



October 2008 Highlights

- Congress Bows to Big Oil & Passes Bill to Drill
- New Report! LNG is Wrong, Un-American Energy Choice
- Autumn Volunteer Opportunities

*****Eco-Tip of the Month*****
 Tip: Eat one meatless meal per week. It takes seven or more pounds of grain and 840 gallons of freshwater to produce one pound of beef.
 Adapted from *Our Environment*, Vol. 14, No. 1, by Ingrid Justick

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



✂ Please clip and send to COA.

STAY INVOLVED IN YOUR COALITION!
MAILING LIST RENEWAL OR SIGN-UP FORM

➡ Your contribution will ensure that you receive this monthly newsletter, action alerts, and notices of events for one year.
 ➡ To renew, please detach this form and enclose with your check.
 Thank you.

Enclosed is my check for (please check one):

- \$25 Individual/Family \$15 Student/Senior
 \$50 Participating Organizations

Name _____
 Street _____ City _____
 State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____
 Email _____

Please include organization name & contact, if applicable:

Please make check payable to
 Clean Ocean Action, 18 Hartshorne Drive, Suite 2, Highlands, NJ 07732
 To pay with MasterCard or Visa, please call 732-872-0111.

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

October

- October 2, Thursday**
 - 10th Annual COA Fall Student Summit, 9am-12:30pm, Island Beach State Park, pre-registered south Jersey schools (grades 5-8).
 - Rumson Gala Art Auction to Benefit COA, presented by Coldwell Banker CARES, Rumson Office, Stella Maris Retreat Center, 981 Ocean Avenue, Elberon, NJ. See inside for details and tickets.

- October 4, Saturday**
 - Underwater Cleanup, hosted by Divers Two, 10am, L Street Beach, Belmar. For information, call 732-776-7755.

- October 18, Saturday**
 - 23rd Annual COA Fall Beach Sweeps, 9am-12:30pm. For sites, see flyer inside or go to www.cleanoceanaction.org.



Volunteer for Clean Ocean Action at a fun-filled fall festival at the shore!
 See inside for details.

Our COAlition

Featuring...
The Nottingham Hunting and Fishing Club



The Nottingham Hunting and Fishing Club, based in New Gretna, Bass River Township, NJ, is one of only a few of its kind in the large New Jersey Pinelands area. The Club has existed for nearly three-quarters of a century, being established in 1937.

The Club's 18 members enjoy the richness and diversity of outdoors, whether it be forests or meadows, or the rivers, bays, and ocean in New Jersey. The small club prides itself on its excellent safety records, and recognizes and follows the laws governing their outdoor hobbies.

As outdoorsmen and women, the Nottingham Hunting and Fishing Club members spend much of their time as a club or individuals fishing the coastal and inland waters in New Jersey. Some members tag and release fish for the research program managed by the American Littoral Society. Club members have recognized the connection between polluted water and their hobbies. Members obey the laws to protect species and water quality, bringing home their trash for proper disposal and not using the ocean or our waterways as waste disposals.

The club remains active in their hobbies and in networking with other organizations. The Club has been a Participating Organization of Clean Ocean Action for many years and shares information on various topics related to ocean pollution.

For more information about the organization, contact Ken Hollins, a member of the club, at 732-581-3732.

CONGRESS BOWS TO BIG OIL AND PASSES BILL TO DRILL

On September 16, the U.S. House of Representatives passed a bill, allowing oil and gas drilling off the Atlantic and Pacific coasts 100 miles from shore regardless of state's wishes, and as close as 50 miles if states decide to permit drilling. The bill ends over 25 years of protection of the Atlantic and Pacific coasts. This vote puts our beaches, marine life, tourism industries, and fishing industries in grave danger from pollution and industrialization. Further, states that choose to drill put neighboring coasts at risk. The northern flow of the offshore Gulf Stream will bring pollution, spills, and oily insults from southern states, which have already indicated interest in drilling.

Following the vote, the American Littoral Society, Clean Ocean Action (COA), Environment NJ, Fisherman's Dock Cooperative, Jersey Coast Anglers Association, Monmouth County Audubon Society, NJ Environmental Federation, Paddleout.org, Sierra Club - NJ Chapter, and Surfider Foundation hosted a press conference (pictured above) to decry Congress opening the nation's coast to drilling, and condemning President Bush's message that destroying our coasts is not enough.



Prior to the vote, NJ Governor Jon Corzine sent a letter to the US Secretary of the Interior, urging officials to oppose drilling.

The "Great American Oil Scam" by the Numbers:

- ✓ **6 months** is the length of time that the oil suspected to be found from Maine to Florida will fuel the U.S. (Source: U.S. Minerals Management Service)
- ✓ **522 million** barrels of U.S.-produced oil was exported in 2007 by the oil industry and sold overseas to 55 countries, including China, India, Japan, Mexico, Pakistan, Russia, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, and Venezuela.
- ✓ **681 million** barrels of U.S.-produced oil may be exported to foreign countries in 2008 at current rates.
- ✓ **228/113** is the number of oil rigs seriously damaged and destroyed (respectively) by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.
- ✓ **9 million** gallons of oil spilled into the Gulf of Mexico and on the coastal plain from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.
- ✓ **28** oil platforms were known destroyed in the Gulf of Mexico by recent Hurricane Ike so far.

Senate Next to Act — Immediate Citizen Action Needed

The US Senate is considering legislation in the coming days. Please call your US Senators and tell them to fight to stop oil and gas drilling in the ocean. To contact your US Senators, call the US Capitol Switchboard at 202-224-3121.

New Federal Agency Plan to Drill

Federal agencies are planning for drilling off the nation's coast with the proposed new Five-Year Offshore Oil and Gas Plan (2010-2015) by the Minerals Management Service (MMS) of the U.S. Department of Interior. For COA's comments opposing the Plan (posted on our website in "Issues").

CLEAN OCEAN ZONE

David Byer, Esq., 732-872-0111, Policy@cleanoceanaction.org
Kari Martin, 732-872-0111, Outreach@cleanoceanaction.org

LNG is the Wrong, Un-American Energy Choice Report Reveals Truths about Importing LNG



Heather Saffert, Ph.D. and David Byer, Esq., authors of the report, discuss the findings at a Trenton press conference

In September, Clean Ocean Action (COA) and representatives of surfing, diving, environmental, and other groups released a comprehensive report detailing the environmental and economic impacts of importing liquefied natural gas (LNG). The report, entitled "LNG: An Un-American Energy Source," and subtitled, "Liquefied Natural Gas: An Expensive, Dirty, Foreign Fossil Fuel that Threatens Our Natural Gas Energy Independence," was authored

by David Byer, Esq., COA Water Policy Attorney, and Heather Saffert, Ph.D., COA Staff Scientist. The report is posted at www.cleoceanaction.org.

The three LNG ports proposed off the NY/NJ coast raised questions and prompted COA to embark on a research mission to determine if LNG was a "knight in shining armor" or "a Trojan horse," or maybe something in between.

The 60-page report on LNG is well documented and based on sources from government, industry, trade journals, research institutions, non-governmental groups, and news publications. The report's authors consulted with experts and advisors, carefully researched issues, cross-referenced information, and asked hard questions to uncover the facts about LNG.

"New LNG import facilities are unwarranted and unjustifiable," said David Byer, Esq., COA Water Policy Attorney. "More LNG ports are not in the public interest – just Big Energy's interest – and would re-direct limited resources and investments away from green energy."

"The environmental consequences of importing LNG are substantial and cannot be ignored when making energy choices. These profound impacts include those to endangered whales, fish, marine habitat, and air quality," said Heather Saffert, Ph.D., COA Staff Scientist.

"Clearly, NJ/NY should not allow offshore LNG facilities. Importing LNG will shift the US from being independent to dependent for natural gas—a policy that is antithetical to the national call for Energy Independence—an Un-American Choice," said COA's Cindy Zipf. "We now urge Governors Corzine and Paterson and other NJ and NY lawmakers to make the right choice: say no to LNG."

Meanwhile, the State of NJ is set to announce an Energy Master Plan.

Proposed Rules for Alternative Energy Offshore

The US Minerals Management Service (MMS) proposed regulations that would establish a program to allow for alternative energy project activities on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS), as well as for the alternate use of existing facilities located on the OCS. The new rules would set the framework for putting renewable energy projects (i.e., wave, wind, tidal) in the ocean and using existing structures for new uses.

COA submitted comments (see our website) on three key issues. First, MMS' plan to allow industry to identify areas available for leasing, instead of an approach recommended by the Ocean Renewable Energy Coalition which holds federal agencies responsible for identifying leasing areas, is unacceptable. Second, COA urged MMS to adopt specific standards for collecting ecological data that will help with future actions, such as site selections. Finally, specific environmental protection requirements and standards for alternate uses of existing oil and gas structures must be established.

CITIZEN ACTION

Carl Guastaferrro, 732-872-0111, Citizens@cleanoceanaction.org

Autumn Volunteer Opportunities

This fall, COA seeks volunteers to help staff information and action tables at festivals. Volunteer for a 2-4 hour time period. This is a great opportunity for students to earn community service hours. To sign-up for the following events, please contact Carl Guastaferrro (732-872-0111 or citizens@cleanoceanaction.org):

Sun., October 5: Cattus Island Nature Festival, Toms River, 9am-3pm

Sat., October 11: Barnegat Lighthouse 150th Anniversary Celebration, 11am-5pm

Sun., October 12: Coast Day, Cape May, 10:30am-4pm

FLOTSAM & JETSAM

Medical Waste Washes Ashore in NJ; Swift Investigation Finds Source

Just before Labor Day weekend, medical waste washed ashore and closed beaches in Avalon and Ocean City, NJ. The debris collected, including 200 syringes, was submitted to the NJ Attorney General's Office. Swift investigation and legislation that helps track medical waste led to the source. Thomas McFarland, 59, a Pennsylvania dentist, admitted to taking his motorboat to Townsend Inlet near Avalon on Aug. 22 and dumping a bag full of some 300 needles, along with 180 cotton swabs, and other materials from his medical office. McFarland is charged with unlawfully discharging a pollutant and unlawful disposal of regulated medical waste. Each charge carries a maximum prison term of five years. Fines could total \$125,000 if he is convicted on both counts. In response to this incident, US Rep. Frank Pallone, Jr. (D-6) is drafting new legislation to make tracking medical waste a priority and requirement. (Portions adapted from *Asbury Park Press*)

COA in the News Overseas

Eric Aubrey, a project manager in the US Army Corps of Engineers who has served on multiple deployments in Iraq and Afghanistan, sent a US news page from the Stars and Stripes, the U.S. military's newspaper. The news page included a photo and caption from COA's recent press conference about national beach closures due to pollution.

COASTAL CREATURE FEATURE

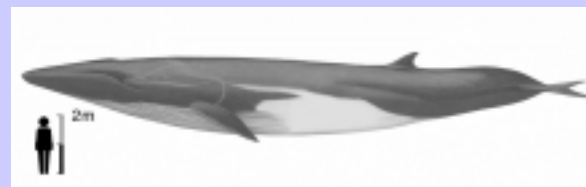
The August Creature was the **hermit crab**. The pictured species is from the Bering Sea, but there are many species of hermit crabs found off NY and NJ. As with all hermit crabs, as it grows, the hermit crab molts and sheds its exoskeleton and will hide in the sand until the new outer layer hardens. It then hunts for a larger shell in which to live. The picture clue was a hermit crab without its shell. Other marine creatures, such as anemones, live on hermit crabs' shells. This provides protection for the hermit crab and food for the attached creature. Congratulations to **Bob Jaconetti of Marlton, NJ**, for being selected from a pool of correct entries.



Hermit crab
Pagurus aleuticus

October Creature:

This endangered whale weighs 60-70 tons, can reach up to 88 feet in length, and is the second largest type of whale. It is among the fastest of the great whales, reaching speeds to 23 miles per



October Coastal Creature

hour. These whales have been observed circling schools of fish at high speed, rolling the fish into compact balls, then turning on their right side to engulf the fish (source: *American Cetacean Society*). **For a chance to win a COA T-shirt**, submit your guess to Judge C. Krill by mail, fax, email (18 Hartshorne Dr., Suite 2, Highlands, NJ 07732; 732-872-8041; science@CleanOceanAction.org) or by completing the online form on www.CleanOceanAction.org.

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

EVENTS

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

Recycle Your Plastic Caps!

Did you know that the majority of plastic bottle caps do not get recycled? Instead, often these caps become trash or litter, ending-up in landfills and on beaches, or washing into our rivers and oceans. Birds and marine life mistake caps for food with tragic results. The magnitude of this pollution problem is devastating to our oceans and wildlife.



Also, bottles sent to be recycled often become trash simply because the cap is still attached. During the recycling process, caps are sorted from the bottles and discarded as garbage. If a cap does not come off a bottle during compression, the entire bottle is discarded!

What can we do?

Collect plastic bottle caps from common household items, such as soda and water bottles, shampoo and lotion containers, and detergent. **Join COA and Aveda to Save Marine Life!** Start collecting now. Bring your caps to **COA's Beach Ball on May 17, 2009**. Prizes will be awarded for most caps collected; schools, groups, and individuals are welcome to participate. Aveda recycles used caps into new caps for their products. Start collecting today!

Join COA at the Coldwell Banker of Rumson Gala Art Auction

Thursday, October 2, 2008
Stella Maris Retreat Center
981 Ocean Avenue, Elberon, NJ
Preview: 6:30pm, Auction: 7:30pm
Admission \$20 in advance,
\$25 at the door

For tickets, contact Bob Kievit
at 732-933-5501 or
Bob.Kievit@cbmoves.com

Gala Art Auction



Sponsored by

Coldwell Banker CARES • Rumson Office

Proceeds from the auction benefit
Clean Ocean Action and
Habitat for Humanity

Support the Beach Sweeps -- In-kind!

Join the many individuals and businesses already signed-on to support the tremendous effort of 3,000 anticipated volunteers at COA's Fall Beach Sweeps on October 18th (see insert for cleanup sites). Is your business interested in donating coffee, water, snacks, gloves, or an after-sweeps lunch for volunteers? To offer in-kind support or other donations for the Sweeps, please contact Jennifer or Emily at 732-872-0111.



(Above, right) Larabar will supply Larabar mini-granola bars to hungry Sandy Hook volunteers



(Left) Rotary International, Gerry Harris and team supply lunch at Spring Sweeps on Sandy Hook