

# Clean Ocean Advocate



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- C.O.A.S.T. 2008 Targets Industrial Ports
- Officials Oppose Drilling in the Ocean; Citizen Alert
- A Wave of Exciting News for Golfers and All

## August 2008 Highlights

**\*\*\*Eco-Tip of the Month\*\*\***  
**Savvy School Shopping:** When buying a new computer for your back-to-school student, consider buying a laptop, which uses only half the energy of its desktop counterpart. Choose a model with the federal Energy Star rating, which uses up to 70% less energy than a non-certified model.  
 Adapted from *Our Environment*, Vol. 14, No. 2, by Ingrid Justick

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### STAY INVOLVED IN YOUR COALITION!

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➡ Your contribution will ensure that you receive this monthly newsletter, action alerts, and notices of events for one year.

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COA is a 501(c)(3) organization and contributions are tax deductible.

## AUGUST

August 2, Saturday

- **Summa Love Surfing Lessons**, Ocean Lane, Deal, NJ, 12-4pm. Portions of proceeds go to COA. For cost and details, 908-910-4552 or www.summalove.com.

August, Weekends

- **C.O.A.S.T. 2008**, action tables, beaches in Monmouth & Ocean Counties. Visit or volunteer. For dates and sites, see cover.

August 16-17, Saturday-Sunday

- **Clearwater Festival**, Sunset Ave. & Main Street, Asbury Park, 11am-7pm, www.mcclearwater.org. Volunteers needed to help with festival; call Chrissie Goedkoop at 732-872-9644. To volunteer for COA's display, call Casey at 732-872-0111.

### SAVE THE DATE

September 19, Friday

- **COA's 10th Annual Sunset at Sandy Hook**, hosted by The Segall Family of The Sea Gulls' Nest Deck Restaurant, Sandy Hook, 6-11pm. See inside.

### Our COAlition

Featuring...

#### Mantoloking Environmental Commission

The newest group to join Clean Ocean Action (COA) as a Participating Organization is the **Mantoloking Environmental Commission**. As a very small community in Ocean County bordered by water on both sides – the Atlantic Ocean and Barnegat Bay, Mantoloking and its residents can have a very large environmental impact. Recognizing this connection, Mantoloking was one of the first communities with a dune ordinance over 20 years ago.

"Mantoloking is a small town with a major environmental responsibility for protecting our natural resources," said **Joseph DeAmicis, Chair**, and former Planning Board Chair for 20 years.

The Commission formed just one and a half years ago, thanks to the support from newly elected Mayor George Nebel. The Commission promotes awareness in environmentally friendly actions and pollution prevention, submits recommendations to the Planning Board on site plans, and makes recommendations on land use ordinances.

As a young Commission, the members reach-out to groups and community members working on similar issues, such as COA. The Commission is especially grateful of local resident Willie deCamp, also President of Save Barnegat Bay, for his guidance.

Currently, the Commission is working on reducing nitrogen washing into Barnegat Bay, supporting the Barnegat Bay Buddy program (coordinated by COA and Save Barnegat Bay), and developing a fertilizer ordinance. The Commission's native plant day sales help eliminate the use of nitrogen-containing fertilizers.

Meetings are the first and third Sundays of the month at the Mantoloking Yacht Club. For more information, contact Joseph DeAmicis at 732-295-8623.

### C.O.A.S.T. Campaign 2008 Targets Industrial Ports

Casey Shanley, 732-872-0111, Coast@cleanoceanaction.org

On July 3<sup>rd</sup>, the 2008 C.O.A.S.T. (Clean Ocean Action Shore Tips) Campaign kicked-off with a successful press conference at Sea Bright Public Beach. Many attended and spoke about the importance of this summer's campaign, which is to **"Stop the Insanity"** by opposing the projects that would industrialize the ocean. This summer, volunteers will inform citizens about the three liquefied natural gas (LNG) ports proposed off the NY/NJ coast, and motivate shore visitors and residents to take action to oppose the ports, including through petitions, resolutions, and contacting elected officials. For campaign information, go to COA's website.



Groups and officials launch this summer's C.O.A.S.T. Campaign

Special thanks to: Shawn Brennan, representing **US Rep. Frank Pallone, Jr. (NJ-D-6)**; Ryan Sharpe, representing **NJ Senator Sean Kean (R-11)**, **Mayor Maria Fernandes of Sea Bright**, ocean advocates Jim Lovgren, Dery Bennett, Andrew Mencinsky, Pat and Bob Bennekamper, and the many other attending groups and supporters.

Contact Casey to sign-up to volunteer for weekends through mid-August.

**C.O.A.S.T. Sites - August**  
 August 2, 3: **Bradley Beach, Avon, Belmar, Sea Girt**  
 August 9, 10: **Manasquan, Jenkinson's Pavilion, Brick Beach III**  
 August 16, 17: **Lavallette, Seaside Park, Island Beach State Park, and Clearwater Festival in Asbury Park**

### OFFICIALS OPPOSE DRILLING IN THE OCEAN CITIZEN ALERT: STOP THE OIL SLICK OF LIES



On July 7, **US Senators Menendez (D-NJ) and Lautenberg (D-NJ)**, **US Rep. Pallone (NJ-D-6)**, **NJ Governor Corzine**, and representatives of environmental, fishing, and surfing organizations, including COA, joined together to announce opposition to attempts by the Bush Administration, US Congress, and the oil industry to open the nation's coast to oil and gas drilling activities in the ocean. One week later, US President George W. Bush lifted the Executive Order protecting the nation's coasts from drilling.

Continued, see "Don't Drill in Our Ocean," page 2

**CLEAN OCEAN ZONE**

David Byer, Esq., 732-872-0111, Policy@cleanoceanaction.org  
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**NO to LNG...YES to Energy Efficiency & Renewables**

The NJ Energy Master Plan will set the path the state expects to take through 2020 to best achieve the goals of reasonably priced, reliable, and cleaner energy. The Draft Plan is a step in the right direction with conservation, efficiency, and renewables. Unfortunately, it also calls for liquefied natural gas (LNG). See COA's website for our comments.

**COASTAL WATER QUALITY****Harmful Algal Bloom in Raritan Bay**

State and federal agencies detected widespread algal blooms in Raritan and Sandy Hook Bays from July 13-17. Samples near Keyport Harbor contained high concentrations of the algae species *Heterosigma akashiwo*. This algae is known to be toxic to fish, but not to humans, and detrimental to shellfish. Typically, algal blooms are caused by many factors (i.e., water temperature, runoff from storm events, sunlight, nutrients, and competition).

At the same time, one hundred porgies (scup) and a dozen 4-5 inch fluke (summer flounder) washed-up on nearby Cliffwood Beach. Dead baitfish were also observed in Whale Creek in Aberdeen. The die-off may have been directly due to the toxic algae or to low dissolved oxygen levels, or a combination of these conditions. Dead mussels were also seen on the shore at Keyport and along beaches in Port Monmouth. It is not clear if these events were related or if extensive wave action and swells from the tropical storm offshore dislodged and damaged the mussels. **See signs of polluted water or dead fish? Call NJDEP 24-hotline: 1-877-WARN DEP.**

**"Don't Drill in Our Ocean!" (continued from page 1)**

The oil industry and drilling proponents are spreading lies about the impacts and results of drilling for oil and gas in the ocean. Vast amounts of resources are already under lease and can be developed now. The US Government says the impact on the price of gas from offshore drilling would be "insignificant." Here are more of the true, hard facts:

- The US Government's Energy Information Administration reports that the oil industry exported a record amount of oil in 2007 (**510 million barrels**) to **55 countries** (including China, Columbia, Venezuela, and Japan).
- According to the US Minerals Management Service, about **700 million barrels** of oil may potentially exist somewhere offshore from Maine to New Jersey, an amount that would only last one month in the US.
- An investigative report by the *Mobile Register* revealed that oil drilling in the Gulf of Mexico has led to areas around oil rigs that would qualify as **Superfund sites** and **fish so polluted** the US Food and Drug Administration would prohibit their sale.
- The US government said Hurricanes Katrina and Rita spilled **9 million gallons of oil**, caused **5,000 minor spill** responses in the Gulf of Mexico, and **destroyed 113 rigs**.
- If everyone in the US saved one gallon of gasoline per week, **15 billion gallons** of gasoline would be saved.

**CITIZENS must act now to protect the ocean from harmful drilling:**

- ✓ Write a letter to the editor of your local newspaper that opposes drilling for oil and gas in the ocean
- ✓ Call your US Senator and US Representative and tell them, "Don't drill in our ocean!" Call the US Capital Switchboard at 202-224-3121 to be connected to your federal officials
- ✓ Tell friends, family, and co-workers the truth about oil and gas drilling

**CONTAMINATED SEDIMENTS**

Jennifer Samson, Ph.D., 732-872-0111, Science@cleanoceanaction.org  
Project comments submitted by COA are posted on our website

**Managing Mud in NY/NJ Harbor**

For the past two years, COA participated in a NY/NJ Harbor Estuary Program (HEP) workgroup to develop a plan for managing harbor sediment issues in a more regional perspective that integrates various sediment management activities. This represents a shift from current practice of highly localized, uncoordinated activities managed by a variety of different federal and state agencies that are directly responsible for maintaining navigable waterways.

The workgroup completed the draft plan, which will be presented to the HEP policy committee in August. The Plan will utilize a regional approach that crosses state lines to coordinate various agencies, and community and environmental groups involved in sediment management. The goals include: a) eliminating sediment and contaminant sources, b) reducing dredging, c) promoting beneficial use of dredged material, and d) restoring a healthy ecosystem.

**WASTING OUR WATERS AWAY**

Heather Saffert, Ph.D., 732-872-0111, Science@cleanoceanaction.org  
Project comments submitted by COA are posted on our website

**Pollution Discharge Permit for Long Branch Sewerage Authority**

The Long Branch Sewerage Authority (LBSA) discharges high levels of contaminants and infrequently samples the effluent. Due to the allowance of mixing zones and dilution, the levels of pollutants permitted to be discharged are much higher than the NJ surface water criteria. Yet, there are no studies that prove contaminant levels at the edge of mixing zones are below the criteria. Plus, within these zones, it is likely based on the permit application data that pollutants (such as chloroform, cooper, cyanide, and chlorine produced oxidants) are being released at concentrations that are toxic to marine life. COA outlined these concerns in comments to NJDEP regarding LBSA's latest pollution discharge permit renewal application.

**COASTAL CREATURE FEATURE**

Summer Flounder  
*Paralichthys dentatus*

The June Creature was the **Summer Flounder**. The summer flounder, or fluke, are flatfish that have both eyes on one side of its head and rests on the ocean floor on its side. Fluke are often called the chameleons of the sea because they can change their color to match the bottom on which they are found. They are generally white below and darker above, but they can turn different shades of

gray, blue, green, and orange. Congratulations to **Dennis Von Linden** of Union, NJ, for being selected from a pool of correct entries.

**August Creature:** This species is usually found in shallow water along beaches and bays. To protect its un-armored body, it makes its home inside empty snail shells. As this species grows, it searches for larger shells to inhabit. Some of the larger specimens live in moon snail and whelk shells, while the smaller specimens live in periwinkle shells. For a chance to win a COA T-shirt, send your guess to COA by mail, fax, email (18 Hartshorne Dr., Suite 2, Highlands, NJ 07732; 732-872-8041; education@cleanoceanaction.org), or at [www.CleanOceanAction.org](http://www.CleanOceanAction.org).



August Coastal Creature

The Coastal Creature Feature winner will be announced in the October newsletter.

**EVENTS**

Emily Hackett, 732-872-0111, Programs@cleanoceanaction.org  
Jennifer Smiga, 732-872-0111, Events@cleanoceanaction.org

**A Wave of Exciting News for Golfers and All**

COA will celebrate 25 years on February 26, 2009! To mark this milestone, we are deferring our *Ocean Golf Classic* this year and organizing a 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration (February date and location pending). The Ocean Golf Classic, our largest fundraising event, will return in the fall of 2009.

In the meantime, we are honored to announce that Atlantic City Electric, South Jersey Beach Sweeps sponsor, chose COA as one of three charities to receive a portion of the proceeds from the company's third annual golf outing.

"Atlantic City Electric's foundation motto is 'Caring for Our Communities,' and we are delighted to partner with them to care for the environment. A healthy ocean means a healthy community," said **COA's Cindy Zipf**.

"Our commitment extends from programs to help customers reduce their energy use to the everyday aspects of conducting our businesses with care and respect for the environment," said **Dennis R. Wraase, Chairman & CEO, Atlantic City Electric**. For ways the company is greening their business, from hybrid vehicles to energy efficiency measures, visit [www.atlanticcityelectric.com](http://www.atlanticcityelectric.com).

Individuals and companies can make a real difference. Contact Jim Cinelli at (856) 753-2850 for registration or sponsorship.

**Join Us for A "Sunsational" Event for the Ocean**

Celebrate a clean ocean, say farewell to summer, and enjoy a beautiful sunset with friends at COA's **10<sup>th</sup> Annual Sunset at Sandy Hook** on Friday, **September 19, 2008**, from **6-11pm**. COA extends special thanks to our host, The Segall Family of The Sea Gulls' Nest Deck Restaurant.

"Chairing this event is my small contribution to the enormous contributions COA makes for us everyday and has for the past 25 years. People should feel really good about their donation. The COA team translates every single dollar into efficient, resourceful, and competent action that results in expert and brilliant results for the ocean. How lucky is our ocean! How lucky are we!" said Janine Karoly, Committee Chair.

Tickets are \$100 each and includes specialty cuisine and desserts by over 20 Jersey Shore restaurants and caterers, beer and wine, and live music by the Thom White Band.

There are several ways to grow your support for a clean ocean. Event packages vary and may include special gifts, certificates, handcrafted fish plaques, recognition in event program, and event admission. Call Jennifer for details. To purchase tickets with MasterCard/Visa, see COA's website.

**3rd Annual Atlantic City Electric Charity Golf Classic**  
Monday, September 8  
Marriott Seaview Resort and Spa,  
Galloway Township, NJ

Registration: 10:00am  
Golf Clinic & Continental Breakfast  
Driving Range: until 11:30am  
Opening Ceremony: 11:45am  
Shot Gun Start: 12:00 Noon  
Reception, Dinner & Awards: 5pm



Doug and Matt Douy of Lusty Lobster serve scrumptious seafood at Sunset 2007