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LABEL

CLEAN OCEAN ADVOCATE
July 2019

Save the Date!

Ocean Celebration
Windows on the Water, Sea Bright, NJ



Clean Ocean Action
18 Hartshorne Drive, Suite 2
Highlands, NJ 07732
732-872-0111
www.CleanOceanAction.org
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CLEAN OCEAN ADVOCATE

Defending the Sea Since 1984

July 2019

Clean Ocean Action's (COA) Monthly Newsletter

Peter Blair, Policy Attorney; Policy@CleanOceanAction.org

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Deals Setback to NESE Pipeline, but Allows Company to Reapply



On June 5, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) denied six crucial permits for the Northeast Supply Enhancement Project. The permits were

necessary for both the construction of the compressor station in Franklin Township, as well as the 23.4 mile offshore pipeline in the Raritan Bay and ocean. The denial cited the impacts to wetlands, the water quality of the bay, and the lack of need for the project among the primary reasons for the rejection.

While this is an important victory for the Raritan Bay and ocean, the denial left the door open for the company to reapply and 5 days later new applications were filed with the DEP. This pattern of events mimics what occurred in New York, where water quality permits were denied and the company immediately re-applied.

It is clear that until the project is permanently denied, Williams will continue its attack on our environment. COA will continue to fight this unnecessary and harmful proposal. Stay tuned for next steps.

Last Chance Rally to Stop the NESE Pipeline Banner Plane

On May 25, a banner plane flew from Point Pleasant to Sandy Hook and along the Bayshore, advertising the Last Chance Rally to Stop the NESE Pipeline! The contest winner to first spot the plane, Patricia Lafferty won a COA t-shirt.



"RALLY TO SAVE THE BAY & OCEAN, MAY 31, 4PM CLEANOCEANACTION.ORG"

Hundreds Attend "Last Chance Rally for Bay & Ocean" to Oppose the NESE Pipeline

On Friday, May 31 about one hundred citizens, elected officials, business owners, and climate activists gathered at Bayshore Waterfront Park to oppose the NESE Pipeline. Attendees called on Governor Murphy and the NJDEP to deny crucial permits for the construction of the pipeline and compressor station. If approved, the 23.4 miles offshore pipeline would slice the Raritan Bay in half, contaminating waters, killing marine life, and setting the region back decades in terms of water quality improvements.



Speakers from right to left: Doug O'Malley, Environment New Jersey; Ed Potosnack, New Jersey League of Conservation Voters; Tara Clark, Hazlet Councilwoman; Tony Perry, Mayor of Middletown; Cindy Zipf, Clean Ocean Action; Peter Blair, Esq., Clean Ocean Action (speaking); Gerry Scharfenberger, Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders; Patricia Snell, Middletown Committeewoman; Michael Nikolis, Deputy Mayor of Holmdel; Kin Gee, CHARGE/RAGE; John Weber, Surfrider Mid-Atlantic; Nick Simon, representing Congressman Frank Pallone



Citizens Stand United on Beach at Raritan Bay and tell Gov. Murphy to Permanently "Say No" to NESE

The outpouring to defend the bay and ocean is inspiring. Together, COA citizens, businesses, and towns have worked hard and spent millions to improve these waters. The whales, fish, clams, seal and people are all back enjoying the cleaner water. COA will fight any proposed harm to these remarkable and valuable resources. Governor Murphy must send Williams back to Oklahoma.

Following the rally, Governor Murphy denied the permits but left the door open for Williams to reapply which has already happened. See related article (above) for more info. See COA's blog for the full story and the "Say NO to NESE" video.

Mark Your Calendars



Summer Yoga Series
2nd Sunday of the month, June - September
Asbury Park Yacht Club, 8:30am to 9:30am

Surf BBQ Fundraiser for Rally for the Navesink
Every Thursday in July
132 E River Road, Rumson, NJ

COA Open Surf Contest
Sunday, September 29
Seven Presidents Oceanfront Park
Long Branch, NJ

Fall Beach Sweeps
Saturday, October 26
60 NJ Locations

Ocean Celebration
Friday, November 1
Windows on the Water, 6pm - 10pm
Sea Bright, NJ

Tributes

Photo courtesy of Joe Reynolds

In Memory of:

- Peter Cauterucci
- Stephanie E. Hogan
- Theodore Josberger
- Dolores & Samuel Karinja
- Al McNamara
- Carol Anne Ross
- Gregory S. Weber

In Honor of:

- Confluent's Frankie Award Winners
- Welcome to the World – Linnea Eunji Dixon
- Happy Father's Day to Jack Gutenkunst

Do your kids need something to do this summer? Take them to learn about ocean pollution at one of these upcoming COA presentations:

July 16, 2019, 3:45-4:30pm, Oceanic Free Library, Rumson

July 24, 2019, 1-4pm, Asbury Park Public Library, Asbury Park

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

Spencer Munson, Resource and Event Coordinator, Programs@CleanOceanAction.org

COA Joins Two Legs of Patagonia's "Worn Wear" East Coast Tour



During consecutive weekends in June, COA joined Patagonia's "Worn Wear" team for two legs of their tour up the East Coast. On June 8 & 9 thanks to volunteer Lynn Schambach, the COA crew spent three days at Brave New World in Point Pleasant and then followed that up with two days at Glide Surf Co. in Asbury Park the following weekend, thanks to volunteer and past intern Mickey Schluter. The idea behind Worn Wear is to encourage the repair of wetsuits, clothing and outdoor gear as opposed to the unnecessary disposal of damaged goods into landfills. The added benefit of opting to repair instead of replace is the massive reduction in resources and emissions involved in purchasing new outdoor gear or clothing. The Worn Wear team hung out at the respective NJ surf shops and accepted damaged wetsuits and clothing on a first come first serve basis.

WORN WEAR

The team spent hours repairing the damaged gear and returned each item to its owner as it was finished, free of charge! On top of the repairs, Patagonia also raffled off a brand new Yulex wetsuit at each event and raised over \$1,000 for COA. Patagonia continues to lead the way in making sustainability a top priority and they know how to have a little fun while doing it! COA is incredibly grateful for Patagonia's continued support and tireless efforts!

Waves of thanks to Glide Surf Co in Asbury Park and Patagonia for hosting COA at a screening of 3 powerful surf activism films about keeping our waves & oceans wild; "Los Plastico", "Saving Martha", and "Estado Salmonaro" to benefit COA's clean water initiatives. Guests enjoyed beer donated by Birravino in Red Bank and a discussion about actively fighting for ocean protection.



Waves of thanks to The Columns in Avon, NJ, for featuring COA on Sunday, June 16th as their local non-profit weekly fundraiser! In lieu of a cover charge to enjoy live music by Bob Bandiera donations were accepted to support COA, raising \$365.44!

Welcome Summer Interns!

COA's lean, green ocean pollution fighting machine is expanding for summer with the arrival of our summer interns. Please join us in welcoming Megan Andreasen, Marine Debris Water Quality Intern; Patricia Dunkak, Communications and Resource Intern; and Isabelle Rosa, Nonprofit Intern! COA would also like to wish our spring high school interns Brendan McCartney, Fei Xuan Phua, and Julia Wakin farewell and good luck in their first year at college!



Pictured from left to right: Spencer Munson, Program and Resource Coordinator; Patricia Dunkak, Communications and Resource Intern; Alison McCarthy, Coastal Watershed Protection Coordinator; High School Intern Fei Xuan Phua; Kendall Keelen, Policy Fellow; Cindy Zipf, Executive Director; Peter Blair, Policy Attorney; Megan Andreasen, Marine Debris Water Quality Intern; Mary-Beth Thompson, Chief Operating Officer; Kari Martin, Education Coordinator; Swarna Muthukrishnan, PhD, Staff Scientist; Zack Karvelas, Outreach Fellow; Allie Meyerhoff, Marketing and Communications Coordinator; Isabelle Rosa, Nonprofit Intern

SCIENCE

Swarna Muthukrishnan, PhD, Staff Scientist; Science@CleanOceanAction.org
Alison McCarthy, Watershed Protection Coordinator; Outreach@CleanOceanAction.org

Year 2 Success: What's Next for Citizen Science in the Navesink Watershed?



Pictured here (clockwise) on the first day of the weekly Citizen Science Water Quality Sampling that piloted in 2017 is COA's Staff Scientist, Swarna Muthukrishnan, PhD with Citizen Water Quality Samplers Bob Markhoff, Charles Gross, Skip Bugbee, and Chuck Hunnewell.

COA and NJDEP's weekly ambient bacteria source track down "aka poo-llution" monitoring of the Navesink River successfully completed its second year since piloted in June 2017. For the third year, COA will continue to coordinate citizen scientists, sampling logistics, and samples transport to DEP's Bureau of Marine Water Monitoring (BMWWM) laboratory in Leeds Point, NJ. BMWWM analyzes all samples before periodically sharing the data with COA. Results from past two years of data indicate seasonal trends in bacteria levels from various locations and confirm the impacts rain increasing pollution from runoff. During the summer, baseline studies of bacteria levels under ambient and wet-weather conditions will be conducted by COA and DEP in a few upstream tributaries. Stay tuned for more updates to follow!

Weekly Beach Condition Reporting

Each week COA is reporting on the ocean and bay's condition based on NJDEP's Cooperative Coastal Monitoring Program (CCMP). This program analyzes water samples for an indicator bacterium known as Enterococci, commonly found in animal and human feces. Over the past three weeks, no beaches have been given a water quality advisory or closure. This information can be found on njbeaches.org, as well as COA's website and social media.



On June 17 and 18, 2019, COA's Coastal Watershed Protection Coordinator Alison McCarthy attended the 2019 Mid-Atlantic Marine Debris Summit, hosted by Clean Virginia Waterways, the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program, and George Mason University. This solutions-based summit showcased successful marine debris reduction programs at the national, regional, state, and local level, with the goal of uniting partners to create a marine debris reduction plan for the Mid-Atlantic. Alison presented on the legacy of 34 years of Beach Sweeps data as a driver for policies that reduce debris at the source.

Dr. Swarna Muthukrishnan, COA's Staff Scientist successfully completed the Green Infrastructure Champions Training Program conducted by Rutgers Cooperative Extension Water Resources Program on June 7. The GI Champions Program is a series of nine workshops that focused on all aspects of the important role of Green Infrastructure practices in stormwater management, including advocacy, community outreach, design, implementation, and maintenance of GI practices. The training was conducted by Chris Obropta, PhD, PE (Extension Specialist and Professor at Rutgers University) and Tobiah Horton (Extension Specialist and Asst. Professor at Rutgers University).

Pictured here L to R: Dr. Chris Obropta, Dr. Swarna Muthukrishnan, Tobiah Horton



Volunteer for COA or stop by at these fun summer events! To sign-up to volunteer, contact Kari Martin at 732-872-0111 or kmartin@cleanoceanaction.org.

- 7/18, 9am-2pm, Kids Day at Island Beach State Park, Seaside Park, NJ
- 7/20, 10am-7pm, Long Beach Island Foundation Arts Festival, Loveladies, NJ
- 8/23, 9am-3pm, Green Fair, Ocean City Music Pier, Ocean City, NJ

OUTREACH & EDUCATION

Kari Martin, Education Coordinator; Citizens@CleanOceanAction.org

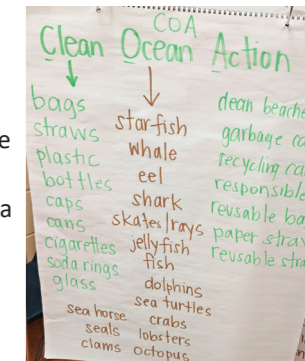
Super Student Stewards for the Sea

COA is active throughout the year educating students about ocean pollution and identifying solutions. Several students took extra initiatives to learn about and advocate for the sea.

In May, COA's Amanda Wheeler and Kari Martin received a warm welcome for a "Sea Change" presentation from the entire third grade and teachers at Amerigo A. Anastasia Elementary School in Long Branch, NJ. The students and teachers designated the "L" alphabet day as "Love Your Ocean Day," and posted welcome signs for COA. They also designed a bulletin board of student



Students' "save the ocean" bulletin board artwork at the Anastasia School



Students at the Anastasia School brainstormed the meanings of Clean, Ocean, and Action in preparation for our presentation.

artwork, which was accompanied by \$1 donations to COA. Students prepped for the presentation with a word brainstorm for "Clean," "Ocean," and "Action." The Anastasia students and staff are informed on many environmental issues, and actively incorporate "green" practices throughout their school and community.

Also, in June, COA was overjoyed that students and schools chose our organization as the recipient of donations from their recent projects:

- As part of their Capstone Group project, Makena and Emily from Randolph Middle School "had a blast" participating in the Beach Sweeps. In response, they made and sold sea-creature-themed bracelets accompanied by a poem to advocate for clean and healthy oceans. They donated their \$300 in sales to COA.
- Christina, Ashlie, and Mia from Randolph Middle School participated in the Beach Sweeps, which inspired them to "not litter and to recycle plastics." They sold bagels at school and donated the \$276 proceeds to COA.
- Kimberly Liu and Kaitlyn Siek from Charles DeWolf Middle School in Old Tappan, NJ, sold "rubber duckies" during school hours as part of their 8th grade Changemaker Project. They donated the \$90 in sales to COA.
- Instead of keeping the refundable deposit for participating in COA's Spring Student Summit, Clara Logan from Mastro Montessori Academy in Shrewsbury, NJ, donated the \$100 deposit to COA.

COA is thankful for these educational stewards and their efforts to help the sea. We appreciate their hard work and concern for the environment.

Partnering with Sustainable Jersey

On June 14, COA's Staff Scientist Swarna Muthukrishnan, PhD, and Education Coordinator Kari Martin attended Sustainable Jersey's 2019 Sustainability Summit at Bellworks in Holmdel. COA was a partner and exhibitor at the conference. The event brought together over 400 diverse participants from across NJ and more than 50 experts and practitioners to discuss sustainability trends, analyze innovative approaches for solving critical problems and spark lasting partnerships. A total of 12 sustainability sessions were offered with topics ranging from community solar and electric vehicles and solutions to today's recycling crisis to sustainable practices in schools and addressing public health at the community level. Sustainable Jersey is celebrating its 10th Anniversary as a certification program for municipalities in New Jersey. It is a 501C3 non-profit organization that is helping NJ towns build a better world for future generations by supporting community efforts to reduce waste, cut greenhouse gas emissions, and improve environmental equity.



COA's Education Coordinator, Kari Martin at the Sustainability Summit in Holmdel, NJ on June 14