



Clean Ocean Advocate

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- Clean Ocean Zone Legislation to be Introduced
- Volunteer for the "C.O.A.S.T."
- New Education Coordinator Joins the Team

July 2006 Highlights

*****Eco-Tip of the Month*****
 In Your Garden: Grow organic. Do not use toxic chemicals and fertilizers, which pollute our groundwater. Plant with heirloom seeds. Increase biodiversity and attract butterflies in your garden.
 From "Our Environment," Vol 12, No. 3, by Ingrid Justick

Clean Ocean Action
 PO Box 505
 Sandy Hook, NJ 07732-0505
 732-872-0111
 www.CleanOceanAction.org
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CLEAN OCEAN ZONE

COZ Legislation to be Introduced into Congress

After much hard work and anticipation, the final draft of the **NJ/NY Clean Ocean Zone (COZ)** bill is complete! The plan now is to quickly move toward introduction. The final draft reflects a grassroots legislative initiative – of the people, by the people and for the people. At press time, plans were underway to launch and introduce the COZ legislation the week of July 4th in the US House of Representatives.



As we celebrate our nation's birthday, many of us do so on our coastlines and beaches, making it a nearly universal "Beach Weekend." However, the holiday also holds an additional historic significance and a grim reminder of our toxic legacy. During our nation's bicentennial celebration of July 4, 1976, divers and fishing trawlers were reporting "dead and dying" marine life in the region.

This is the 30th anniversary of this most devastating marine event. Many New Jersey residents recall the Hypoxic event in 1976 that caused a major fish-kill and a 3,000 square mile dead-zone off the New Jersey and New York coast. Over 50% of the clams and lobsters were lost. Indeed, the devastation was so severe that the federal government declared the coast a "disaster area." In response, efforts were made to end ocean dumping; then failed. In the late 1980s, again, our ocean sent us clear messages when medical waste, garbage, sewage, and dead and dying dolphins washed ashore and the economy of the Jersey Shore and the entire state plummeted. This time, a dedicated coalition, Clean Ocean Action, was on the case.

Today, our ocean is dumpsite-free, closed beaches from floatables and sewage are a rarity, and our economy—tourism, fishing, boating, and real estate—is thriving. The NJ/NY Clean Ocean Zone is our opportunity to lock-in the tremendous progress that has been achieved and to ensure continued growth of our economy based on a clean and healthy ocean. The time is now!

To date, over 13,000 citizens have signed petitions in support of the Clean Ocean Zone. Nearly 100 organizations and 31 municipalities have signed a "Statement of Support" or passed supportive resolutions. Is your municipality or organization signed-on? Check out www.cleanoceanzone.org or contact Kari or Keith at Clean Ocean Action to learn ways to support the COZ.

Offshore Oil & Gas Drilling a Threat...Yes, Again

At the time of publication, Clean Ocean Action (COA) and fellow ocean advocates were working to defeat yet another bill which threatens New Jersey, New York, and the nation's entire coastlines. The bill, HR 4761, was set for a vote in the U.S. House of Representatives on Thursday, June 29.

The dangerous provisions contained in the bill would revoke the Congressional and Presidential ban on oil and gas leasing upon enactment. As a result, offshore oil and gas leasing could begin immediately unless a state objects.

The amount of time and effort spent attacking our oceans for oil and gas must be directed to responsible, accountable, and real energy policy, not stuffing the pockets of the rich oil and gas industry. It is beyond the time for Congress to stop pursuing the destructive energy policies of the past and move forward into a cheaper, smarter, and cleaner energy future.

Contact COA for an update on the vote and to find out how your U.S. Representative voted.

COA PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS

Featuring...

Concerned Citizens of Montauk

The **Concerned Citizens of Montauk (CCOM)** works to preserve the environment and ecology of the far reaches of Long Island, NY. The CCOM apprises citizens and governing bodies of the necessity and duty under law to protect and preserve the water, land, air, and wildlife of Montauk.

The CCOM grew from a small band of homeowners in 1970, to an organization of more than 800 residents that has successfully worked to protect the Montauk environment. CCOM and its strong allies made a significant difference in shaping what Montauk is today.

Most of CCOM's efforts have been directed at the preservation of open space. Over the years, CCOM has blocked large and harmful development plans, promoted acquisition of open space and parks, and worked to reduce pollution in Lake Montauk.

Living in a region dependent on the ocean, CCOM joined the initiative against ocean dumping in 1994. CCOM helped organize and participated in a flotilla against ocean dumping in 1997, and now supports the Clean Ocean Zone.

"State and national boundaries mean nothing to fish. To be effective, everyone concerned with the ocean environment must cooperate and communicate," said **Bill Akin, CCOM President**. "We are delighted that COA is fighting the good fight, and we're glad to help any way we can."

Today, Montauk faces a wide variety of land and water-related challenges that may impact the quality of life and the environment. The CCOM is still working on open space preservation, and stewardship is now equally as important because preservation does not mean it is safe from harm.

Also, CCOM has been actively fighting several dumpsites for polluted dredged material in Long Island Sound.

In short, the CCOM works to ensure that Montauk will still be wild, open, and beautiful 30 years from now.

For information, call 631-668-6473, or visit www.ccom-montauk.org.

Adapted from CCOM website and personal communication

July 2006

July 6, Thursday

- **COAST Kick-off Press Conference**, call Jessie at COA for details.

July 8-9, Saturday-Sunday

- **COAST** at Surf Rider, Sands, and Driftwood Beach Clubs, Sea Bright Public Beach

July 15-16, Saturday-Sunday

- **COAST** at Ship Ahoy, Water's Edge and Chapel Beach Clubs

July 22-23, Saturday-Sunday

- **COAST** at Monmouth Beach Bathing Pavilion, Promenade and Breakwater Beach Clubs, Elberon Bathing Club

July 29-30, Saturday-Sunday

- **COAST** at Spring Lake, Belmar, Sea Girt, Manasquan

*****Save the Date*****

August 20 & 21, Saturday-Sunday

- **Clearwater Festival**, 11:30am-7pm, Sunset Park, Asbury Park, NJ. Rain or shine. Organized by Monmouth County Friends of Clearwater. To volunteer for the festival, call 732-872-9644 or send an email to info@clearwatermc.org.

To volunteer for COA at our booth, call Jessie at 732-872-0111.

September 15, Friday

- **Sunset at Sandy Hook to benefit COA, Seagulls' Nest**, 6-11pm.

Please clip and send to COA.

STAY INVOLVED IN YOUR COALITION!

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.

Enclosed is my check for (please check one):

\$25 Individual/Family \$15 Student/Senior

\$50 Participating Organizations

Name _____

Street _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Email _____

Please include organization name & contact, if applicable:

Please make check payable to
Clean Ocean Action, PO Box 505, 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.

COASTAL WATER QUALITY

Jennifer Samson, PhD, 732-872-0111, Science@cleanoceanaction.org

General Permit for Discharge of Non-contact Cooling Water

The NJ Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) released a draft General Permit Renewal for dischargers of non-contact cooling water (NCCW). While you might think this cooling water is benign, it is not.

An US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) study indicated NCCW caused both acute (short-term) and chronic (long-term) toxicity to aquatic organisms. The NJDEP reviewed available whole effluent toxicity (WET) data for NCCW dischargers in NJ and found that none exceeded the State's acute toxicity threshold, but a few facilities exceeded the chronic toxicity threshold.

As a result, NJDEP changed the permit's requirement to only requiring one chronic WET test during the entire 5-year permit cycle. This test must be conducted within the first three months of the permit cycle. The NJDEP plans on analyzing the data immediately and reserves the right to revisit the requirements of the general permit.

One snapshot of water quality every 5-years is not adequate

COA will submit comments urging NJDEP to require additional chronic WET testing during the 5-year cycle. We understand that these tests are expensive to

conduct, but one snapshot of water quality every

5-years is not adequate to ensure that the discharge is not toxic to aquatic organisms. The effluent sampling must be frequent enough to capture seasonal effects on water quality.

FLOTSAM & JETSAM

Eco-Friendly Vendors Awarded at Seafood Festival

Kudos to the effort put forth by the winners of the Eco-friendly vendor contest, judged by COA, at the New Jersey Seafood Festival in Belmar on June 10-11. First prize went to **Captain Ed's Place Inc.**, Point Pleasant Beach, NJ. A close second place was awarded to Belmar's own **Cannolly Station Restaurant and Tavern**. Despite high winds and large crowds, these two vendors maintained a clean and sanitary booth and limited the amount of waste they produced. Congratulations! Thanks to **James Conroy** of Conroy Hospitality Service and volunteer for COA, for establishing this contest, and to **EcoLab** for providing eco-friendly prizes.



Rep. Pallone Gathers Shore Mayors to Combat Global Warming

A group of coastal mayors gathered in June to discuss the impacts of global warming and sea level rise on the New Jersey shore. The Mayor's Forum, organized by US Representative Frank Pallone, Jr. (D-6) and the Monmouth University Urban Coast Institute included presentations from the Stevens Institute of Technology and Stockton State College, as well as local perspectives

Global warming could cause the sea level off NJ's coast to rise nearly four feet

from Brick Township Mayor Joseph Scarpelli and Belmar Mayor Ken Pringle. Leaders from some towns as well as representatives from environmental groups also attended the forum.

A recent report from three Princeton University researchers found, under a worst-case scenario, global

warming could cause the sea level off NJ's coast to rise nearly four feet by the end of the century, reducing our shoreline by almost 500 feet and potentially destroying our coastal barrier islands and communities. Also, pollution could spread throughout the coastal environment.

Congressman Pallone said the state, represented at the forum by NJDEP Deputy Commissioner Mark Mauriello, is one of several states leading the fight against global warming. He did however acknowledge the lack of progress in Washington, pointing to the Bush Administration's failure to grasp the gravity of global warming, or even acknowledge its existence until recently.

C.O.A.S.T. 2006

Jessie Barrett, 732-872-0111, Coast@cleanoceanaction.org

Volunteer for the "C.O.A.S.T."

Are you looking for a way to get involved with COA? Our COAST (Clean Ocean Action Shore Tips) Campaign is a great way to enjoy New Jersey's beaches and show your support for a clean ocean. This summer will mark the 16th year of our annual COAST Campaign. This is your opportunity to take action by visiting our information tables, or by volunteering (see the calendar in this newsletter for COAST dates and locations in July).

COAST sites are located along beaches and at beach clubs in Monmouth and Ocean Counties. Ocean advocates volunteer their time to educate and inform beach-goers about COA's important issues. This summer's COAST campaign focuses on building support for legislation to establish the Clean Ocean Zone (COZ), which will permanently protect our waters off the coast from polluting and harmful activities (see front page article). Citizens will be engaged in the efforts to move this legislation forward at the COAST tables.

It only takes four hours on a weekend in July or August (between 10am and 3pm) to volunteer as part of this amazing effort. Each volunteer will receive a complimentary T-shirt and enjoy a day at the beach making a difference. To sign-up to volunteer, contact Jessie.

COA STAFF NEWS

New Education Coordinator Joins the Team

COA welcomes **Anne Grimes** to the crew as our new Education Coordinator. Prior to joining our staff, Anne worked for the New Jersey Geological Survey, where she edited publications, wrote user manuals for applications, and used GIS applications to design maps of water usage in New Jersey. Anne received her Bachelor of Arts from Kean University with double majors in Earth Science and Education.

Originally from Ireland, Anne has a long history and connection with water and was always conscious of the wealth of water. As the daughter of a Thatcher and a fisherman, her family made its living off the river.

As COA's Education Coordinator, Anne will expand and enhance existing educational programs, as well as develop and implement new programs and materials for students and adults. Anne will organize and coordinate the Student Summits, Monmouth & Middlesex County Beach Sweeps sites, the Sewer Sleuth program, Storm Drain Stenciling, and educational publications. Welcome, Anne!



Anne Grimes

SEA SCENES



and live through volunteer endeavors and partnerships with non-profit organizations. In 2004, over 14,600 Goldman Sachs employees, families, and friends partnered with 694 non-profit organizations in more than 827 projects. Goldman's Community Team Works (CTW) embodies this commitment and gives their people one day off each year to volunteer in team-based projects (see Corporate Beach Sweeps article).

"Overall, the June 9th Beach Sweeps was a great balance of learning about the challenges the ocean faces, and then doing something about it," said Carolyn McGuire and John Grossarth, Team Captains, Goldman, Sachs & Co., CTW.

Waves of thanks to Goldman Sachs for caring for this watery world! Special thanks to Goldman, Sachs & Co. Project Coordinators Debbie Jacobson and Joan Ai, and Captains Carolyn McGuire, John Grossarth, Sonia Smith, Robert Tweeddale, and Tracy Otterbeck.

EVENTS

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

Congratulations, COA Corporate Beach Sweeps Partners!

Modeled from COA's successful statewide Beach Sweeps, the Corporate Beach Sweeps program brings employee volunteers together for community service on the beaches of beautiful Gateway National Recreation Area—Sandy Hook. Employees and COA staff unite in an effort to rid NJ's beaches and the ocean of dangerous litter and debris, which can be lethal for birds and marine life. Since 2005, **550** employees have participated in the Corporate Sweeps program, resulting in **1,650** volunteer hours for a cleaner environment.

Volunteers were shocked to see the amount of debris on a small stretch of bayside beach on Sandy Hook. The debris was evidence of "pointless pollution" or pollution from people, including people inland, that washed ashore from recent rainstorms.

Corporate Beach Sweeps Program Partners:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| *Advanced Endoscopy & Surgical Center | Phillips Van-Heusen, The Design Group |
| *Adventure Aquarium of Camden | Ricoh Business Systems |
| *Atlantic City Electric | *ShopRite |
| Goldman, Sachs & Co. Community Team Works | Stryker Orthopaedics |
| Johnson & Johnson | Hip Product Development |
| *Keyport Business Partnership | *Surfrider Foundation - Jersey Shore Chapter |
| *The Mary Holder Agency | *Verizon |
| *Panasonic | |

**Also a 2006 Statewide Beach Sweeps Sponsor*

COA thanks **Superintendent Richard Wells, Bruce Lane, Lou Hansen**, and the entire staff and maintenance crew of **Gateway National Area—Sandy Hook** for their generous support and guidance for our Beach Sweeps programs.

Special thanks to **Paula Aldarelli**, Executive Director of Earth Share New Jersey (ESNJ), for her enthusiastic support. Paula has introduced New Jersey's leading companies to ESNJ's member organizations, emphasizing the important role corporate citizens play in protecting the environment in which they live and work. ESNJ raises funds for member organizations through payroll deduction programs in workplaces. For information call Paula at (609) 989-1160.



Employees from Ricoh Business Systems sweep a beach clean at Sandy Hook



For more information about the Corporate Beach Sweeps Program or to schedule a cleanup, contact Jennifer at 732-872-0111.