



- July 1st Ocean Celebration in Asbury Park
 - Fish Advisories and Bathing Beach Rules Update
 - Past Intern Project and Exciting COA Staff News

July 2009 Highlights

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Clean Ocean Action
 18 Hartshorne Drive, Suite 2
 Highlands, NJ 07732
 732-872-0111
 www.CleanOceanAction.org
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July 2009 Events

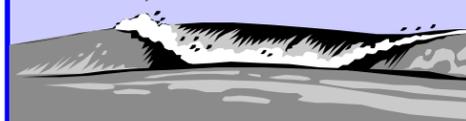
July 1, 4:30 pm
 - "Keep our Ocean Wild & Free" Ocean Celebration, Langosta Lounge & Boardwalk; Asbury Park, NJ.

July 5th
 - Summa Love Surf Camp, Visit summalove.org for more information.

July 10th, 1 pm- 3 pm
 - State Radio Beach Sweep, The Stone Pony; Asbury Park, NJ.

July 23rd, 6 pm- 10 pm
 - Ommegang Brewery Beer Tasting, The Clam Hut; Highlands, NJ.

July 30th, Evening
 - Clean Ocean Concert, Normandy Beach Bay House; Normandy Beach, NJ.



Our COAlition Featuring...



The Surfrider Foundation is a non-profit environmental organization dedicated to the protection and enjoyment of the world's oceans, waves and beaches for all people, through conservation, activism, research and education. The NYC Chapter was formed in the 1990s by Robert Bailey and has been fighting for beach access, clean water, and an improved coastal environment ever since.

Surfrider Foundation NYC Chapter actively opposes liquefied natural gas (LNG) importation facility developments. "We are working closely with COA to coordinate our efforts and develop an overall strategy to prevent these projects that may ultimately alter New York and New Jersey oceanic ecosystems," states Chairman Chris Wade.

The group is particularly outraged about Atlantic Sea Island Group's proposal to build a mega-island 13 miles off Long Beach, NY and 19 miles off Sandy Hook, NJ to operate a Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) facility. Similar to COA, pointed concerns for Surfrider's NYC Chapter surrounding this project include the effects on local endangered species and its impact on prime fishing grounds, in addition to its effects on water quality flowing to New York's beaches, the quality of materials being dumped into the aquatic habitat, and the island's shoreline impact on southern swells.

On June 20th, in honor of International Surfing Day, Surfrider's NYC Chapter hosted a No-LNG rally, paddle out, and beach cleanup. In addition to their active anti-LNG campaign, the group is also advocating for a "Bigger Better Bottle Bill" which would improve upon the Returnable Container Act (RCA), New York's most successful recycling and litter prevention program, as well as the "Rise Above Plastics" campaign that seeks to raise public awareness about single use disposable plastics.



No-LNG Paddle-out, June 20, 2009 at Rockaway Beach, NY

Calling All Friends of the Ocean: CELEBRATE OCEAN INDEPENDENCE DAY Keep Our Ocean Wild & Free from LNG



Kickoff the Fourth of July weekend with a bang!

Wednesday, July 1, 2009

Asbury Park Boardwalk at Langosta Lounge
 1000 Ocean Ave, Asbury Park, NJ
Free and Open to the Public



Beach Rally & Paddle-out ~ 4: 30 pm- 6 pm

Snack and Drink Specials at Langosta Lounge ~ 6 pm

Movie at the Carousel- Leonardo DiCaprio's "The 11th Hour" ~ 7 pm

Fireworks over the sea ~ 9 pm

(Fireworks presented by Asbury Park every Wednesday Night)



If you swim, boat, surf, wade, fish, dive, kayak, sit on the beach, or are inspired by the sea this is your Call to Action.

Support the joys and importance of a clean ocean at the first Ocean Independence Day Rally. Our ocean is in peril and we need YOUR help to save it. The "Ocean Independence Day" also will kick-off the 19th Annual **Clean Ocean Action Shore Tips (C.O.A.S.T.) Campaign**. There will be information on future summer events, as well as opportunities to sign up to volunteer.

C.O.A.S.T. educates and motivates citizens about ocean pollution issues by empowering them with solutions and ways to take action. Volunteers staff information tables on weekends in July and August. This campaign builds on our continued efforts to protect our ocean. Though progress has been made, our ocean continues to be vulnerable to sources of pollution and destructive activities, such as the proposed LNG ports. The C.O.A.S.T. campaign serves as a platform to educate both beach-goers and local residents on current issues.

Please check our website as new surprises may be added! If you have any questions, please call Meg at 732-872-0111 or email citizens@cleanoceanaction.org. See you July 1st!

CONTAMINATED SEDIMENTS

Heather Saffert, PhD, Science@cleanoceanaction.org
 Jennifer Samson, Ph.D., Science@cleanoceanaction.org
 Project comments submitted by COA are posted on our website

Fish Advisory Updates, Good News and Bad News

According to New Jersey state officials you can now eat more bluefish! Bluefish larger than 24 inches can now be eaten 6 times a year instead of 4 by the general population; for eating smaller bluefish, the number remains the same, one per month. This change is due to reduced concentrations of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) found in the fish. Cleanup efforts, improved disposal practices, and the 1979 ban of PCBs have begun to result in decreased levels in the environment and in fish.



And yet, despite the decrease in PCBs, fish in New Jersey and the region continue to have high levels of PCBs, mercury, and dioxins and may contain other contaminants. Fish consumption advisories are issued to reduce the public's exposure to pollutants that can pose health hazards such as cancer, damage to the nervous system, and birth defects. It is still recommended that high risk groups including infants, children, pregnant women, and nursing mothers, do not eat any bluefish, strippers, and American eel from statewide waters. For more information, please visit: www.fishsmarteatsmartnj.org

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NJ Bathing Beach Rules Undermine Public Health

The New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services (NJDHSS) is proposing to readopt the existing, outdated beach bathing rules without any changes and neglect a chance to improve the beach monitoring program. The current rules close beaches after two-days of high bacterial levels that indicate fecal pollution and health risks; whereas the USEPA recommends closures after one-day of high results. Clearly, rapid testing methods are needed that provide same day results (Federal legislation is now pending to require these tests, but not until 2012). Also, a beach needs to be "officially opened" before it can be closed, meaning that a life guard needs to be on duty. If not "opened," beaches with high bacterial levels are not closed or even posted with advisories. COA and other NJ environmental groups have recommended many changes to improve the beach program and communication to the public of health risks.

**EVENTS**

Jennifer Smiga, Events@cleanoceanaction.org
 Emily Hackett, Programs@cleanoceanaction.org

Tiffany & Co. Celebrates a Clean Ocean

Kim Holick and Store Manager
 Vicky Shortland of Tiffany & Co.
 and Jen Smiga of COA

June 12, Tiffany & Co. of Red Bank opened its doors for 70 friends of the ocean for a unique cocktail event celebrating Clean Ocean Action's 25 years as a local voice for the ocean. Our fabulous supporters helped raise \$800 as part of a beautiful jewelry drawing. Congratulations to our winners Cami D'Innocenzio who won the blue lace agate bead necklace and Amanda Wright who won the quatre foil gold key! Each guest received a beautiful sterling silver heart pendant. Thank you to Vicky Shortland and the entire Tiffany & Co. of Red Bank staff for their continued support.

TIFFANY & CO.

COA STAFF NEWS**COA's New Public Advocacy Fellow Onboard**

COA welcomes Meg Gardner to our staff as Public Advocacy Fellow. Meg received her Bachelor of Science degree in Marine Biology from Roger Williams University in Bristol, Rhode Island. Growing up in Point Pleasant Beach, NJ, Meg has always had respect and passion for the ocean. Prior to COA, Meg worked as a Campus Organizer at the University of Washington in Seattle through WashPIRG, where she managed several campaigns.

At COA, as Public Advocacy Fellow, Meg will be managing the Clean Ocean Action Shore Tips (C.O.A.S.T.) campaign, as well as integrating and implementing public outreach opportunities throughout the region to build strong broad community support for the Clean Ocean Zone campaign, including for the anti-LNG campaign to stop ocean industrialization.

**Where are they now?**

Ever wonder what happened to that terrific college student who interned at COA in 1990? Well, we have, too. That's why Leslie Weinberg, last semester's college intern, is researching past interns to learn where they are, what they're doing now, and how working at COA influenced their lives. If you know anyone who previously interned here, please forward their contact information to intern@cleanoceanaction.org or call the office.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Meg Gardner, 732-872-0111, citizens@cleanoceanaction.org

COA seeks volunteers to advocate for a clean ocean and engage citizens in actions to protect the ocean at upcoming events and festivals. Contact Meg to sign up for:

- July 18:** Film Festival, Atlantic Highlands, NJ, 6 pm
- July-August:** C.O.A.S.T. Campaign Tables, Monmouth & Ocean Counties
- August 12:** Waterfest 2009, Bayview Park, Brant Beach, NJ, 11am - 2pm
- August 15-16:** Clearwater Festival, Asbury Park, NJ, 10am - 6pm

SEA SCENES: Next Generation Launches Fantasy Surfing for Local Waters

The Next Generation, COA's new Committee of age 20 - 30 somethings, was formed this winter to take action for the ocean, including hosting unique events across the region. Recently, the Next Gen created a club house on Fantasy Surfer League organized by local surfer Max Berry to benefit COA.

Fantasy Surfer is similar to other fantasy sports leagues in which you pick surfers to make up your team and win (or lose) depending on how your surfers perform during the Association of Surfing Professionals (ASP) season. The competition is open to anyone and suggests a \$25 per player donation to go to COA.

Currently at mid-way point in the ASP season, 13 people have registered for the NJ COA Clubhouse with JStank & Co in first place and LA W trailing by 79 points. With the next contest coming up teams are hoping to gain valuable points to push them ahead for chances to win donated prizes.

To register to play simply create your team at www.fantasysurfer.com and mail your \$25 donation and email address to Attn: Fantasy Surfer, Clean Ocean Action, 18 Hartshorne Drive, Suite 2, Highlands, NJ 07732 or call the COA office (732-872-0111) to pay by credit card. Upon receipt of your donation and email address, you will be sent instruction on how to join the clubhouse.

To join the Next Generation contact Chair Tyler Thompson at tyler@xssmith.com.

(Sea Scenes appears every other month in the *Clean Ocean Advocate*.)



Max Berry, Tyler Thompson and
 Steve Schrenk Surf for Clean Water

CLEAN OCEAN ZONE

David Byer, Esq., Policy@cleanoceanaction.org

Governors Establish Mid-Atlantic Regional Council on the Ocean

On June 4, the Governors of NY, NJ, DE, MD, and VA officially established the Mid-Atlantic Regional Council on the Ocean. The governors created this new Council in part "for the States to collaborate on improving energy security and independence in the region through development of offshore renewable energy while accommodating other uses." Other priorities include coordinating protection of important habitats, promoting improvements in the region's coastal water quality, and preparing the region's coastal communities for the impacts of climate change.

COA applauds this effort in regional planning, however, Governor Corzine talks about the importance of the ocean yet he continues to support offshore liquefied natural gas (LNG) terminals to import this foreign fossil fuel and refuses to meet with representatives of the anti-LNG campaign. While Governor Paterson stopped an LNG proposal in the Long Island Sound, he still has not stated his position on proposals in the Atlantic off NY. As a result, members of COA and a number of other groups rallied outside the meeting to call on the governors to oppose LNG on their mission to a cleaner ocean and a greener energy economy.

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Meg Gardner, John Malizia,
 and Scott Thompson

Obama Shows Leadership on the Ocean

On June 12, President Obama issued a memo to the heads of his executive departments and agencies directing them to establish a national ocean policy and a framework for marine spatial planning. Obama established an Interagency Ocean Policy Task Force to, within 90 days, develop recommendations for a "national policy that ensures the protection, maintenance, and restoration of the health of ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes ecosystems and resources, enhances the sustainability of ocean and coastal economies, preserves our maritime heritage, provides for adaptive management to enhance our understanding of and capacity to respond to climate change, and is coordinated with our national security and foreign policy interests." The Task Force must also develop, within 180 days, a recommended framework for effective coastal and marine spatial planning. COA applauds the President for taking leadership on the ocean so early in his administration and for recognizing the ocean's importance.

Wave Energy Proposal Update

Grays Harbor Ocean Energy (GHOE), who proposed two offshore wave energy projects, one each off New Jersey and New York, now expects that its permit applications will be denied due to a recent agreement between two federal agencies on how to process such applications. GHOE originally filed its application with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) even though FERC and the Minerals Management Service (MMS) were in a dispute as to who retained authority over such applications. COA and others commented that GHOE appeared to be trying to take advantage of the situation by attempting to claim 380 square miles of ocean territory as they ultimately tried to move ahead of other offshore renewable energy applicants in the region. But on April 9, FERC and MMS resolved their dispute and there is a near-finalized framework for processing applications for offshore renewable energy. GHOE plans to proceed under the established permitting system.