

## **PRESS RELEASE**



### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**\*\*September 18, 2013\*\***

**Contact the Clean Ocean Action office at (732) 872-0111:**

Cindy Zipf, Executive Director

Zach McCue, Citizen Action Coordinator

Lindsay McNamara, Press Inquiries

## **ENVIRONMENTAL CANDIDATE FORUMS FOR CITIZENS ABOUT SANDY LONG-TERM RECOVERY**

*September 24 and 26, 2013*

**Coastal NJ** – Two forums will be held next week providing citizens with an opportunity to have their voices heard on important environmental issues by candidates for state legislative offices. The forums will be held on Tuesday, September 24 in Loveladies, NJ and on Thursday, September 26 in Wall, NJ. Citizens will be provided an opportunity to ask questions to their legislative candidates about their environmental concerns.

A Coastal Candidates Environmental Forum for the 9<sup>th</sup> Legislative District, organized by Clean Ocean Action, [ReClam The Bay](#) and [Alliance for a Living Ocean](#), will be held on Tuesday, September 24 in Loveladies on Long Beach Island, NJ at the Long Beach Island Foundation for the Arts and Sciences. From 7pm-8:30pm, community members will have the opportunity to participate in a discussion with candidates running in the 9<sup>th</sup> District about environmental issues, and will have the opportunity to ask questions about Superstorm Sandy and the rebuilding process, offshore Liquefied Natural Gas, fracking/fracking waste, and other key environmental issues. The discussion will be moderated by ReClam The Bay President Rick Bushnell. To [register for the event](#) or to [submit questions in advance](#) for the candidates visit [ForTheShore.org](#).

“The Long Beach Island Foundation is very pleased to host the “Meet the Candidates” sponsored by Clean Ocean Action. The activity is part of mission of Long Beach Island Foundation: to provide a forum where our community can become informed about science, art and timely topics of importance to us all. The Science Committee at the Long Beach Island Foundation has been very active in efforts to improve the environment, especially on LBI and is happy to provide a place where our citizen neighbors can interact with the policy makers. The

Long Beach Island Foundation wants to thank Clean Ocean Action for producing this event,” said **ReClam The Bay President Rick Bushnell**.

Coastal candidates that will be attending the environmental forum on September 24 include:

- Republican candidate for State Senate **Senator Christopher Connors**
- Democratic candidate for State Assembly **Peter Ferwerda**
- Democratic candidate for State Assembly **Chris McManus**
- Republican candidate for State Assembly **Assemblywoman Diane Gove**
- Republican candidate for State Assembly **Assemblyman Brian Rumpf**

“With our area in a critical state of change due to the ongoing impacts of Superstorm Sandy, it is critical to discuss the candidate's views on the myriad of issues facing our coastal environment and way of life. As always, ALO continues to work to identify politicians who share our values,” explained **Alliance for a Living Ocean Executive Director Chris Huch**.

“This event, hosted by these outstanding environmental leaders, provides citizens with a rare opportunity to discuss key policy issues in a forum where they can hear views of the candidates. We hope citizens will take advantage of this important meeting to express their concerns for the future of Jersey Shore,” stated **Clean Ocean Action Executive Director Cindy Zipf**.



The [Wall Township Environmental Advisory Committee](#)'s Annual Environmental Summit will be held on Thursday, September 26, from 7pm-8pm at the Wall Township Municipal Building in Wall, NJ. Citizens are invited to meet the New Jersey 30<sup>th</sup> Legislative Representatives to discuss environmental legislation, concerns, and issues. Community members will have the opportunity to ask questions about open space preservation, tree removal, overdevelopment, recycling and composting, watershed funding and other conservations measures. For more information, visit [www.ForTheShore.org](http://www.ForTheShore.org).

District 30 Legislative Members that will be attending the environmental summit on September 26 include the following candidates:

- **Senator Robert Singer (R)**
- **Assemblyman Sean Kean (R)**
- **Assemblyman David Rible (R)**

The 9<sup>th</sup> Legislative District Coastal Candidates Environmental Forum and Annual Environmental Summit are a part of Clean Ocean Action's September Series. Throughout the month of September, Clean Ocean Action is urging citizens to assist in the long-term recovery of the coast by participating in coastal candidate forums, environmental summits and other events through *Waves of Action 'For The Shore.'* Events are being organized by outstanding business and community leaders, and will begin on Monday, September 16 and continue through Saturday,

September 28. Participants can register online and submit questions for the candidates at [www.ForTheShore.org](http://www.ForTheShore.org).

This September Series is a part of *Waves of Action 'For the Shore,'* a one-year program created last December to help respond to the impacts of Superstorm Sandy by improving and protecting the marine environment. Clean Ocean Action has joined townships, businesses, homeowners, and civic organizations with thousands of volunteers along the shore to help communities most affected by the storm. Since December 2012, community leaders have registered 226 service projects, clean ups, workshops, and outings that have sent over 11,800 volunteers to 70 different towns in New York and New Jersey to help out. For more information, visit [www.ForTheShore.org](http://www.ForTheShore.org).

###

### **About Clean Ocean Action**

Clean Ocean Action is a coalition of over 130 boating, business, community, conservation, diving, environmental, fishing, religious, service, student, surfing, and women's groups. Based in Sandy Hook, Clean Ocean Action is the only full time regional coalition that works exclusively for a clean ocean off the coasts of New Jersey and New York.

*Join Clean Ocean Action on Thursday, October 10, for Seaside Sunset at McLoone's Pier House in Long Branch, NJ. Enjoy dinner and dancing overlooking the ocean and support Clean Ocean Action's environmental education programs. For more information, to purchase tickets or to learn more about becoming a Seaside Sunset sponsor [click here](#).*