organization, which began in 1999, is a coalition of ten congregations or orders of American Roman Catholic nuns from New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania that own homes and property on the water, mostly at the Jersey Shore. The orders represent about 5,000 Sisters from institutions and ministries, as well as health care, education, peace and justice, and social issues groups.



Each congregation of ROW has made a commitment to the environment, and in many cases, specifically to water issues. Their environmental concern is "grounded in a spirituality that sees all of life as interconnected and sacred." According to ROW, "We see the struggle for justice and peace as extending to human beings and to the entire community of life of which humans are a part."

Through education and advocacy, ROW seeks to deepen an awareness that leads to lifestyle changes and actions for policy development. ROW advocates for the role that faith can play in ecological action. The sisters of ROW hope to broaden the understanding of water as sacred, life-giving, and life-sustaining.

In their history, ROW has coordinated and hosted a conference on water issues, published a handbook ("Water Gift of Life") available for purchase, and has worked to gather citizen petition signatures for campaigns, most recently, for the Clean Ocean Zone, a campaign led by Clean Ocean Action. ROW has gathered broad support within our community and has engaged members, congregations, and individuals in the campaign for the COZ.

ROW is housed within the Stella Maris Retreat Center in Elberon, NJ, also home to WATERSPIRIT. For more information about ROW, call 732-923-9788.

Adapted from "Water Gift of Life," 2005

COASTAL WATER QUALITY

Offshore Monitoring of Dissolved Oxygen Will Go On!

Following a meeting with ocean advocacy groups, federal and state officials, and the NJ Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) regarding the US Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA) decision to end the 20 year old dissolved oxygen (DO) and nutrient sampling program off the NY/NJ coast, USEPA agreed to continue monitoring coastal water quality. Final details on the new monitoring program have not yet been released, but USEPA officials have outlined a program that will analyze several different parameters, including DO, nutrients, and phytoplankton at three different depths at 30 different sites from Barnegat, NJ to Mastic Beach, NY. The ship-based effort will utilize more sophisticated methodologies than the helicopter program. State agencies will provide support by analyzing some samples. Annual monitoring is scheduled for July through September, with future efforts occurring from June through September. This monitoring effort will be used to help identify sources of contamination that result in dangerously low DO levels in a large region of the New York Bight all summer and into the fall.

Oyster Creek Facility is a Menace to Aquatic Life!

The NJDEP denied a Federal Consistency Determination to Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station for the second consecutive time. OCNCS must receive this certification to obtain its 20-year re-licensing. The NJDEP found that OCNCS did not have enough information on the impacts of plant operations to aquatic organisms to make a determination that OCNCS was not in violation with state environmental laws. OCNCS can appeal the decision.



Fecal Pollution in Branchport Creek

The Monmouth Park Racetrack (MPRT) was issued a \$35,000 penalty from NJDEP for an illegal discharge of horse manure into Branchport Creek, causing bacterial concentrations as high as 950,000 colonies/100 ml of water. The state water quality standard is 104 col/100 mls. Signs warning people to stay out of the water are posted along the creek. The waterway will remain closed until MPRT fixes the problem. Repairs to the wastewater system over the winter were not the solution and it is not clear what MPRT will do to improve the situation. COA will continue to work to hold MPRT accountable. For water sample results, go to www.visitmonmouth.com/health/environmental/water/MonmouthPark/index.asp.

The Public Deserves to Know the Scoop about Poop

Last month, **US Representatives Frank LoBiondo (NJ-R-2)** and **Tim Bishop (NY-D-1)** introduced the Raw Sewage Overflow Community Right-to-Know Act (HR 2452). The Act will require sewage operators to monitor their systems and notify the public about hazardous sewage overflows that affect the health of their families, and help save billions of dollars. Citizens are encouraged to call and/or write a letter to your US Representative; ask your Representative to co-sponsor HR 2452.

Last month, a pipe ruptured at the Asbury Park sewage treatment facility, spewing over 250,000 gallons of raw sewage into the ocean, closing beaches from Deal to Bradley Beach.

COA Goes to Capital Hill! US Senator Frank Lautenberg (D-NJ) invited Clean Ocean Action to testify at a subcommittee hearing of the US Senate Environment & Public Works Committee on "Protecting Water Quality at America's Beaches." To view COA's testimony, visit www.cleanoceanaction.org (follow links for "Issues & Campaigns" and "Coastal Water Quality").

CLEAN OCEAN ZONE

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

NJ Delegation Champions Against Offshore Oil and Gas Drilling

Offshore oil and gas drilling was front and center this June with numerous attempts to open the nation's coast to drilling in both houses of Congress. Members of the US House of Representatives Appropriations Committee voted 39-25 to overwhelmingly defeat an amendment introduced by **US Rep. John Peterson (PA-R-5)** that would have opened coastlines to natural gas exploration—a move that would have opened the floodgates for both gas and oil drilling up and down our coasts. In addition, at the time of publication, the full House was debating this issue.

In the Senate, **US Senators Robert Menendez (D-NJ)** and Frank Lautenberg (D-NJ) fought back attempts by drilling proponents and successfully prevented an amendment that would open the coast to drilling activities.

With the exception of **US Rep. Garrett (NJ-R-5)**, NJ's Delegation spoke with one strong voice to protect our most precious natural and economic asset, the marine ecosystem (see "Proof! The Buck Starts Here" article). Contact your elected official; call the Congressional Switchboard (202-224-3121) or COA for local numbers.

NJ Artificial Reef Program 2006: A Success

COA received the 2007 Edition of "NJ Reef News," a NJDEP newsletter about NJ's Artificial Reef Program. The newsletter revealed a successful 2006 program and announced plans for 2007. In 2006, a new reef was sited off Townsends Inlet, which has received 16 patch reefs containing concrete castings and reef balls and a 31-foot vessel. In addition, 500,000 tons of rock and eight vessels ranging in size from 31 to 178 feet long, as well as 17 sponsored patch reefs were placed.

Already in store for 2007 is 500,000 tons of rock, 600 reef balls, 150 concrete castings, and two 70+ foot trawlers and a 51-foot fire boat. To see the list of sponsors, more information about the reef program, as well as fish recipes, visit www.njfishandwildlife.com.

FLOTSAM & JETSAM

Proof! The Buck Starts Here: Nature is Dollars and Sense

A recently released study by the NJ Department of Environmental Protection reveals the facts behind a long held truth—the natural environment is priceless. Dollars and cents are now documented, thanks to an essential study made possible by the support of the **Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation** and the **William Penn Foundation**. The study on the value of nature in NJ is profound and will dramatically support efforts to protect natural ecosystems. To see the report, visit <http://www.nj.gov/dep/dsr/naturalcap>. Key findings:

- ➔ "Taking the values of goods and services together, the total value of NJ's natural capital is estimated at about \$20 billion/year (present value \$681 billion), plus or minus \$9 billion/year (present value \$300 billion)." Importantly, the marine environment was valued as one of the highest for both ecoservices and goods.

Take a Turn for a Tern and Watch Over the Plovers



This year, one of NJ's two largest colonies of endangered least terns, along with a rare pair of endangered piping plovers, have nested on the sand near Wreck Pond. Nancy Maclearie-Hayduk of the Wreck Pond Watershed Association is seeking volunteers to help watch over the 100 birds with chicks on the beach between Spring Lake and Sea Girt. Volunteers are needed to watch the site at all times, day and night. Nancy will provide the brochures and training, an umbrella, table, and a free beach pass. Volunteers must bring binoculars and sunscreen. To sign up, contact Nancy at wreckpond@hotmail.com.

C.O.A.S.T.

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

Spend a Day at the Beach & Volunteer

Looking for a terrific way to spend a day at the beach? There are still more sites available to volunteer for the Clean Ocean Action Shore Tips (C.O.A.S.T.) campaign! C.O.A.S.T. tables are a great way to get involved in your community, educate citizens and beach-goers, and fulfill community service hours. It only takes four hours on a weekend in July or August between 10am and 2pm to be a part of this amazing effort! As a token of our appreciation C.O.A.S.T. volunteers receive our one of a kind T-shirt (see this year's design below).

The campaign kicks-off June 30 and July 1. Also, this summer, stop by and visit our amazing volunteers and pick up our one-of-a-kind T-shirts (\$15 adult, \$10 child).

For general information about this year's C.O.A.S.T. Campaign, August sites and dates, or to volunteer, please contact Michele.

C.O.A.S.T. Schedule - June/July 2007

June 30 & July 1: Long Branch, Loch Arbour, and Allenhurst

July 7 & 8: Chapel, Driftwood, and Sea Bright Beach Clubs

July 14 & 15: Ship Ahoy, Water's Edge, and Surf Rider Beach Clubs

July 21 & 22: Monmouth Beach Bathing Pavilion, Promenade Beach Club, and Breakwater Beach Club

July 28-29: Belmar, Sea Girt, and Manasquan



SEA SCENE - William H. Duncan

At COA's 13th Annual Memorial Winter Flounder Tournament (see insert page 2), family and friends remembered **William H. Duncan** of Highlands, NJ (pictured left). For many years, Bill was essential to the success of the tournament and will be missed.

Bill's colleagues, GMAC Real Estate Associates Sherry Barnette and Donna Bennett, honored his memory by presenting COA with a \$1,000 donation in his honor. The donation underwrote the Gloria Nilson GMAC Real Estate "Duncan Pledge for the Planet," (see below)

where youngsters made a pledge and received a certificate memorializing their oath to protect and preserve their fragile planet.

"Bill was a staunch supporter since the tournament's beginning," said Cindy Zipf, COA Executive Director. "He always served as our emcee at events. The promise that children can make to respect the planet is a wonderful way to honor his memory."

"We're pleased to sponsor the 'Duncan Pledge for the Planet,'" said Dana D'Agostino-Ryser, branch executive for the Gloria Nilson GMAC Real Estate Holmdel office. "COA was important to Bill and we hope our donation in his honor will help encourage children to continue the effort."

Bill was passionate about helping his community, serving many leadership and membership roles, including for the Holmdel Kiwanis Club, Kiwanis Club Division 5, Henry Hudson Regional School Board, Highlands Elementary School Board, and Highlands Zoning Board. Bill was also a former social studies teacher in Middletown Township.

Colleagues fondly remember Bill as a kind man who, each morning, arrived fresh to work after enjoying an early coffee on the beach, overlooking the ocean.



EVENTS

Jennifer Smiga, 732-872-0111, Events@cleanoceanaction.org

COA Joins 1% for the Planet

Clean Ocean Action is now a 1% **Percent For the Planet** recipient. 1% For the Planet is an alliance of businesses from across the United States committed to leveraging their resources to create a healthier planet. Members recognize their responsibility to and dependence on a healthy environment and donate at least one percent of their annual sales to environmental organizations worldwide.

COA was informed about this great cause by Lynn and Andy Mocerri of Stone Harbor, storeowners of Global Pursuit. Andy Mocerri says, "We hope to be an example to encourage other businesses to make giving, to whatever issue concerns them most, a part of their regular business practice. Stone Harbor has been a wonderful business location for us and we want to do our part to keep it environmentally healthy for the generations that follow."

If your business would like to become a member of 1% For the Planet, email info@onepercentfortheplanet.org or call (978) 462-5353. For a list of businesses currently participating in the program, visit www.onepercentfortheplanet.org.



CHEERS FOR VOLUNTEERS!

Interested in volunteering? Volunteers are essential to COA's success. Whether you're an educator, student, artist, surfer, golfer, angler, or would simply like to do your part to protect the ocean, we have some seaworthy work for you. Contact Anna or Emily at 732-872-0111.

Go Native!

COA and Native Stickers -- a cause to "stick" by! Native Stickers, designed by New Jersey native George Adam and inspired by his wife Cordie, has organized a point of sale donation program to support COA's programs. Native Stickers is donating \$1 per sticker sold, which will go toward fighting ocean pollution at the Jersey Shore. To find out more or to purchase your own Native Stickers, visit www.nativestickers.com or look for stickers at C.O.A.S.T. tables and fundraising events (see related article).



STAFF NEWS



COA welcomes **Anna Will** (pictured left) to the crew as our fulltime Pollution Prevention Coordinator. Anna (pronounced "Ahanna") graduated from Vassar College, receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree in Environmental Studies, with concentrations in Political Science and Biology, and a minor in Economics with a focus on public policy. For COA, Anna will plan, organize, and lead grassroots pollution prevention programs to reduce sources of water pollution, such as the Beach Sweeps,

Student Summits, Sewer Sleuth program, and work to urge municipalities to adopt actions and ordinances to improve and protect the ocean. Anna will coordinate education and outreach programs and materials. Welcome, Anna! **Kari Martin** was promoted to Policy Communications Director from Outreach Director, a position she held for six years. In her new position at COA, Kari will develop, communicate, and implement pro-ocean protection policies and actions. Kari will track, coordinate, and participate in targeted advocacy campaigns through the region and communicate policies through publications and media, among others. Congratulations Kari and Anna!