



## Our COAlition

### Featuring...

#### Concerned Businesses of COA

Clean Ocean Action (COA) attributes its 25+ years of success to the organizations, individuals, and businesses who are the ocean's first line of defense.

The **Concerned Businesses of COA** includes a diverse group of businesses, including marinas, bait and tackle shops, realtors, restaurants, professionals, and corporations that recognize, "What's good for the environment is good for business." This group of ocean wavemakers was organized in 1988, after ocean pollution events of that summer and the previous summer sent the tourism industry into a tailspin. The Concerned Businesses provide proof that a clean environment is the lifeblood of the shore tourism economy.

This year, several businesses are taking the lead in ocean advocacy.

**McLoone's Pier House Restaurant** in Long Branch, NJ will include cards in all billfolds to give customers the opportunities to sign a petition for a cleaner ocean and to include a small donation to COA in their checks.

"Four of our restaurant locations are on the water and we and our customers marvel everyday at the beauty that nature presents to us. But it is not enough to just look at our environment. We must also do whatever we can to preserve it so that future generations can continue to enjoy it as we do now," said **Tim McLoone**, owner. "Clean Ocean Action has led the way for decades and we are absolutely in awe of the passion that they bring to these issues every single day."

**Brahma Yoga Spa** in Sea Bright, NJ, is also actively informing their customers about current ocean pollution issues and actions and solutions. In addition to the past Yoga Day classes to benefit COA, Brahma is collecting petition signatures and presenting literature in their store.

Businesses can be advocates for a clean ocean through C.O.A.S.T. 2010 (see right) and all year. Contact COA for opportunities.

## "INSANITY ISLAND" DEAD IN THE WATER

Recently, the US Coast Guard and the US Department of Transportation's Maritime Administration formally acknowledged Atlantic Sea Island Group's (ASIG) withdrawal of their permit application to construct "Safe Harbor Energy" -- otherwise dubbed "**Insanity Island**" -- and closed the file on the project, which proposed a massive man-made island in the Atlantic Ocean to import foreign liquefied natural gas (LNG).

The federal agencies were responding to a letter sent by ASIG who chose to withdraw their proposal due to "existing market conditions, the current 'climate' regarding offshore development in the aftermath of the recent Gulf incident, and the prevailing uncertainty with respect to both the US and global economy."

Now that ASIG has officially withdrawn their application, two LNG project applications off the New York and New Jersey coast remain pending: Excalibur's Liberty Natural Gas off Asbury Park, and ExxonMobil's Blue Ocean Energy, off Sea Girt. COA will continue its fight against these projects.

## WATCH WHERE YOU'RE SWIMMING!

As welcome as the rain has been, do you know what you are swimming in? With the heavy rain lately, please be aware that stormwater might affect water quality & present health risks in localized areas. People can experience vomiting, diarrhea, and eye, ear, and respiratory infections after swimming in polluted water. Children and the elderly are especially vulnerable.



Sea Avenue stormwater outfall, Pt. Pleasant Beach, NJ

### What can you do?

- Avoid swimming within 200 feet of a stormwater outfall. Heavy rains following dry spells tend to be absorbed less by the ground and can wash more pollution that has accumulated on yards or streets into storm drains than normally occurs.
- If you have any cuts or open sores, avoid swimming until healed.
- Check state, county, and/or local health agencies for any advisories.

If it rains heavily in the NY/NJ metropolitan area, combined sewer overflows may release raw sewage & street debris into waterways, which could present additional health risks in the Bayshore region and the northern NJ shore depending on the flow of the Hudson River plume.

## C.O.A.S.T. 2010

Anna Tweten, Coast@cleanoceanaction.org

### C.O.A.S.T.-ing Through Summer...With Your Help!

The 2010 C.O.A.S.T. (Clean Ocean Action Shore Tips) campaign is in full swing for the summer and coming to a beach near you! Sites still need volunteers; sign up today!

Do you own a business on the shore or know someone who does? Get them involved in our "One" campaign, coming soon to retailers and restaurants on the Jersey coast (see left article). Participants will hang our "Be the One" petition postcards for customers to sign in support of the Clean Ocean Zone and to make a donation to COA.

If you are interested in either of these opportunities, please contact Anna. Be the one...to help your ocean!



## SCIENCE & POLICY NEWS

Heather Saffert, Ph.D., [Science@cleanoceanaction.org](mailto:Science@cleanoceanaction.org); Sean Dixon, Esq., [Policy@cleanoceanaction.org](mailto:Policy@cleanoceanaction.org); Jennifer Samson, Ph.D.

### Some Offshore Waters Saved from Oil Drilling—For Now



The lease sale for oil and gas drilling off the coast of Virginia (“220”) expected next year has been cancelled. This is good news, but it is only a very short-term victory. The Atlantic Ocean south of NJ is still open to oil and gas development in the next federal planning cycle of 2012-2017. According to the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation, and Enforcement (BOEMRE), this cancellation “will allow time to develop and implement measures to improve the safety of oil and gas development in Federal waters, provide greater environmental protection, and substantially reduce the risk of catastrophic events.”

**Do you love Barnegat Bay?** The *Asbury Park Press* is accepting photos and videos to show how the bay is an integral part of life in our area. Images and videos can show your family having fun at the bay, a favorite scene, or how the bay has changed. To submit yours, go to [www.app.com/barnegatbaymap](http://www.app.com/barnegatbaymap).

### State Initiatives for Cleaner Waters for the Coast

**NJ Senator Smith (D-17)** and **NJ Assemblyman McKeon (D-27)** finalized proposals for bills that would put the state on track toward managing nonpoint source pollution, improving water quality, and protecting our coastal zone. These bills (described below) are some of the most progressive bills in the nation – designed to tackle problems that have gone unresolved in 40 years of federal Clean Water Act programs. Another bill is a resolution calling for the prohibition of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) facilities off NJ’s coast.

#### Reducing Pollution from Fertilizers

NJ Senator Smith and NJ Assemblyman McKeon, working with COA and other environmental groups, developed a strong, statewide fertilizer bill that would protect our water quality. The sponsors, including **NJ Senator Beck (R-12)**, and COA have worked to draft a bill that reduces both phosphorus and nitrogen sources from fertilizer. Excesses of these nutrients harm our waterways and reductions are urgently needed. The NY legislature recently passed a fertilizer bill restricting phosphorus.

*Excess nitrogen and phosphorus harm our waterways*

#### Protect Soil, Protect Water

The Soil Health Bill is designed to develop standards for soil restoration. During normal construction activities, top soil can be removed, altered, and/or compacted, making it difficult for plants and grass to grow and water to be absorbed. Un-compacted, healthy soils support plants, help conserve water, and reduce stormwater runoff. This bill would help regulate construction practices to protect soils. **NJ Senators Smith (D-17)** and **Bateman (R-16)** and **Assemblyman Chivukula (D-17)** are bill sponsors.

#### Preventing & Managing Polluted Runoff

NJ Senator Smith (D-17) sponsored two stormwater management bills. Many of NJ’s stormwater systems are old and need to be redesigned to protect water quality and groundwater resources. One bill creates a plan for Ocean County to identify stormwater system problems and the construction and repairs needed to reduce pollution to Barnegat Bay. This bill also charges a fee to developers for stormwater management and provides an incentive to reduce impervious cover in new developments.

The other bill creates a stormwater utility for Ocean County that would serve as a model for the state. The bill provides short and long-term funding mechanisms that local governments need to fix, maintain, and improve stormwater systems.

#### Take Action to Support These Bills!

Barnegat Bay Public Hearing, August 12, 9:30am-2pm, Toms River Municipal Building, 33 Washington Avenue  
For information, contact Meg at [citizens@cleanoceanaction.org](mailto:citizens@cleanoceanaction.org)

### New Poll: New Jerseyans Say No to Offshore Drilling; Yes to Green Energy

A recent poll by the Monmouth University/Gannett New Jersey Press Media reveals that 63% of NJ residents are opposed to drilling for oil or gas off the NJ coast. This is a major “about face” from two years ago when only 36% opposed drilling. Moreover, more NJ residents (55%) emphasized “protecting the environment” over “keeping energy prices low” (28%).

The poll was conducted by telephone with 801 NJ adults from July 7 to 11, 2010. For the full polling results, go to [www.monmouth.edu/polling](http://www.monmouth.edu/polling).

### US Senators’ Principles for Climate & Energy Legislation

Twelve Senators detailed key principles to include in energy and climate legislation in the coming weeks. The principles were sent in a letter to Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV). In our area, **US Senators Lautenberg and Menendez (both D-NJ)**, and **US Senator Gillibrand (D-NY)** signed the letter. The four principles are: oil spill response and prevention, reducing our dependence on foreign oil, clean energy jobs, and making polluters pay. The first principle includes the prohibition of drilling for oil and gas in certain coastal areas.



Atlantic butterfish  
*Peprilus tracanthus*

### COASTAL CREATURE FEATURE

June’s creature feature was the **Atlantic butter fish**. Adults feed on jellyfish, squids, crustaceans, and worms. Juveniles hide from predators by swimming near jellyfish. Many fish, including silver hake, bluefish, swordfish, and long-finned squid, eat butter fish. They are also commercially-fished, but landings have declined to record lows in 2005. Judge Sal Mon congratulates Keith Vaughn of Clementon, NJ, for correctly identifying the butter fish!

**August’s creature feature** is the smallest known marine turtle. Adults weigh an average of 100 pounds and have a shell length of 24-28 inches. These turtles live throughout the Gulf of Mexico and along the entire US East Coast. They are the only turtle to nest during the day and one of the few species where a large number nest about the same time in the same beach region. Most of the nesting worldwide occurs in Tamaulipas, Mexico. For a chance to win a COA T-shirt, submit your guess to Judge Monk Seal at [www.CleanOceanAction.org](http://www.CleanOceanAction.org), or by mail, fax, or email (18 Hartshorne Dr., Suite 2, Highlands, NJ 07732; 732-872-8041; [science@CleanOceanAction.org](mailto:science@CleanOceanAction.org)). Only one entry per person please.



August Creature

(Creature Feature appears every other month in the *Clean Ocean Advocate*.)



Photo by June Barnard

### Seattle to San Diego in a Canoe: A Mother’s Journey to Save Our Oceans

On July 3<sup>rd</sup>, ocean activist and mother of two from New Jersey **Margo Pellegrino**, 43, launched a two month, 1,500-mile paddling journey on the Pacific Ocean in her outrigger canoe from Seattle, WA to San Diego, CA. This follows Margo’s past journeys: a 2,000-mile paddle from Miami, FL to Camden, ME in 2007, a 500-mile paddle from NJ through the Chesapeake in 2008, and a journey from Miami, FL to New Orleans, LA in 2009.

In addition to showing her solidarity with the communities impacted by the Gulf Coast oil spill, Margo is calling attention to four critical ocean challenges: pollution from stormwater runoff, plastics and debris, ocean acidification and overfishing.

Follow Margo’s journey at [www.seattle2sandiego.com](http://www.seattle2sandiego.com).

## ADVOCACY & EDUCATION

Tavia Danch, [Education@cleanoceanaction.org](mailto:Education@cleanoceanaction.org)  
Meg Gardner, [Citizens@cleanoceanaction.org](mailto:Citizens@cleanoceanaction.org)

### Perth Amboy: First Middlesex Town to Pass Anti-LNG Resolution!

On June 23, 2010, Perth Amboy passed a resolution in opposition to Excalibur Energy’s Liberty Natural Gas proposal. We thank them for their leadership in becoming the first town in Middlesex County to oppose LNG.



The council passed a specific resolution, citing Liberty’s proposed pipeline route for the project that would come ashore and travel through Perth Amboy, near schools and residential areas. This proposal, they fear, risks the safety and welfare of their citizens. In an article printed in the *Home News Tribune*, city officials were quoted in vehement opposition to the project and encouraged surrounding towns to also pass resolutions. Two previous accidents occurred in Edison and Perth Amboy because of natural gas pipelines. “I don’t want it in my front yard, side yard, or my neighbor’s yard,” said Perth Amboy Fire Chief David Volk. “It’s an accident waiting to happen.”

This resolution and increasing opposition in Middlesex County are thanks to our coalition partners, Food & Water Watch. With their help, not only has Perth Amboy stepped-up, but several other new groups and businesses have as well. Help keep the momentum building in Middlesex County!

## FLOTSAM & JETSAM

### A Selection from COA’s “10 Tips for Pet Owners”



Nonpoint source pollution has many sources, including stormwater runoff that carries litter, pet waste, fertilizers, pesticides, soil, and waste from leaky sewage systems into waterways. Every time it rains, polluted stormwater travels to the nearest storm drain or waterbody that ultimately drains to the ocean. Be the solution to this pollution!

- 1. Scoop the poop.** Pet waste contains bacteria, parasites, and nutrients that can contaminate nearby waterways. While on walks, collect waste immediately using a scooper or re-used bag and bring home for proper disposal (see #2). Clean your yard promptly.
- 2. The scoop on where to put the poop.** *For Dogs:* Instead of throwing dog waste in the garbage, flush it down the toilet (without the bag). Dog waste can also be deeply buried away from food gardens. Waste digesters can be installed in a yard to break down solid waste. *For Cats:* Cat litter is problematic and should be sealed in a bag and put in the garbage. Do not flush cat waste or litter down the toilet, as parasites from cat waste can affect shellfish and litter can seriously damage septic systems and/or clog the wastewater treatment facility.
- 3. Recycle household items** such as bedding, bowls, and toys for your pets to minimize potential waste. Old blankets and towels can be used as beds; socks and old leashes can be converted into toys; old wood and carpet can be constructed into a scratching post for cats.
- 4. Keep your pet squeaky green!** Bathe your pet indoors to prevent runoff to your local waterway. Use shampoos and grooming products that are not harmful to the environment, such as biodegradable soap and products free of phosphates and sulfates.
- 5. Flea the use of chemicals.** Flea and tick treatments are not regulated and can contain toxic chemicals that can poison you and your pet. See [www.greenpaws.org](http://www.greenpaws.org) for chemicals commonly found in flea/tick repellents and consult your vet. Instead of chemicals, consider dipping a fine toothed flea comb in warm soapy water and comb through your pet’s hair/fur. Regularly wash your pet and bedding.

**For the other 5 Tips for Pet Owners, and more topics in the 10 Tip Series, go to [www.CleanOceanAction.org](http://www.CleanOceanAction.org).**

## EVENTS

Emily Hackett, Programs@cleanoceanaction.org



### Beach Bites

Charity Night for COA, The Clam Hut, One Atlantic Street, Highlands, NJ

August 5, 6-10pm

Enjoy the beautiful view of Sandy Hook while sitting back with a cold beverage or bite for the ocean!

Live acoustic music by Ken Shiles

### Catch a Wave with Summa Love Surf & Yoga



Summa Love Surfing & Yoga Surf Camp,

August 8, 12-2pm

Phillips Beach in Deal (between Ocean Lane and Phillips Avenue, just north of Deal Casino Beach Club)

Learn the basics of surfing from experienced and CPR certified instructors.

All levels are welcome.

Must be able to swim.

\$40 donation includes use of surfboard. 100% of proceeds go to COA.

For information or to reserve your spot, please contact Bryan Zinski, Summa Love director at 908-910-4552.

Can't make this date, but still want to learn to surf? For details about Summa Love's kids, adults, and new surf lessons for moms, visit [www.summalove.com](http://www.summalove.com).



### COA's 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Sunset at Sandy Hook

Friday, October 1, 2010

6pm-10pm

Sea Gulls Nest Deck Restaurant  
Sandy Hook, NJ

Enjoy fare from over 20 area restaurants and caterers, bar of beer and wine, live music by the Thom White Band, unique auctions, 50-50 raffle, and more!

Reservations now available at [www.CleanOceanAction.org](http://www.CleanOceanAction.org)

\$100 in advance, \$125 at the door



### Be a Soul of the Sea...

Are you a member of COA? Members help us fund the important programs that work to protect and cleanup the ocean. Members help with petition drives, attendance at rallies, and donations. You are the organization's soul of the sea. Members receive our monthly newsletter (via snail mail or electronically) for alerts about important issues. Visit our website and become a member today.



invite you to

# Respond, Restore & Protect

*An Interfaith Vigil for the Ocean and for  
Victims of the Gulf Oil Spill Disaster*

**Oceanside at South Beach Area C  
Sandy Hook  
Gateway National Recreation Area**

*Wednesday, August 11*

*7:00 p.m. – Dusk*

Join leaders from diverse religious traditions,  
environmental leaders and concerned citizens to

- Pray for those impacted by the spill
- Commit to reducing our own use of fossil fuels
- Call for clean energy leadership

Bring a candle and your own chairs or beach blanket.

**All are welcome to this free event.  
For directions, see [www.nps.gov/gate](http://www.nps.gov/gate)**

For information, contact Rev. Fletcher Harper at [revfharper@greenfaith.org](mailto:revfharper@greenfaith.org).

- "Insanity Island" Dead in the Water  
- COA's 10 Tips for Pet Owners to Help Stop Pollution  
- Beach Bites, Waves, & Sunset -- Don't miss these fun events!

## August 2010 Highlights

**NY/NJ Bight "Bite:"** Seen any whales or dolphins this summer? The waters off NY and NJ are home to 20 whale and dolphin species, 1 porpoise species, 4 seal species, and 5 species of sea turtles. Several of these marine mammals and all the sea turtle species are listed as endangered or threatened.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED  
www.CleanOceanAction.org  
732-872-0111  
Highlands, NJ 07732  
18 Hartshorne Drive, Suite 2  
Clean Ocean Action



✂ Please clip and send to COA.

### STAY INVOLVED IN YOUR COALITION!

#### ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER SIGN-UP FORM

➤ If you are already a member, and would like to receive the *Clean Ocean Advocate* via **email only** please detach this form and include your email address.

Please print clearly. Thank you.



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please include organization name & contact, if applicable:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please take a minute to answer the following questions:

➤ \_\_\_\_\_ I agree with and support Clean Ocean Action's decision of an electronic newsletter. If not, here is why \_\_\_\_\_

➤ \_\_\_\_\_ On a scale of 1-10 (one being minimum and 10 being maximum) please rate the effectiveness of the *Clean Ocean Advocate* on keeping you up to date with the latest ocean issues and events.

Additional Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: **Clean Ocean Action, 18 Hartshorne Drive, Suite 2, Highlands, NJ 07732**

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

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**August 5**

- **COA Night, The Clam Hut, Highlands, NJ, 6-10pm.**  
See inside for details.

**August 8**

- **Summa Love Surfing & Yoga Camp.** See inside for details.

**August 11**

- **Interfaith Vigil for the Ocean and for Victims of the Gulf Coast Oil Spill Disaster**, free, all welcome, Surfer's Beach, Sandy Hook, NJ, 7pm – Dusk. See inside for details.

**October 1**

- **COA's Sunset at Sandy Hook.** Reservations now available online. See inside for details.

**October 7**

- **Student Summit.** South Jersey schools must apply and pre-register. Contact COA for details.

**October 23**

- **Fall Beach Sweeps**, 9am-12:30pm, statewide sites. Individuals, groups, and families welcome. See COA's website for sites, details, and group registration.