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LABEL

CLEAN OCEAN ADVOCATE  
November 2019

- Decision on NESE Looms
- Wild, Wet, and Windy
- Student Summits
- NJ Surfing Community Unites at COA Open Surf Contest
- Ocean Celebration & more!

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Clean Ocean Action  
49 Avenel Blvd.  
Long Branch, NJ 07740  
www.CleanOceanAction.org  
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## POLICY

Peter Blair, Policy Attorney; Policy@CleanOceanAction.org

### Decision Looms on the Northeast Supply Enhancement Project



At press time, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection will issue a decision on several permits for the proposed 23.4 mile offshore pipeline on October 25. In a final effort to pressure the Department to deny the permit Clean Ocean Action (COA) organized two letters outlining the widespread opposition to the proposed pipeline. The first was sent on behalf of 34 New Jersey elected officials. The second was submitted on behalf of thirty-two organizations representing roughly 270,000 New Jersey residents. Follow COA's social media for updates on the pending decision.

Celebrate 35 Years of Ocean Advocacy on Friday, November 1st!

Visit [CleanOceanAction.org](http://CleanOceanAction.org) to purchase your tickets for fun!



11.01.19  
**Ocean Celebration**  
Windows on the Water, Sea Bright, NJ

### Tributes

Photo courtesy of Joe Reynolds

#### In Memory of:

Doris Carbone	Jody DiStasio
Peter Cauterucci	Rob Elmore
Kevin James Day	Arthur Ginolfi, Sr.
James Dennehy	Carol Anne Ross

Greg Weber

#### In Honor of:

Ed Bowen's 80th Birthday  
Wedding of Gina Cioffi and Ted Loud  
Suzanne Golas' Retirement from WATERSPIRIT

### Williams/Transco Seeks to Dump Nearly 1,000,000 Tons of NESE Dredged Material in Ocean

Williams/Transco is seeking to cheaply dump their 735,000 tons of dredged material into the ocean. The material would be dug-up from the proposed construction of the 23.4 mile offshore NESE pipeline. While it is trusted that New York and New Jersey will deny the permits at the state level before construction may occur, Williams is clearly showing its true disregard for the ocean. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has issued a Public Notice for comments which are due on November 18, 2019. COA is evaluating the application and will be sharing next steps on social media and by email.



Photo courtesy of US Army Corps of Engineers



Great news! Not only is COA maintaining 4-Star status at Charity Navigator for the 5th consecutive rating, but our number was 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.

CHEERS to 35 YEARS of Ocean Advocacy!



COA Policy Attorney Peter Blair joined several other environmentalists at the Northern Monmouth County Branch of the American Association of University Women's meeting this month. The meeting focused on combatting climate change and achieving a clean energy future. Peter spoke on the need and pathways for achieving greenhouse gas reductions. Specifically, how energy efficiency and conservation will be essential in the fight for our climate.

# PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

Spencer Munson, Resource and Event Coordinator, [Programs@CleanOceanAction.org](mailto:Programs@CleanOceanAction.org)

## L'Oreal Day at the Beach!



On October 7, 144 L'Oreal employees (pictured above) joined COA at Sandy Hook Gateway National Recreation Area for a Corporate Beach Sweeps, concluding our Corporate Beach Sweep season for this year. Waves of thanks to all of our corporate partners who participated in 2019! COA's Corporate Beach Sweep program invites corporations of all sizes to enjoy a day of purpose at the beach while fostering growth and teamwork among staff members. Through their tremendous efforts to remove harmful debris from the beach, employees are making NJ's beaches and waterways safer for marine life and more enjoyable for beach goers. If you are interested in bringing your corporate team out to help protect our marine environment beginning in May 2020, email [Smunson@cleanoceanaction.org](mailto:Smunson@cleanoceanaction.org).



Volunteer Tony Kono, COA Education Coordinator Kari Martin, and former COA Board Member and now President of Save Barnegat Bay Willie deCamp at the Green Fair in Toms River on October 12



On October 6 Kids learned to "Be the solution to ocean pollution" at "Every Kid Outdoor Day" on Sandy Hook



COA presented at Save Barnegat Bay's three-day conference, Charting a Course for Barnegat Bay, on October 22-24 at the Mainland Holiday Inn in Manahawkin, NJ on water quality in the Barnegat Bay, local ordinances banning single-use plastics, state legislation to address plastics, and enforcement of local laws pertaining to the ocean.

The staff and Board of COA wish Suzanne Golas, csjp, a joyful and well-deserved retirement as Founder and Executive Director of WATERSPIRIT, a faith-based organization that strives to connect people's spirituality to the sacredness of and our dependence upon clean water. Suzanne has been a dedicated COA Trustee since 2002, representing the Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace and WATERSPIRIT. Pictured above at her wonderful retirement party celebrating Suzanne's outstanding leadership are (L to R) Bob and Pat Bennekamper, COA Trustees; Suzanne Golas, csjp; Mary-Beth Thompson, COA COO; and Tom Fagan Board of Trustee President



# SCIENCE

Swarna Muthukrishnan, PhD, Staff Scientist; [Science@CleanOceanAction.org](mailto:Science@CleanOceanAction.org)  
Alison McCarthy, Watershed Protection Coordinator; [Outreach@CleanOceanAction.org](mailto:Outreach@CleanOceanAction.org)

## Rally for the Navesink

A lovely lady named Stella stole the show at the September Rally for the Navesink meeting. Though she was not in her natural habitat, Stella, a northern diamondback terrapin, charmed the audience. She was comfortable on display while Mike Haughwout, a science teacher at Rumson Fair Haven High School who leads the school's Project Terrapin program, taught the audience about this unique species and their ongoing effort to protect terrapins in the Two Rivers. Then, Scott Chernoff from the NJDEP Bureau of Marine Water Monitoring shared results from an in-depth water quality study conducted on McClees Creek in late July/early August. The NJDEP conducted water quality sampling during two storm events to quantify the levels of fecal bacteria entering the waterway during rainfall. COA is collaborating with the NJDEP to evaluate the results of this study and to identify potential sources.



Mike Haughwout of Rumson Fair Haven High School with Stella, an educational diamondback turtle, presenting on Project Terrapin

## Clean Ocean Action at WEFTEC 2019



Dr. Swarna Muthukrishnan presenting COA's Rally for the Navesink model at WEFTEC 2019 aka, "The Water Quality Event"

watersheds. Dr. Muthukrishnan highlighted how the Rally for the Navesink could be a solution for resiliency in coastal watersheds.

WEFTEC is the largest annual conference of its kind in North America and offers water quality professionals from around the world, including regulatory and monitoring agencies, the best water quality education and training available. Dr. Muthukrishnan, a 2018 alumni of the WEF-Water Leadership Institute and a member of the steering committee of the class of 2019, attended the graduation of the class of WLI 2019 during the conference.

In October, COA's Staff Scientist Dr. Swarna Muthukrishnan attended the 7th Annual Coalition of the Delaware River Watershed Forum in Allentown, PA. At the day-long event, speakers from federal agencies, and Delaware Water Conservation Fund discussed resources and funding needed for water quality and restoration efforts in the Delaware River watershed. Topics shared at the conference included single-use plastic pollution and the importance of equity, diversity, inclusion and justice in successfully solving environmental problems.



# OUTREACH & EDUCATION

Kari Martin, Education Coordinator; [Citizens@CleanOceanAction.org](mailto:Citizens@CleanOceanAction.org)

## Wild, Wet, and Windy Student Summits Bring Students to the Coast

On Thursday, October 3 over 300 students and teachers from middle schools in southern New Jersey gathered at Island Beach State Park for COA's Annual Fall Student Summit. Students experienced hands-on marine environmental education by participating in interactive roundtable stations and field activities.



Student interacting with a live horseshoe crab at one of the round table educational activities

Students participated in hands-on roundtable stations, which included learning about diamondback terrapins and horseshoe crabs, invertebrates, pollution sources using a model of a community, learning the lethal effects of litter on the marine environment, and seaside landscapes. Students from the Marine Academy of Technology and Environmental Science (MATES), a public marine science high school located in Stafford Township, NJ, served as peer teachers at the roundtable activities. Students also participated in weather-modified field activities, which were led by educators from Island Beach State Park, Jenkinson's Aquarium, ReClam The Bay, and Friends of Island Beach State Park.



EnviroScope non-point source pollution presentation at one of the Summit's interactive roundtables

The 2019 Student Summits were made possible by donations from The OceanFirst Foundation and from Eloise and John Pound in memory of Anne Inman Webster.



Kathy Garofalo of Great Kills Park welcomes the students to the Summit

On October 17th, COA partnered with the Natural Resources Protective Association (NRPA) to host the Staten Island Student Summit at Gateway National Recreation Area's Great Kills Park. Nearly 200 students and teachers attended six environmental "flash" learning stations and participated in one of six field trips. The students

and teachers braved gale force winds that followed an overnight nor'easter and learned about marine debris, nonpoint source pollution, stormwater runoff, horseshoe crabs, oysters, freshwater marshes, fishing, scuba diving, and navigation. Student also learned about seining and local marine life, took a nature walk, and conducted a beach cleanup. The stations and field trips were led by representatives from various organizations and agencies. COA thanks NRPA, the staff and volunteers at the Great Kills Park, The Billion Oyster Project, Kayak Staten Island, Staten Island Sport Divers, and the NYC Parks Department for helping to educate the Summit participants.



NRPA's Jim Scarcella teaches students about horseshoe crabs at one of the six flash learning stations.