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- Hurricane Sandy Science and Policy Recap
- Offshore Drilling Update
- Gift Giving for a Happy and Green Holiday

December 2012 Highlights

- TAKE 3 ACTIONS TO HELP OUR OCEAN:**
1. Volunteer to help those affected by Sandy.
 2. Sign up for Clean Ocean Action's "Waves of Action" Day For the Shore.
 3. Attend a candidate forum and ask about the Clean Ocean Zone.

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Clean Ocean Advocate, December 2012, Page 6



ASBURY PARK BEERFEST
AT CONVENTION HALL
January 26, 2013
CHEERS TO BEERS
please drink responsibly
TWO SESSIONS 12p-4p \$30 ADVANCE \$35 DOORS 6p-10p
TICKETS MORE INFO
available @ Ticketmaster.com AP Boardwalk.com
Stone Pony and AP Boardwalk box offices. AsburyParkBeerfest.com
PRESENTED BY

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sat. December 8:
Waves of Action Day

Join COA at various locations across New York and New Jersey to help those affected by Hurricane Sandy (See pages 3 and 4 for more information).

Sat. January 26:
Asbury Park Beerfest

Enjoy a beer festival with proceeds benefitting Clean Ocean Action at Convention Hall in Asbury Park. Two sessions: 12-4 PM, 6-10 PM. Visit www.asburyparkbeerfest.com for more information.

TRIBUTES



In Honor of Dr. Daniel Sussman

In Memory of Michelle Asalone

In Memory of Stephen Alan Strauss

In Memory of Mary Ross

In Memory of Justine Lincoln

Gift Giving for a Happy and Green Holiday

Make a donation in honor of family or friends to a charity working on Sandy relief efforts. Visit our blog for a list of organizations that are facilitating volunteer projects.

Take loved ones to local restaurants or give gift certificates to local businesses that were devastated by Sandy, but have quickly recovered. Many are open and looking forward to a wonderful SEASon with your patronage.



Support COA's work helping coastal communities from Cape May, NJ to Montauk, NY. Honorary donations can be made to support a new program to ensure that the restoration of our coast is better, greener and bluer – "waves of action" days where our network of organizations, businesses, citizens, and municipalities implement projects that are needed within the coastal communities. The first Waves of Action Day will be Saturday, December 8, 2012.

Future events will be held in 2013 to help communities create sustainable projects to make our water blue and clean.

For more information about the events visit cleanoceanaction.org and click on "For the Shore".

Donations to support Waves of Action efforts can be made through www.cleanoceanaction.org.

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends of the Ocean,

We hope this newsletter finds you well, and you have weathered what super-storm Sandy has wrought. The staff and Board of Trustees of Clean Ocean Action are all safe and sound, though everyone is still dealing with some degree of recovery.

We are concerned for our COALition of friends, partners, and ocean heroes. If you can, we'd love for you to contact us (call, email, or post a story online) to let us know how you are doing!

Like much of the coast, the storm surge led to a washed-out Sandy Hook, compromising much of the park's infrastructure. Though our office was not damaged or flooded, and while the National Park Service works to reopen Sandy Hook, we will not be able to return to work there for some time, so we have relocated.

Thanks to Jersey Printing Associates, our temporary office is now at 165B First Ave, Atlantic Highlands, NJ.

While nearly the entire Atlantic coast was impacted, the NJ/NY coasts have been forever changed. This region will forevermore be defined as either pre- or post-Sandy. This storm has been labeled a Hurricane, a Franken-Storm, and a Super Storm – call it what you will, the unstoppable power of the sea's impact on the physical, environmental, and economic state of our coast caused deep emotional and psychological wounds.

In the wake of Sandy, coastal habitats and homes have been destroyed, communities lie in ruins, thousands have been displaced, and livelihoods have been shattered. Ecologically, billions of gallons of oil, chemicals, sewage, hazardous household waste, and debris washed into the sea.

Much needs to be done to restore our shores. To that end, Clean Ocean Action is launching a long-term program: Waves of Action "For the Shore" (www.ForTheShore.org).

Together we can restore our coastal culture with green initiatives that will improve water quality and will enhance our environment and sustain clean ocean economies.

Ever onward for a joyous 2013,

Cindy Zipf
Executive Director

Waves of Action For The Shore



Call to Action!

On October 29th and 30th, Hurricane Sandy came through the mid-Atlantic region with powerful gusts and storm surge that caused unprecedented damage from Massachusetts to the Carolinas. This “Super Storm” caused unimaginable devastation for millions of people in COA’s NJ/NY region.

Even though the storm has passed, families, communities, and cities are still experiencing its effects and need help. As we stand tall and pull together to recover and rebuild our own homes and lives, many are also donating time for neighbors and communities.

The time is now to engage “Waves of Action,” which will combine local leaders and volunteers to support these projects. Starting **Saturday, December 8**, COA will organize “waves of action” days where COA’s network of organizations, businesses, citizens and municipalities from Cape May to Montauk - along the Jersey Shore and the South Shore of Long Island - will identify and implement projects that are needed within coastal communities.



www.ForTheShore.org

For more information contact Tavia Danch
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The Clean Ocean Action “Vision For The Shore”



Waves of Action For The Shore: Green Projects To Make Our Waters Blue

Sandy’s wake has shocked us into the realities of climate change and reckless development that threaten lives, livelihoods, and the environment. Re-building the coast will be an evolution and it will create many opportunities for citizens to engage in activities. These will not only build a more resilient healthy environment, but will also help educate citizens about the frailties of the coast, the realities of climate change, and the need to build sustainably.

After the initial recovery from the devastation caused by Sandy, there will be a long journey forward to rebuild. It is essential to implement a vision of sustainability—restoring better, greener, and bluer coasts. By implementing green development projects, we will ensure cleaner, bluer waters for the future. Clean Ocean Action has launched a program that will provide a long-term forum for such projects.

Starting December 8, COA will organize “waves of action” days where our network of organizations, businesses, citizens, and municipalities from Cape May to Montauk – along the Jersey Shore and the South Shore of Long Island – will identify and implement projects that are needed within coastal communities.

CITIZEN ACTIONZach McCue, Citizens@cleanoceanaction.org**Hurricane Sandy Relief Effort Opportunities****UNION BEACH CLEAN-UPS**

Volunteers are needed in Union Beach, NJ to help remove items from homes that had flooded, as well as tear out dry-wall, insulation, paneling, flooring etc.

All Union Beach volunteers must register at the Union Beach Police Department, 650 Poole Ave, Union Beach, NJ 07735.

Teams of volunteers are meeting daily and being dispersed between 9:30am and 10:30am in the parking lot behind McDonalds and Holy Family Church. Volunteers should wear heavy gloves, masks, and boots, and bring utility knives, shovels and hammers if possible.

SEA BRIGHT CLEAN-UPS

Clean-up crews began cleaning up Sea Bright on Monday, November 12 and will continue to clean the town throughout December.

All Sea Bright volunteers must register at Sea Bright Borough Hall, 1167 Ocean Avenue, Sea Bright, NJ 07760, where they assemble between 9:30am and 10am daily to be sent to work on projects from there. Please wear boots, heavy gloves, and be prepared for indoor and outdoor work.

BELMAR CLEAN-UPS

Volunteers are needed to help clean homes, shovel sand and debris, serve hot food, direct traffic etc. Volunteers should check-in at the Municipal Building, receive a wristband, and be directed to help.

All Belmar volunteers must register at the Belmar Municipal Building, 6 Main Street, Belmar, New Jersey, 07720.

CONEY ISLAND "RELIEF VILLAGE"

Volunteers are needed at ConeyRecovers' Relief Villages at MCU Park in Brooklyn. Volunteers will assist with on-site tasks associated with the ongoing distribution of food, clothing, and supplies to Coney residents. Volunteers are especially needed to help with setting up the site in the morning (8:30 am onward) and breaking it down in the late afternoon (around 3 pm).

All Coney Recovers volunteers should identify themselves to someone in an orange or yellow vest at MCU Park, 1904 Surf Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11224.

Volunteers should dress warmly, wear sturdy footwear or boots, and bring snacks & water for yourself for the day.

SCIENCE AND POLICY UPDATESHeather Saffert, Ph.D., Science@cleanoceanaction.orgSean Dixon, Esq., Policy@cleanoceanaction.org**Fisheries Disaster Declaration**

Like most coastal and ocean businesses, the fisheries community (recreational and commercial) of New York and New Jersey was devastated by Hurricane Sandy. For recreational fisheries, docks, boats, beaches, and bulkheads were destroyed along hundreds of miles of coastline. For commercial fisheries, boats, docks, infrastructure (e.g., ice machines, freezers, roads, trucks), and gear were lost at every major port. In some cases, even when fishery facilities were semi-operational, public health agencies kept fisheries like inshore clam and oyster beds closed for weeks after the storm, impacting the economic vitality of the industry.

After being petitioned by Governor Christie (NJ) and the Garden State Seafood Association, President Obama recently issued a "fishery disaster declaration" which opens the door to Congressional funds being sent to these hard-hit coastal businesses to help get them back on their sea-legs. In the coming weeks, as our NY and NJ communities look to rebuild in a more resilient, greener manner, COA's fishing friends should be getting the help they need – direct from Congress – to do the same.

**Offshore Drilling Update**

As NJ and NY continue to recover and rebuild, COA's science and policy team has continued to keep an eye on looming offshore oil and gas threats. Over the past few years, offshore oil drilling has been put back on the table for the Atlantic Ocean: President Obama has proposed Virginia oil leases, the Department of Interior has a plan pending which would open the ocean from Florida to Delaware for oil and gas seismic surveys, and Congress has regularly and recently proposed allowing offshore drilling in the entire Atlantic.

In the wake of Sandy, COA wrote a letter to the President and the Department of Interior requesting that the proposed seismic surveys – which would blast sound waves throughout the ocean searching for oil and gas deposits – be cancelled. The letter, signed by dozens of public interest organizations from across the nation, cites the devastation caused by Sandy to coastal tourism, businesses, and recreational and commercial fisheries. In Sandy's wake, the letter asks the President to recognize our coastal vulnerability, take into account the very real dangers posed by seismic surveys and oil and gas operations, and protect the Atlantic Ocean and our clean coastal economies from this planned fossil fuel intrusion.

Sandy – A Record Breaking Storm and Environmental Disaster with Record Breaking Damages

Hurricane Sandy slammed New Jersey and the southern New York region on October 29. This massive storm had winds over 40 mph covering 900 miles (almost twice the size of Hurricane Katrina), with winds gusting up to 90 mph. Record wave heights up to 32.3 feet were recorded at the buoy located about 15 nmi from Breezy Point, NY, and Sea Bright, NJ, near the New York Harbor Entrance. The wind combined with the full moon spring tide drove storm surges up to about 10 feet, which flooded extensive coastal areas. The storm surge had the highest destruction potential of any hurricane observed since 1969.

Winds damaged buildings and toppled trees. Over 8 million people lost power. Over a hundred people died as a result of the storm. Cost estimates of storm impacts are around \$55 billion. In addition, water quality was degraded in many areas due to sewage overflows, oil spills, and the influx of debris and chemicals from streets, homes, and buildings.

SCIENCE AND POLICY CONT.Heather Saffert, Ph.D., Science@cleanoceanaction.orgSean Dixon, Esq., Policy@cleanoceanaction.org**Sandy Spills Oil...**

The largest oil spill in perhaps a decade or more in NJ, according to officials, occurred at the Motiva Enterprises terminal in Sewaren into the Arthur Kill between NJ and Staten Island. Sandy's storm surge damaged bulk fuel tanks and released about 378,000 gallons of diesel fuel. The Star Ledger reported that it was "like 30 tanker trucks pouring their contents into the water." The terminal is co-owned by Royal Dutch Shell and state-owned Saudi Aramco. The Coast Guard stated that almost 15,000 ft of boom was deployed and about 460,000 gallons of oily-water mixture was recovered and much of the fuel evaporated. Several birds were injured and killed, and its unclear how much habitat areas were polluted.

A tank was also damaged at the Kinder Morgan's fuel terminal in Carteret, NJ where 10,000 gallons of biodiesel were spilled and the Coast Guard recovered 780,000 gallons of an oil-water mixture. At a nearby Buckeye facility another oil sheen was identified and was investigated. At the Phillips 66's Bayway refinery in Linden, NJ, 7,700 gallons of fuel spilled as a result of the storm.

There were numerous areas where fuel contaminated land and waters from flooded cars, boats, fuel docks, and fuel tanks some of which were dislodged. Oily waters for example were documented by NOAA in Sheepshead Bay in Brooklyn, NY.

...and Sewage Into Regional Waterways

Hurricane Sandy submerged many wastewater treatment facilities and pump stations and damaged electrical equipment, resulting in the discharge of high volumes of raw sewage from NY and NJ into the Hudson Estuary, as well as other regions. Power outages also affected these facilities. The Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission Facility in Newark, NJ, was catastrophically flooded. This facility, which is one of the largest in the U.S. serving 1.4 million people, discharged reportedly about 500 million gallons following the storm for the first week until repairs were made. Since the storm, the facility has discharged close to 4 billion gallons of raw or only partially treated sewage into the region's waterways, including the Passaic, Newark Bay and Upper New York Bay. Pump stations at the Middlesex County Utilities Authority failed and released 50 million gallons a day of untreated sewage into the Raritan River.

There were also pump station problems in the northern part of Barnegat Bay which were repaired within a day or two of the storm. In New York City, ten of the 14 wastewater plants and more than 40 pumping stations were damaged and subsequently repaired. Work is continuing on the Bay Park treatment plant in the Rockaways, which will likely not be completed for six to twelve months. Two days after the storm, NBC documented that "raw sewage gushed-up from the streets like fountains and it rose-up in residents' basements." Although some repairs have been made, the plant is now only partially treating the sewage.