



Clean Ocean Advocate

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- Clean Ocean Zone Updates
- Monmouth RaceTrack's Plan to Tackle Pollution
- Patagonia's Seaworthy Mission ~ Vote for COA!

October 2009 Highlights

~HAPPY HALLOWEEN~

Make Halloween costumes out of old clothes or visit your local thrift store.

Say "BOO" to plastic bags! To collect treats, use a reusable bag, bucket, or pillowcase.

When buying treats to distribute, choose items with minimal packaging.

Tips for a "Green" Halloween



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732-872-0111
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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 continue receiving the Clean Ocean Advocate electronically please detach this form and enclose with your email.

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

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October 2009

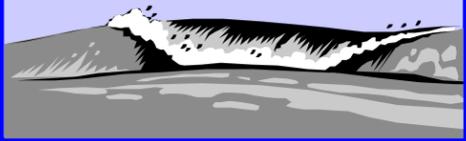
October 8, 2009
- 11th Annual COA Fall Student Summit, 9 am-12:30 pm, Island Beach State Park. South Jersey schools (grades 5-8).

October 24, 2009
- 24th Annual COA Fall Beach Sweeps, 9 am-12:30 pm, For sites, visit cleanoceanaction.org.

October 31, 2009
- Punk Concert- to Benefit COA, 4 pm-11:00 pm, JA Studios; 35 3rd Ave., Long Branch; All Ages, \$10 Entry.

Save the Date

November 3, 2009
- Election Day, Remember to Vote!



Our COAlition

Featuring...Diver's Two, Inc.



Underwater Clean-up Volunteers

Divers Two (D2), a dive shop located in Avon, NJ, has a history of commitment to the health and protection of the coastal environment. "With almost 30 years of experience in the diving business, Divers Two has seen many people come and go, but one thing that brings a countless number of people back year after year is their Annual Underwater Clean up," says **Steve DiGuseppe, D2's Training Director.**

For the past 17 years, Divers Two has been coordinating an annual underwater cleanup of the Shark River in Belmar, NJ. Since the beginning of D2's Underwater Cleanups, scuba diving volunteers have collected over 30 thousand pounds of debris including many outrageous items such as bowling balls, park benches, shopping carts, motors, wood debris, and gum ball machines. As D2 Cleanup volunteers use COA's data cards to record their findings, COA is honored to include the cleanup in the Beach Sweep Annual Report.

This year D2's Annual Underwater Cleanup took place on September 19th at Shark River West and McClearie Park. Even though the visibility wasn't favorable, over 60 volunteers picked up over 50 pounds of garbage including discarded crab traps, bottles, and assorted paper and plastic debris. If you are interested in learning how to scuba dive, diving gear, or the Annual Underwater Cleanup please contact D2 at (732) 776-7755 or diverstwo@optonline.net.

CLEAN OCEAN ZONE

Dave Byer, Esq., Policy@cleanoceanaction.org

Daggett Opposes LNG Import Terminals

On September 10, Chris Daggett, Independent candidate for NJ governor, announced opposition to the three proposed offshore liquefied natural gas (LNG) terminals. Daggett noted that the LNG terminals "would increase greenhouse gas emissions and foster more dependence on foreign fossil fuels." Daggett also pointed to the "glut" of domestic natural gas. Daggett also announced his opposition to the unproven PurGen proposal, which includes a new coal plant in Linden with offshore carbon sequestration pumped one mile under the sea floor off New Jersey. COA welcomes and applauds Daggett's leadership on these issues. Republican candidate Chris Christie has not taken a position on LNG import terminals yet and Governor Jon Corzine supports the concept.



Town Hall on Energy

On September 8, COA co-hosted a Town Hall on Energy for the NJ gubernatorial candidates in Westfield with Environment New Jersey, NJ Highlands Coalition, and TheAlternativePress.com. Chris Daggett attended and Jon Corzine and Chris Christie each sent representatives. The event was a success with a packed house full of citizens asking tough questions on NJ's energy future. Issues ranged from LNG import terminals to the impacts of the Oyster Creek nuclear power plant on Barnegat Bay. For details contact Dave Byer at (732) 872-0111 or Policy@cleanoceanaction.org.

NY State Energy Plan

NY State has released its draft State Energy Plan. In April 2008, Governor David Paterson re-instated the energy planning process when he announced his opposition and defeat of the Broadwater LNG import terminal proposed in Long Island Sound. Despite all the harms from such foreign fossil fuel operations, the draft plan favorably discusses LNG and a supporting document states that NY "should take specific steps to encourage investment in natural gas infrastructure, including LNG facilities." As a result, citizens and groups turned out in large numbers to hearings on the Plan in Farmingdale and Brooklyn on September 9 and 10, respectively. The message was loud and clear, New Yorkers say "no" to LNG terminals in the region. **Now is the time** for people to write in and tell Governor Paterson that the final Plan is his opportunity to come out against foreign natural gas imports from new LNG terminals. **Written comments are due October 19 and can be submitted at nysenergyplan.com.**

Vote November 3rd to Preserve NJ & Protect Water Quality

On November 3rd, NJ voters will be asked to approve the Green Acres, Water Supply and Floodplain Protection, and Farmland and Historic Preservation Bond Act of 2009. **Vote "Yes" for public question #1 to support the state's efforts to preserve clean water, fish and wildlife habitat, working farms, historic places, and forests.** The public question also provides for full public disclosure of all spending, and citizen oversight would be ensured through the Garden State Preservation Trust, which must approve all projects. The state's open space and farmland preservation efforts will essentially come to an end if voters don't approve the continued funding on Election Day. Preserving open space works to improve water and air quality by naturally filtering pollution. For more information, visit njkeepitgreen.org.



CLEAN OCEAN ZONE

Dave Byer, Esq., Policy@cleanoceanaction.org

COA Speaks in Rhode Island on LNG

After coming across COA's 60 page report on LNG (available at our website), Rhode Island's Save the Bay Narragansett Bay invited David Byer, COA's Water Policy Attorney, to present to the Boards of Trustees and Directors and the President's Leadership Council on September 17. The group has been facing an LNG fight of their own for years - Hess' Weaver's Cove proposal. COA continues to collaborate with other groups in different regions facing similar threats, uniting for a common goal of a healthier ocean.

Comments on Expanded Offshore Drilling

The comment period for the 2010-2015 Five Year Outer Continental Shelf Leasing program has closed. This is a program the Bush Administration tried to push through in its last days to open the East Coast and other offshore regions to oil and gas drilling. Now the Obama Administration will consider comments and decide whether to expand offshore drilling into regions that have historically been protected due to their sensitive environments and minimal fossil fuel reserves. COA's comments are available at our website.

CITIZEN ACTION

Meg Gardner, (732) 872-0111; Citizens@cleanoceanaction.org

With Your Help, We Can Defeat LNG!

With the threat of liquefied natural gas (LNG) proposals looming on the horizon, it's time to get candidates for public office talking about how they are going to protect our ocean. Here is what you can do:

- ➡ **Call, write, or email** the incumbents' and candidates' offices and ask where they stand on LNG and give your opinion.
- ➡ **Write letters-to-the-editor** to your local papers about LNG. Elected officials often read this section of the newspaper to see what their constituents are concerned about. It only takes a few public outcries about an issue to get their attention.
- ➡ **Attend meetings and debates and ask questions**, such as the Coastal Issues Town Hall Meeting being hosted by Environment NJ in October.



Fall Into Action... Volunteer with COA

This fall, COA seeks volunteers to help staff information and action tables at festivals. 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, please contact Meg:
- **Sat. October 3:** Kenny Tooker Memorial Surf Classic, Bay Head, anytime b/n 8am & 3pm
- **Sun. October 4:** Cattus Island Nature Festival, Toms River, 9am-3pm
- **Sun. October 11:** Coast Day NJ, Cape May, 11am-4pm
- **Sun. October 18:** Patagonia Voice Your Choice Table, Columbia Ave, NYC, 11am-4pm
- **October 1-15:** Count Beach Sweep Supplies, Anytime at the COA office
- **Sat. October 24: Be a Beach Captain!** Sites available in Belmar, Seaside Park, and possibly Avalon. 8:30 am-1:00pm. Please contact Tavia Danch for a volunteer description.
- **Sun. October 25:** Environmental Expo, Monmouth Reform Temple, Tinton Falls, 10am-12:30pm

EVENTS

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

Clean Ocean Action Wish List

Clean Ocean Action is gearing up for a busy fall with our Student Summit, Beach Sweeps, school and town presentations, and much more. If you would like to help support COA's fall programming and beyond, please consider donating one of the below educational tools to help us navigate the waters of ocean advocacy.

- ➡ E-Z Up 10x10 Canopy Tent
- ➡ Portable Tripod Projector Screen
- ➡ Electronic Credit Card Swiper
- ➡ Flip Video Digital Camcorder
- ➡ 5-10 Megapixels Digital Camera
- ➡ Fire Wire 800 Hard Drive 250 GB
- ➡ 6 Foot Fold-up Table
- ➡ Laptop with Windows XP

Contact **Emily Hackett** to discuss donation specifics. We are requesting new or like new items. All donations are tax deductible and a receipt will be provided for your generous donation.

"Voice Your Choice" ~ Vote for Clean Ocean Action

Put Patagonia's money where your ocean is! Cast your ballot for Clean Ocean Action in the "Voice Your Choice" campaign to help Patagonia's Upper West Side store decide how it should distribute \$5,000 in grant money to three local environmental organizations. Patagonia is an outdoor clothing manufacturer noted internationally for its commitment to product quality and environmental activism. Votes will be accepted at the store at 426 Columbus Avenue, NYC, September 24 through October 24. Participants can cast one vote per store per visit.



Incorporating environmental responsibility into product development, the company has used only organically grown cotton in its clothing line since 1996. With its most recent launch of synthetic fiber-to-fiber recycling, Patagonia is taking back worn-out polyester and nylon clothing and reincarnating it as new products, forever capturing the raw materials used in making virgin fiber. The company also advocates corporate transparency through its interactive website, The Footprint Chronicles, which outlines the environmental and social and social footprint of individual products.

"Every day, local environmental organizations make a difference in the community. Our 'Voice Your Choice' program helps them continue their work as well as spreading the word about projects taking place in our backyard," said store manager Joy Lewis. "Seeking community input in how to distribute the funds is our way of raising public awareness about local environmental issues and hopefully getting more people involved in protecting the planet."

COA was selected by Patagonia store members based on their local focus and range of environmental concerns. **COA will join Patagonia at two Table Days taking place, on Sunday October 4th and Sunday October 18th.** Please show Patagonia your support for COA is strong and visit us on a Table Day!

POLLUTION PREVENTION

Tavia Danch, Education@cleanoceanaction.org
Heather Saffert, PhD, Science@cleanoceanaction.org

Loan Funds Monmouth Park Racetrack Cleanup

On Sept. 16, the NJ Department of Environment Protection (NJDEP) announced that it will loan Monmouth Park Racetrack a \$21.5 million low-interest loan package to fund a project to reduce horse manure run-off from polluting Branchport Creek, which flows into the Shrewsbury River. Pollution from the track has been a problem for decades and the project is long overdue. In June, fecal bacteria were observed in the thousands to tens of thousands and indicated pollution from the racetrack to the creek.

The loan will be used to construct a modernized stormwater collection and treatment system that will contain contaminated runoff and convey it to the Two Rivers Water Reclamation Authority for treatment. The track's infield area will be redesigned to act as a natural wetland filter for stormwater. Oceanport will oversee the loan transfer to the NJ Sports and Exposition Authority (NJSEA) which operates the track. COA emphasized the importance of this project at the press event, requested that it be completed before the proposed 4 year timeframe, and asked the NJSEA pay for monitoring so that we can all watch as this project succeeds. The race to clean up the waters is on, and we look forward to a swift cross to the finish line.



October 24, 2009
9:00 am - 12:30 pm

Join us for the 24th Annual Fall Beach Sweeps...

Become the solution to ocean pollution and be part of a statewide initiative to cleanup New Jersey's beaches, rivers, lakes, and streams. Choose from over 60 sites from Essex County to Cape May County. For a complete list of sites and to view the 2008 Annual Beach Sweep Report please visit cleanoceanaction.org. Groups of 10 or more are asked to pre-register through COA's website. For more information, contact Tavia Danch, education@cleanoceanaction.org or (732) 872-0111.

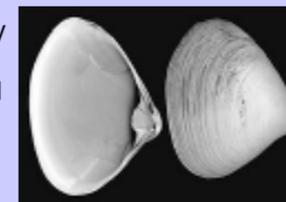
October Coastal Creature Feature



Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*)

June's creature was the **Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*)**. Its scientific name is for the mythical Greek King, Pandion, whose daughters were turned into birds and "hali" "aestus" means "sea" "eagle". The female lays 2-4 eggs a year that take 35-40 days to hatch. In the 1950s-70s, the number of osprey declined due to pollution. Once the pesticide DDT was prohibited and other pollutants reduced, the populations rebounded and are no longer threatened in most areas. Judge Hallie But thanks all who submitted guesses and congratulates the contest winner **Alison Evans of Leonardo, NJ!**

October's creature feature is one of the largest bivalves along the Atlantic coast, reaching up to 6 inches across. They live from the intertidal zone to offshore waters buried in the sand. These filter feeders eat tiny plankton from the water and help improve water quality. They also are a source of food for fish, horseshoe crabs, gulls, sea stars, and other mollusks, such as the moon snail. **For a chance to win a COA T-shirt**, submit your guess to Judge Herb C. Scallop by mail, fax, email (18 Hartshorne Dr., Suite 2, Highlands, NJ 07732; 732-872-8041; science@CleanOceanAction.org) or by visiting CleanOceanAction.org. Only one entry per person please.



October Creature

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