

VOLUNTEERS "SWEEP" NEW JERSEY'S BEACHES CLEAN

On Saturday, October 21st, approximately 2,500 volunteers participated in **Clean Ocean Action's 21st Annual Fall Beach Sweeps** at 61 sites from South Amboy to Cape May, NJ. On that brisk, sunny autumn day, volunteers removed tons of debris and recorded and tallied what they collected. The results of the Fall Beach Sweeps will be available in a few months and will be combined with results from the spring cleanup and included in an annual report to be released next spring. COA will send the data to The Ocean Conservancy's International Coastal Cleanup, the a partner in the Sweeps.

"COA's Sweeps remove harmful litter from the environment and, most importantly, collects evidence of pollution problems. Litter is lethal to marine life and can ruin an otherwise wonderful day at the beach," said Cindy Zipf, COA's Executive Director. "Our goal is to reduce sources of litter and to eliminate the need for Beach Sweeps in the future."

US Representative Rush Holt (D-12) and **NJ Assemblywoman Jennifer Beck (R-12)** attended the Sweeps at Sandy Hook to thank and congratulate 325 volunteers.

Special thanks to the staff at Gateway National Recreation Area - Sandy Hook, Barbara Boyd and students at the Marine Academy of Science & Technology, Barbara Bennett, and D'Arcy Rohan-Green. Also, thanks to the many corporations, including Johnson & Johnson Companies and Telecom Pioneers, as well as groups, businesses, and individuals contributed time, resources, and refreshments to the Beach Sweeps along the entire coast.

Some Fall Beach Sweeps Highlights:

Bradley Beach – 35 Volunteers picked up 614 plastic caps/lids, 378 plastic straws/stirrers, and 294 plastic food bags/candy wrappers

Highlands – Students from Rumson-Fair Haven Regional High School Environmental Club led 28 volunteers in a cleanup that netted 30 bags of trash and recyclables, weighing approximately 150 pounds

Longport – Science Club and Future Acts students collected several dozen bags of trash and a beach chair that had seen better days in the sun

Ocean Gate – 30+ citizens collected 755 cigarette filters along the Toms River

Seaside Park – On Midway Beach, 11 volunteers collected 13 bags of trash, including a bouquet of artificial roses and a Barbie Doll

South Jersey – Students from the Lower Cape May Regional School District swept the beaches clean in Avalon, North Wildwood, Stone Harbor, Wildwood and Wildwood Crest



Trash collected by volunteers at Sandy Hook is piled high

Top Three at Sandy Hook

- #1 - Plastic caps/lids - 3,282
- #2 - Plastic straws - 2,994
- #3 - Plastic pieces - 1,966

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AND SITE SPONSORS...

- Adventure Aquarium
- Atlantic City Electric
- Keyport Business Alliance
- The Mary Holder Agency Realtors
- Panasonic
- Surfrider Foundation – Jersey Shore Chapter, in memory of Daniel Clune
- United Teletech Financial

Mark Your Calendar

Spring Beach Sweeps - April 28, 2007

(Right) In Atlantic City, Site Sponsor Atlantic City Electric powered-up to volunteer with NJ Community Waterwatch from Richard Stockton College and citizens, collecting more than 100 bags of trash and a bicycle!



(Above, L to R) At Sandy Hook, MAST students and teacher Barbara Boyd display the cakes made and donated by Monmouth County Vocational Culinary Arts Department; A family at Midway Beach in Berkeley Township bring back bags of trash; Students haul debris off the beach in Longport