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SUPERSTORM SANDY-INSPIRED EDUCATION: FIRST 'VIRTUAL TEACH-IN' ON CLIMATE ISSUES NOVEMBER 13-15

Coalition Calling For Teachers to Educate Students on Climate Change, Sea Level Rise, Severe Weather, and Solutions

Sandy Hook, New Jersey –Clean Ocean Action (COA) is inviting teachers, instructors, and educators to participate in a program to bring climate issues into the classroom for three days in November as a part of <u>Waves of Action For The Shore</u>. The *Waves of Action* initiative was created after Superstorm Sandy to help coastal communities recover.

For the November Waves focus, Clean Ocean Action compiled educational materials from national and international sources that creatively and clearly present complex scientific issues. These resources include videos, activity booklets, and pre-written interactive lesson plans. Materials are sorted by topic and age groups with resources available for all grades from K-12. Teachers will also be asked for feedback and input about their experience to help COA gain insights on how to improve climate education initiatives.

"We believe there is something inspiring, cathartic, and exciting about collectively taking part in shared education activities," said **Cindy Zipf, Clean Ocean Action Executive Director**. "They bring people together for a common goal; here in the NY/NJ region, education about the impacts from Superstorm Sandy and climate threats are essential to improving our future resiliency and environmental stewardship," she added.

Registered teachers will be given online resources on the following topics to be presented to their classes any time from Wednesday, November 13th through Friday, November 15th:

- Superstorm Sandy: What Do We Know?
- Climate Change/Global Warming
- Sea Level Rise: Cause and Effect
- Climate Change Water Impacts: Droughts, Floods, & Ocean Acidification

• Energy Use, Your Carbon Footprint, & Solutions

"We asking teachers, scout leaders, school club advisors, and other educators from across New Jersey and New York to take part in the first 'Virtual Teach-In' and educate their students during November 13-15th," said **Catie Tobin Clean Ocean Action Ocean Advocacy and Education Fellow**. "This is a great opportunity for educational leaders in the community to expand understanding of climate issues in an interactive way," Tobin explained.

To receive information educators are being asked to register on the Waves of Action website, www.ForTheShore.org. Once registered, they will be sent links to the online educational activities. Teachers will also be asked for feedback and input about the Virtual Teach-In and invited to suggest ideas and activities.

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