Beachy Clean Fun Since 1985!
A day of service, a lifetime of evidence to make the ocean cleaner!

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7,239,232 Pieces of Debris Collected Over 34 Years!
Waste, trash and litter find their way into our waterways from many sources, and are harmful to animals that mistake it for food, and/or become entangled. It often starts on land as litter and is either windblown or carried by stormwater into waterways, which ultimately flows into the sea, and washes onto beaches. Litter-covered beaches also negatively affect tourism and the coastal economy. In response, thousands of dedicated volunteers—the tall and the small—have mobilized for Clean Ocean Action’s (COA) Beach Sweeps every Spring and Fall for 34 years. Since launching the region’s first beach cleanup program in 1985, over 144,114 volunteers have participated and removed and tallied 7,239,232 million pieces of debris from New Jersey’s beaches and waterways. By removing and learning more about litter, volunteers make beaches and waterways cleaner and safer for wildlife and people alike.

Over the decades, the highest proportion of the debris collected is plastic. Plastic in the marine environment breaks apart into smaller and smaller pieces which make them more “bite size” for many more species and ages of marine life. This is a human-caused and thus human-solvable problem. The goal of the Beach Sweeps is to engage people to protect marine life by removing harmful debris, collecting data to create evidence that can be used to enact policies to reduce sources, and become self-aware to help solve problems of a wasteful society.

COA compiles the data into an annual report that is used to advocate for legislation and ordinances to reduce sources of pollution.

The annual report presents results and trends, notes interesting finds, acknowledges volunteers and sponsors, and becomes a reference and resource about marine litter along the Jersey coast. The report also identifies trends, new items and those that are becoming rare. In addition, COA gives the data a global boost by sharing Fall Beach Sweeps data with Ocean Conservancy’s International Coastal Cleanup (ICC).

2019 Beach Sweeps Highlights

- The 34th Annual Beach Sweeps was record-breaking (pg. 4).
- 10,724 volunteers removed 496,291 pieces of debris in just 6 hours
- 62 sites in 53 municipalities and parks, predominantly along the coast
- This year’s data was used to advocate for laws to ban the use of single-use plastic items that often end-up as marine litter (pg. 3).
- Plastic and foam plastic items combined continue to dominate, accounting for 83.2% of the total items collected (pg. 7).
- The Dirty Dozen (most common items) reflects plastic dominance with a record 93.5% (pg. 7).
- The “Roster of the Ridiculous” surprises and astounds with items including (for the 2nd year) a kitchen sink (pg. 5).
- An exceptional dazzling find attracted attention (pg. 11).
- Plastic straws, bags, and balloons have decreased, which may be attributed to broader attention and laws (pg 3, 4).
The data collected by Beach Sweeps volunteers provides hard evidence about the scope and magnitude of the marine debris problem, which citizens can use to convince elected officials to pass and enforce laws and policies to reduce the sources.

With over 100 specific items tallied, and the Roster of the Ridiculous, each Beach Sweeps provides a snap-shot of what is found on nearly every beach from Perth Amboy to Cape May, and beyond. Over the years, this data suggests trends. Since 1984 one trend is unequivocal: single-use plastic items are on the rise.

Over the years, Beach Sweeps data has resulted in state and federal laws, and most recently the data is being used to pass local ordinances in NJ in an effort to drive statewide laws.

Local, State and Federal Laws linked to Beach Sweeps:
- The Federal Plastic Pollution Control Act of 1988
- NJ law prohibiting smoking on public beaches and parks
- Nearly 50 NJ towns with ordinances banning single use bags
- 11 NJ towns with plastic bag bans
- 4 NJ towns with plastic and paper bag fees
- 14 NJ towns with plastic bag bans and fees on paper bags
- 18 NJ towns with bans or limits plastic straws, plastic bags, and polystyrene foam
- 2 NJ towns limiting plastic utensils to “by request only”
- 29 NJ towns with balloons bans or balloon release bans

Learn how YOU can help your town pass a single-use plastic ordinance at CleanOceanAction.org!

2019 Regional Statewide Legislative Action:

NEW JERSEY: As a result of growing municipal efforts, 2019 finally saw significant action and support for a statewide bill, sponsored by NJ Senator Bob Smith (D-17), that will: 1. Ban all plastic film bags; 2. Ban paper bags at grocery stores; 3. Ban polystyrene foam food service products; and 4. Allow plastic straws only by request. The NJ Senate passed the bill in December; however, the NJ Assembly did not take action. The campaign will start again in 2020.

NEW YORK: Governor Andrew Cuomo signed legislation on Earth Day 2019 banning single-use plastic shopping bags, effective March 2020. New York became the third state in the nation to pass such a law. The law will also impose a five-cent fee on paper bags; the funds collected will go to the Environmental Protection Fund and efforts to distribute reusable bags.
## 2019 Flotsam and Jetsam: The Story in The Numbers

**Cumulative Numbers Since 1985:**
- 7,239,232 pieces of trash removed
- 144,114 volunteers donated 864,684 hours

**2019 Beach Sweeps Data Highlights:**
- A record **10,724** volunteers
- **83.19%** of debris collected was plastic, including foam
- Plastic pieces reached a record number of **95,963**—an increase of **26.44%** from the previous year
- Food and candy wrappers/bags also reached a record number of **50,270**, jumping **23.27%** from the previous year and exceeding the previous record of **45,757** from 2011
- After increasing annually since 2016, the number of plastic beverage/soda bottles declined by **14.98%** in 2019

**2019 Dirty Dozen Highlights:**
- A record **93.5%** of the Dirty Dozen debris was plastic
- Plastic pieces and foam pieces together account for **33%** of the items in the Dirty Dozen
- “Other plastic” returned to the Dirty Dozen after increasing **32.6%** from last year, while “other plastic bags” fell off the list after decreasing slightly

**Seasonal Changes from Spring to Fall 2019:**
- Plastic Caps/lids increased **35.03%**
- Plastic Cap rings increased **24.08%**
- Cigarette filters increased **47.73%**
- Plastic cigar tips increased **29.43%**
- Plastic toys increased **71.98%**

These numbers likely reflect high seasonal use, rather than a difference in volunteer effort, as the number of volunteers was very similar in spring and fall.

### Comparative Numbers: 2019 Data Results to 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Increased by:</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cigar Tips*</td>
<td>+43.92%</td>
<td>10,703</td>
<td>7,437</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foam Food Containers</td>
<td>+38.83%</td>
<td>1,920</td>
<td>1,383</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plastic Pieces*</td>
<td>+26.44%</td>
<td>95,963</td>
<td>75,899</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cigarette Filters*</td>
<td>+26.15%</td>
<td>27,751</td>
<td>21,998</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food, Candy Wrappers*</td>
<td>+23.27%</td>
<td>50,270</td>
<td>40,780</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Syringes</td>
<td>+18.61%</td>
<td>599</td>
<td>505</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteers</td>
<td>+5.68%</td>
<td>10,724</td>
<td>10,148</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Decreased by:</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balloons (rubber &amp; mylar)</td>
<td>-29.47%</td>
<td>3,858</td>
<td>5,470</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shoes/Sandals</td>
<td>-28.72%</td>
<td>531</td>
<td>745</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plastic Store/Shopping Bags</td>
<td>-13.02%</td>
<td>9,724</td>
<td>11,180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Straws/Stirrers*</td>
<td>-2.85%</td>
<td>35,124</td>
<td>36,156</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*In the Dirty Dozen (see page 7)
Roster of the Ridiculous: Everything Under the Sun...Even the Kitchen Sink!

Believe It or Not
wheelchair, for sale sign, flag, hanger, plastic vest, fake plant, baby shoe, Croc shoes, dog leash, pair of rain boots, thong underwear, Juul pods, pair of Air Jordans, key, pacifier, photo film, glass trophy, ear plugs, padlock, glow stick, stopwatch, boxers, empty plastic bag of cremated remains, barbed wire, diamond engagement ring (pg. 11)

Happy Holidays
Christmas wreath, Christmas tree stand, Christmas tree, rubber Santa Claus, plastic vampire teeth, candle, white roses, birthday candle

Fixer-Upper
countertop, broken toilet, sheetrock, roof shingles, sofa cushions, toilet tank lid, wallpaper, box of nails, carpet, large foam mattress, bed sheet, pillow, insulation, hard hat, bleach, saw, rake, weed whacker string, sink, chainsaw cover, push broom, Command strips, box cutter, electrical wire, sponge, pocket knife, scrub brush

All Dolled-Up
Barbie doll, Barbie doll head, doll shoe, teddy bear, Mr. Potato Head bowtie, My Little Pony, hula hoop, stuffed bunny, rubber chicken leg, Star Wars toy, Lego, toy dinosaur, nerf darts, kazoo, squid toy, plastic rhino

A Personal Matter
mouthwash, pregnancy test, hair curler, retainer, toothbrush, makeup brush, sweater, plastic dental flossers, disposable razor, lipstick, insulin pen, contact lens case

Snack Attack
fortune cookie, onion, chopsticks, McDonald’s tray, turkey baster, frying pan, coconut, jar full of pickles, watermelon, orange, salt shaker, tea bags, pasta strainer, baby food jars, soy sauce packets

On the Road
shock absorber, gallon of antifreeze, car seat, car axle with wheels and tires, license plate, rudder, interior of car door, metal gas can, car bumper, fan belt, exhaust pipe, auto light bulbs, car blinker cover, Glade plug-in, car stereo, windshield wiper, oil filter, washer fluid cap

Fun in the Sun
bubble wand, fireworks, frisbee, volleyball, rubber garden hose and nozzle, pool noodle, beach umbrella, carbon monoxide detector, fishing pole, beach ball, bicycle, bicycle handlebar, bicycle pedal, bike lock, bike seat, bike helmet, beach chair, pin wheel, scooter, beach badge, metal crab trap, surf wax, surfboard fin, boat seat, swim goggles, golf ball, soccer ball, tennis ball, wiffle ball, jock strap, hockey puck, skateboard deck, ping pong ball

Emergency
cautions tape, traffic cone, first aid kit, medical mask, fire extinguisher

Beach Tech
SD card, cell phone, camera lens, flash drive, circuit board, color printer cartridge, phone charger, cell phone battery, earbud holder, iPhone

Lucky Find
lottery ticket, credit card, debit card, pearl earring

Substantial increases:
- Cigar Tips +43.92% 10,703 up from 7,437
- Foam Food Containers +38.83% 1,920 up from 1,383
- Plastic Pieces + 26.44% 95,963 up from 75,899
- Cigarette Filters +26.15% 27,751 up from 21,998
- Food, Candy Wrappers +23.27% 50,270 up from 40,780
- Syringes +18.61% 599 up from 505
- Volunteers +5.68% 10,724 up from 10,148

Substantial decreases:
- Balloons (rubber & mylar) -29.47% 3,858 down from 5,470
- Shoes/Sandals -28.72% 531 down from 745
- Plastic Store/Shopping Bags -13.02% 9,724 down from 11,180
- Straws/Stirrers -2.85% 35,124 down from 36,156

*In the Dirty Dozen (see page 7)
### 2019 Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLASTIC</th>
<th>Items</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>% of Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Food, Candy Wrappers/Bags</td>
<td>30,010</td>
<td>20,260</td>
<td>50,270</td>
<td>10.13%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Store/Shopping Bags</td>
<td>6,045</td>
<td>3,679</td>
<td>9,724</td>
<td>1.96%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trash Bags</td>
<td>2,303</td>
<td>1,188</td>
<td>3,491</td>
<td>0.70%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Bags</td>
<td>3,627</td>
<td>3,227</td>
<td>6,854</td>
<td>1.38%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beverages/Soda Bottles</td>
<td>8,172</td>
<td>5,736</td>
<td>13,908</td>
<td>2.80%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bleach/Cleaner Bottles</td>
<td>457</td>
<td>167</td>
<td>624</td>
<td>0.13%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Bottles</td>
<td>1,541</td>
<td>1,327</td>
<td>2,868</td>
<td>0.58%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buckets/Crates/Bins</td>
<td>531</td>
<td>492</td>
<td>1,023</td>
<td>0.21%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cap/Lids</td>
<td>28,512</td>
<td>38,499</td>
<td>67,011</td>
<td>13.50%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cap/Rings</td>
<td>3,661</td>
<td>3,798</td>
<td>7,459</td>
<td>1.58%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cigarette Filters</td>
<td>11,262</td>
<td>16,549</td>
<td>27,751</td>
<td>5.59%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lighters</td>
<td>603</td>
<td>477</td>
<td>1,080</td>
<td>0.22%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cigarette Packaging</td>
<td>1,076</td>
<td>1,025</td>
<td>2,101</td>
<td>0.42%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cigar Tips</td>
<td>4,665</td>
<td>6,038</td>
<td>10,703</td>
<td>2.16%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bait Bags/Containers</td>
<td>228</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>433</td>
<td>0.09%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Line</td>
<td>778</td>
<td>720</td>
<td>1,498</td>
<td>0.30%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lures, Floats</td>
<td>272</td>
<td>381</td>
<td>653</td>
<td>0.13%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fishing Nets - Small</td>
<td>277</td>
<td>183</td>
<td>460</td>
<td>0.09%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fishing Nets - Large</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>0.01%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cups</td>
<td>2,400</td>
<td>1,930</td>
<td>4,330</td>
<td>0.87%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diapers</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>248</td>
<td>0.05%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forks, Knives, Spoons</td>
<td>2,502</td>
<td>2,634</td>
<td>5,136</td>
<td>1.03%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Light Sticks</td>
<td>359</td>
<td>271</td>
<td>630</td>
<td>0.13%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plastic Pieces</td>
<td>44,467</td>
<td>54,496</td>
<td>98,963</td>
<td>19.34%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pens</td>
<td>919</td>
<td>875</td>
<td>1,794</td>
<td>0.36%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ribbon/Tape (no balloons)</td>
<td>1,285</td>
<td>1,236</td>
<td>2,521</td>
<td>0.51%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rope</td>
<td>1,119</td>
<td>592</td>
<td>1,711</td>
<td>0.34%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-Pack Holders</td>
<td>246</td>
<td>131</td>
<td>377</td>
<td>0.08%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheeting Tarps</td>
<td>195</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>317</td>
<td>0.06%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shotgun Shells</td>
<td>442</td>
<td>556</td>
<td>998</td>
<td>0.20%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strapping Bands</td>
<td>885</td>
<td>595</td>
<td>1,480</td>
<td>0.30%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Straws/Stirrers</td>
<td>16,786</td>
<td>18,338</td>
<td>35,124</td>
<td>7.08%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Syringes</td>
<td>303</td>
<td>296</td>
<td>599</td>
<td>0.12%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tampon Applicators</td>
<td>1,982</td>
<td>1,914</td>
<td>3,896</td>
<td>0.79%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toys</td>
<td>1,070</td>
<td>1,737</td>
<td>2,807</td>
<td>0.55%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegetable Sacks</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>156</td>
<td>0.03%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Plastics</td>
<td>3,750</td>
<td>4,852</td>
<td>8,602</td>
<td>1.73%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUILDING MATERIALS</td>
<td>1,535</td>
<td>682</td>
<td>2,217</td>
<td>0.45%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buoy/Floats</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>197</td>
<td>0.04%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAST FOOD CONTAINERS</td>
<td>1,217</td>
<td>703</td>
<td>1,920</td>
<td>0.39%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foam Cups</td>
<td>1,597</td>
<td>1,553</td>
<td>3,150</td>
<td>0.63%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Packaging Materials</td>
<td>1,277</td>
<td>1,068</td>
<td>2,345</td>
<td>0.47%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foam Pieces</td>
<td>13,189</td>
<td>12,441</td>
<td>25,630</td>
<td>5.16%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foam Plates</td>
<td>552</td>
<td>445</td>
<td>997</td>
<td>0.20%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Foam Plastic</td>
<td>1,318</td>
<td>1,110</td>
<td>2,428</td>
<td>0.49%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### NOTES FOR BEACH SWEEPS DATA:
The Annual Beach Sweeps Report can be used to study and understand marine debris. When analyzing debris collected annually or over time for trends, it is important to note that the amount of debris collected depends on a variety of factors, such as weather, tides, participants, and accuracy.

### 2019 Beach Sweeps

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Items Collected</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Totals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Volunteers</td>
<td>5,382</td>
<td>5,342</td>
<td>10,724*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Denotes record numbers
2019 Dirty Dozen:
The Most Commonly Collected Pieces of Debris

The Dirty Dozen lists the worst offenders of marine litter: the top twelve most commonly collected items at the Beach Sweeps. Plastic, especially single-use items, is always prevalent on the list. This year, a record 93.5% of the Dirty Dozen was plastic. Plastic pieces have held the number one spot on the list since 2013, but they increased sharply in 2019, reaching a record 95,963 pieces.

1. Plastic Pieces
2. Plastic Caps/Lids
3. Food, Candy Wrappers/Bags
4. Straws/Stirrers
5. Cigarette Filters
6. Foam Pieces
7. Glass Pieces
8. Plastic Beverage/Soda Bottles
9. Cigar Tips
10. Plastic Store/Shopping Bags
11. Lumber Pieces
12. Other Plastic

### Percent Breakdown by Category/Debris Type

- **Plastic**: 75.36%
- **Foam Plastic**: 7.83%
- **Glass**: 4.85%
- **Rubber**: 1.57%
- **Wood**: 2.49%
- **Paper**: 3.35%
- **Metal**: 3.58%
- **Cloth**: 0.97%

**Total Plastic**: 83.19% (Plastic + Foam Plastic)

### Breakdown by Category/Debris Type

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category/Debris Type</th>
<th>2019 Totals</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>% of Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Plastic</td>
<td>192,310</td>
<td>191,696</td>
<td>384,006</td>
<td>75.36%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foam Plastic</td>
<td>20,783</td>
<td>18,101</td>
<td>38,884</td>
<td>7.83%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glass</td>
<td>11,876</td>
<td>12,198</td>
<td>24,074</td>
<td>4.85%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rubber</td>
<td>4,098</td>
<td>3,697</td>
<td>7,795</td>
<td>1.57%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metal</td>
<td>8,985</td>
<td>8,871</td>
<td>17,856</td>
<td>3.58%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paper</td>
<td>8,056</td>
<td>8,559</td>
<td>16,615</td>
<td>3.35%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood</td>
<td>6,730</td>
<td>5,626</td>
<td>12,356</td>
<td>2.49%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cloth</td>
<td>2,539</td>
<td>2,256</td>
<td>4,795</td>
<td>0.97%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pieces of Debris</strong></td>
<td><strong>245,287</strong></td>
<td><strong>251,004</strong></td>
<td><strong>496,291</strong></td>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Volunteers</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,382</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,342</strong></td>
<td><strong>10,724</strong></td>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 2019 Beach Sweeps Report

* notation: moved up in rank
* notation: moved down in rank
* notation: new to the Dirty Dozen
* notation: no change in rank
* notation: did not make rank for indicated year

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Clean Ocean Action
Ocean Wavemakers

Special thanks to our Ocean Wavemakers, who contributed time effort, resources, and donations!

Beach Captains
Maria Antonia Andrews, Christian Avery, Ryan Baine, Terah Benjamin, Sandi Beyer, Marianne Borke, Debra Bowman, Keri Branin, Denise Bruschi, Laurene Buck, Ryan Carr, Bill Cleary, Beth Collis, Ann Commaroto, Lisa Cordova, Willie DeCamp, Crystal DeCaro, Jennifer Deeney, Michelle Denny, Brianna Doherty, Fran Donnelly, Jake Donnelly, Peter Donnelly, Skye Donzelli, Bret Dunlap, Anthony Edge, Brandi Endicott, Christina Fehre, Maggy Ferro, Margot Fernicola, Matt Fiacco, Julie Finnell, Dave Finter, Lee Gashlin, Eric Gehring, Paul Grady, Marianne Grant, Kyle Gronostajski, Kate Grossarth, Emily Hackett, Anastasia Hall, Eric Hanan, Brianna Hellriegel, Liam Hobbie, Ted & Elaine Jermansen, Andrew Kaplan, Stephanie Kealy, Beth Keenan, Tony Kono, Dorothy Kulisek, Kevin Kurtsen, Alex Lauffer, Mary Lenahan, Christina Love, Greg Love, Bill Maconder, Marine Academy of Science and Technology Student Coordinators Trent Alger and Sydney Kodama, Jeff Martin, Olivia Maute, Jena Mazzio, Carol McCallum, Jason McKairnes,


Junior Beach Captains

Civic Groups & Parks
Aberdeen Township Environmental Commission, Aberdeen Township Shade Tree Advisory Board, Aberdeen-Matawan Board of Education, Berkeley Township Waterways Commission, Borough of Avalon Public Works, Borough of Glen Ridge Environmental Advisory Committee, Borough of Seaside Park Mayor and Council, Bradley Beach Environmental Commission, Brick Township Environmental Commission, Brick Town Council, Keyport Clean Communities, Keyport Council, Keyport Environmental Commission, Keyport Green Team, Long Branch Environmental Commission, Margate City Public Works, Ocean City Environmental Commission, Sea Isle City Police Department, Sea Isle City Public Works, Spring Lake Environmental Commission, Summit Recycling Advisory Committee, Wildwood Crest Beach Patrol, Greenville Green Team

Organizations

Businesses
In addition to bringing 200-300 high school volunteers from northern New Jersey every year to the Sandy Hook Beach Sweeps location, Rotary International District 7540 Interact Club provides lunch to the Sandy Hook Beach Sweeps every April.

Colleges
Brookdale Community College: National English Honors Society & Tennis Team, Cairn University, Centenary University, Drew University, Georgian Court University, Kean University, Kutztown University, Middlesex County College: Action Club & Phi Theta Kappa & Earth Science Club, Monmouth University: Phi Sigma Sigma & Lacrosse, Montclair State University, Mount St. Mary’s University, NJIT: Honors Scholars & Red Cross League, Ocean County College: Athletics, Princeton University, Raritan Valley Community, Rider University, Rowan University: Marine Science Club, Greek Life Rutgers University, New Brunswick: Society of Hispanic Engineers, Rutgers University: Newark, Rutgers University: RUFF Rutgers United for Furry Friends & Environmental Stewards & S.E.E.D. Students for Environmental and Energy Development, Seton Hall University: Alumni Club, Stevens Institute of Technology: SAVE Club, Stockton University: Surf Club & Greek Life & Marine Science Club, University of Pennsylvania: Alumni Club, William Patterson University: Lambda Tau Omega & Beta Mermaids

Boy Scouts
Boy: 13, 18, 39, 47, 52, 53, 58, 61, 66, 70, 97, 109, 126, 201, 204, 210, 219, 242, 9503, 21, 39, 47, 58, 72, 101, 122, 141, 180, 439, Bear Den Toms River Pack #1
Lion: 141, 2023, 92

Girl Scouts
Girl: 53, 63, 149, 219, 307, 318, 402, 710, 739, 1330, 1390, 1407, 1835, 11446, 50322, 50402, 60063, 60144, 60278, 60343, 60377, 60584, 60750, 61718, 61864, 80268, 81709, 81749, 82114, 96055, 868574, 213 Wayside, East Hanover Girl Scouts, Girl Scout Cadettes South Brunswick, Girl Scouts of the Jersey Shore
Brownie: 571
Daisy: 349, 1157, 61124, Roselle PK Girl Scouts

Special Celebrations
In Memory of Michael Monaster, Girl Scouts of the Jersey Shore
2019 Statewide Sponsors

Atlantic City Electric, Baine Contracting, BB&T, Jenkinson's Boardwalk and Aquarium, NuStar Energy, OceanFirst Bank, Royal Bank of Canada, SERVPRO of Eatontown/Long Branch, SERVPRO of Howell/Wall, TorCon

2019 County Sponsors

The following have contributed important resources: Atlantic Bagel, Bloomberg LP, Can’dAid Foundation, CBD for Life, D’Alessio’s Bagel Express, Gateway National Recreation Area Sandy Hook Unit, Island Beach State Park, Marine Academy of Science & Technology, Middlesex County Parks System: Raritan Bay Waterfront Park, Monmouth County Parks System: Bayshore Waterfront Park and Popamora Point, NJ Clean Communities Council, Ocean Conservancy, Rotary Club Interact, and Water Witch Coffee

Corporate Beach Sweeps

COA’s team-building Corporate Beach Sweeps program had a record year in 2019 with 29 companies and 869 employees removing 60,871 pieces of debris. To learn more call 732-872-0111.
Beyond the Beach Sweeps

Delaware Sweeps
COA’s Delaware Sweeps program was initiated in 2016 to reduce land-based sources of pollution by removing and monitoring debris “hot-spots” with severe litter accumulation along the tidal portion of the Delaware River. Marine debris often starts as inland litter that is blown by wind or carried by stormwater into waterways. In 2019, COA engaged 305 volunteers in 9 cleanups along the Delaware River, removing 20,947 pieces of debris. Cumulatively, 73,138 pieces of debris have been removed by 675 volunteers since 2016. Of this debris, 89.7% was plastic, compared to 82.03% plastic in the past five years of statewide Beach Sweeps. To view the Delaware Sweeps Report, contact COA at 732-872-0111 or outreach@CleanOceanAction.org. Made possible thanks to Environmental Endowment of NJ.

COA Featured by National Geographic
In 2019, COA’s Beach Sweeps program was highlighted in National Geographic’s “Planet or Plastic” feature focused on cigarette pollution. National Geographic’s feature challenges the social norm of littering cigarette filters.

Littered cigarette filters seem to be the last form of “acceptable” litter, but we all have the power to change this social norm. This year, Beach Sweeps volunteers collected an astonishing 27,751 cigarette filters in just six hours along the Jersey Shore.

No butts about it – use an ashtray!

Lost on the Beach, Found at the Sweep
Throughout Beach Sweeps, volunteers are encouraged to note any out-of-the-ordinary finds. COA labels these finds as “Roster of the Ridiculous” (see page 5). In October 2019, the most surprising item found was in Asbury Park, a $6,000 diamond engagement ring lost two years ago on the beach. The ring was returned to a very happy owner, thanks to the diligent detective work by Sweeps Volunteer Brianne Sinks.

Brianne Sinks and her mother, Tina Trebino, at Bentley Diamond in Wall, NJ, where Brianne returned a lost engagement ring found at the Beach Sweeps. Photo courtesy of Bentley Diamond
THANK YOU!