



POLICY

Peter Blair, Policy Attorney; Policy@CleanOceanAction.org

NJDEP Extends the Decision Date on the NESE Pipeline

The three year battle over the health of the Raritan Bay drags on as Williams/Transco and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) mutually agreed to extend the deadline for a decision on the offshore pipeline by 30 days. The DEP now has until October 25 to make a decision on the offshore portion of the project. COA urges everyone to take the following steps to help save the bay and ocean: (1) Keep calling Governor Murphy at least once per week and tell him to Say NO to NESE – (609) 292-6000, (2) Keep writing to the Governor and tell him why he must deny NESE at https://nj.gov/governor/contact/all/, (3) Sign the petition online at CleanOceanAction.org, and (4) Write a letter to the Editor of your local paper explaining what is at stake.



Citizens Rallied Against Fossil Fuels in Red Bank

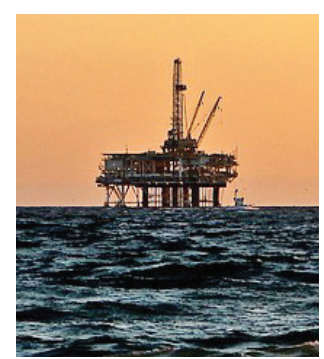
Hundreds of citizens urged Governor Murphy to give the Williams/NESE project the thumbs down, while Captain Bill Schultz of the Raritan Riverkeeper rallies from the water in the background.

See inside to read the full story.



On Friday September 20, three days before the UN Climate Summit in NYC, citizens across the US and world attended strikes to demand action be taken to address the climate crisis. COA spoke at the Red Bank Climate Strike at Riverside Park in Red Bank, NJ on ocean acidification, sea level rise, and actions citizens can take to reduce their individual carbon emissions.

This month marked a significant milestone in the effort to protect our ocean from the dangers of offshore oil and gas developments. Congress passed both HR 1941 by Rep. Joe Cunningham (D-SC) and HR 205 by Rep. Francis Rooney (R-FL). The bills would permanently ban offshore drilling off the Atlantic, Pacific, and Florida Gulf coasts. Both bills passed with strong bipartisan support. New Jersey along with several other Mid-Atlantic and New England states passed both measures unanimously, highlighting the regions bi-partisan commitment to protecting the coastline.



Clean Ocean Action
49 Avenue Blvd.
Long Branch, NJ 07740
www.CleanOceanAction.org
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Tributes

Photo courtesy of Joe Reynolds

In Memory of:

- | | |
|------------------|----------------------|
| Kirk Alexy | Jody DiStasio |
| Peter Cauterucci | Donna Madden-Kaznica |
| Kevin James Day | Carol Anne Ross |
| James DeMarco | Greg Weber |

In Honor of:

- Suzanne Golas
- Colin Loch
- Todd Thompson

CHEERS to 35 YEARS of Ocean Advocacy!

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Follow COA on Social Media For Ocean Updates!

LABEL

CLEAN OCEAN ADVOCATE
October 2019

Mark Your Calendars

- COA Open Surf Contest**
Sunday, September 29, 7am
Seven Presidents Oceanfront Park
Long Branch, NJ
- Fall Student Summit**
Thursday, October 3
Island Beach State Park
- Fall Beach Sweeps**
Saturday, October 26, 9am - 12:30pm
60 NJ Locations
- Ocean Celebration**
Friday, November 1, 6pm - 10pm
Windows on the Water
931 Ocean Ave, Sea Bright, NJ

Fall Fun & Volunteering

- Visit and/or Volunteer for COA at these upcoming events:
- Every Kid Outdoors, 4th Grader Adventure Day
October 6, 11am-2pm
Sandy Hook
- Jersey Shore Makerfest & Green Fair
October 12, 9am-5pm
Toms River High School North
- Coast Day, Stockton University
October 13, 10am-3pm
Atlantic City Campus

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

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



Waves of thanks to Bobby Rallo and his staff at Surf BBQ for running a successful fundraising campaign in July. Bobby paired local produce from C. Rooney Produce with brews from Carton Brewing and Asbury Park Distilling Co. The campaign raised over \$900, all of which will go toward improving the water quality in the Navesink River!



COA spread environmental awareness on Saturday, September 21 and Sunday, September 22 at Sea.Hear.Now's sold-out crowd of 35,000 in Asbury Park, NJ. Staff members educated festival goers on actions they can take to reduce single-use plastics, stop the NESE Pipeline and keep the beach clean throughout the concert weekend.



COA and Save Barnegat Bay at Sea.Hear.Now with Stella Ryan's upcycled King Neptune and Mermaid mosaic in the backdrop

COA Garners a Near Perfect Score and Top 10 Status!

Great news! Not only is COA maintaining a 4-Star rating at Charity Navigator for the 5th consecutive rating, but our number was just increased to a 99.87 out of 100!! Last year's score was 92.82. Only 13% of all the charities reviewed by Charity Navigator (which includes over 9,100 organizations) achieve 5 consecutive ratings of 4 Stars! In fact, Clean Ocean Action is within the TOP 10 environmental groups in the nation.



COA discussed ocean conservation issues at Patagonia Bowery in NYC on Thursday, September 12 during an event with Big Wave World Champion Greg Long.



Waves of thanks to the Global Mala NJ for choosing COA as a beneficiary for the 10th Annual Global Mala at the Asbury Park boardwalk on Sunday, September 15!

We are grateful to April Puciata for supporting COA this summer through her monthly yoga classes at Asbury Park Yacht Club. Namaste!

SCIENCE

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

Diamondback Terrapins in the Two Rivers

Attendees of last month's Rally for the Navesink meeting had the chance to meet their neighbors – diamondback terrapins! Mike Haughwout, a science teacher at Rumson Fair Haven High School who leads the school's Project Terrapin program, shared information about their effort to protect terrapins in the Navesink and Shrewsbury Rivers. Right now, RFH Project Terrapin's research focuses on understanding population densities, nesting sites, and road crossings for the local terrapin populations. COA took this opportunity to update attendees on the progress of the Rally for the Navesink over the last 3 years, including some incredible successes as well as the work that remains to restore water quality in the river. Waves of thanks to Red Bank Public Library for hosting the Rally for the Navesink meeting!



Delaware Debris

Marine debris may seem most visible at the Jersey Shore, but it is crucial to remember that marine debris often starts out as inland litter that is carried to our waterways through stormwater runoff. COA's Delaware Sweeps initiative brings the Beach Sweeps model to locations in need along the Delaware River to address these land-based sources of litter.



On September 15 COA hosted a clean-up at the Trenton Public Boat Ramp with members of the Lambda Theta Phi fraternity from The College of New Jersey.



On September 12 COA hosted a Delaware Sweep at the Rivergate Boat Ramp in West Deptford. Students from Professor Jessica DeGraff's Marine Biology class at Rowan College at Gloucester County participated and collected 1,747 pieces of debris; over 90% of the debris was plastic.

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Clean Ocean Action Submits Comments on the Draft Energy Master Plan

COA submitted comments on the proposed Energy Master Plan published by the Board of Public Utilities. The Energy Master Plan, once adopted, will act as the guiding blueprint for transitioning New Jersey to 100% clean energy by 2050. COA's comments urged the finalized plan to prioritize energy efficiency and conservation programs, to re-develop the states solar energy regulations, and to re-define clean energy from "carbon-neutral" to carbon free. The comments can be found at CleanOceanAction.org.



On Thursday, September 19 COA met with Assemblyman Eric Houghtaling and Surfrider Jersey Shore Chapter to discuss a bill to ban the intentional release of balloons.

OUTREACH & EDUCATION

Kari Martin, Education Coordinator; Citizens@CleanOceanAction.org

Expanding Our Volunteer Reach

In September, COA participated in the OceanFirst Foundation's very first "Nonprofit Volunteer Fair" in their Toms River and Red Bank offices. The events were opportunities for OceanFirst employees to make connections and volunteer with local organizations. As a community partner with OceanFirst, employees signed-up to participate in our Beach Sweeps program, and learned of the many other volunteer opportunities that COA has year-round. OceanFirst Bank has recently established a volunteer team and has added a Volunteer Time Off (VTO) policy to their employee benefit program.



COA's Education Coordinator, Kari Martin shares information about volunteer opportunities

Students Act to Oppose NESE

As students across the nation and the world take actions to fight climate change, students from the Holy Cross Academy in Rumson, NJ, took local action to "Say No" to NESE. Led by Holy Cross teacher MaryJane Gallo, students in grades 6-8 sent over 70 letters to NJ Governor Murphy urging him to deny the permits for the proposed NESE pipeline project. As party of a language arts lesson, the students researched the NESE project and listened attentively to and asked key questions at a presentation by COA's Cindy Zipf and Kari Martin at their school. The letters were mailed to the Governor's office on September 16. Overwhelmingly, the student cited environmental and climate change concerns as reasons to reject the project. Waves of thanks to MaryJane and these local advocates for penning their concerns and taking action! Quotes from the students are included below. To view more quotes visit COA's blog.

"During your campaign for governor, you promised to make NJ an eco-friendly state, so stick to your word!"

"Say no to the NESE pipeline. With this one decision, you could keep our community green, and clean."

"Our future is in your hands; say no to the Williams NESE pipeline."



On Tuesday, September 17 COA trained Junior Beach Captains in preparation for the October 26 Beach Sweeps. Thanks to OceanFirst Foundation, high school students have the opportunity to cultivate important leadership skills and earn volunteer hours at a Beach Sweeps site along the Jersey Shore.