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Community Groups Highlight Actions for River Health on Paddle the Navesink Day

Red Bank, NJ- September 12, 2016 –At the Paddle the Navesink event in Red Bank, groups from the Rally for the Navesink presented a letter to Red Bank to help address water pollution problems in the river as well as highlighting their previous efforts. Paddle the Navesink is a day of celebration for all who enjoy the waterway. Rally for the Navesink groups also had a table to share information about the pollution problems and how citizens can help including a citizens' letter to all the elected officials in the watershed to take actions which was signed by paddlers.

Red Bank Council President Cindy Burnham had previously requested that the "Rally for the Navesink" network of organizations provide guidance on how Red Bank can improve water quality in the Navesink River. In response, the "Rally" coalition presented a letter to Council President Burnham at Paddle the Navesink Day. The letter lays out some immediate steps that Red Bank can take to improve water quality in the River.

"The letter to Red Bank acknowledges the commitment and resources the Borough has dedicated to water quality improvement efforts in the past, and provides clear actions that Red Bank can implement immediately, to provide leadership within the watershed, and meet the challenges the River faces today. We are excited to continue to work with the Borough of Red Bank in improving the health of the Navesink River." **Cindy Zipf, Clean Ocean Action Executive Director.**

"These actions include the development of an Impervious Cover Assessment and Reduction Action Plan, and the adoption of some specific changes to the Borough's Municipal Stormwater Ordinance. The goal is to reduce the total volume of runoff entering the river every time it rains," **stated Zach Lees, Coastal Policy Attorney for COA.**

"I am so proud and happy that Red Bank is moving full steam ahead to address the problem of pollution in the Navesink. Red Bank is going to do everything it can to reduce the flow of pollution sources," said **Cindy Burnham, Red Bank Borough Council President.**

An additional letter to all elected officials of the watershed identifying similar actions to improve water quality was circulated for signatures from those who attended Paddle the Navesink Day.

Rally for the Navesink Organizations Signing the letter:

Deb Mans,
Executive Director
NY/NJ Baykeeper

Tim Dillingham,
Executive Director,
American Littoral Society

Cindy Zipf,
Executive Director,
Clean Ocean Action

Kay Vilardi
Navesink River Rowing

Amanda Brockwell,
Deputy Executive Director
Monmouth Conservation

Peter Hagberg,
Navesink Shrewsbury River
Fishing Club

Jim Krauss,
NJ Chapter Chair,
Recreational Fishing Alliance

Please call 732-872-0111, email info@CleanOceanAction.org or visit
[Facebook.com/RallyfortheNavesink](https://www.facebook.com/RallyfortheNavesink) to become involved.