



Follow COA on Social Media For Ocean Updates!

LABEL

- 30th Annual Beach Sweeps
- Update on Offshore Drilling
- Seismic Study at the Shore

April 2015 Highlights

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



Save the Date:

Beach Captain Meetings for the 30th Annual Spring Beach Sweeps!

1. Thursday, April 16th 2 – 5:00pm – Nature Center of Cape May (1600 Delaware Ave, Cape May, NJ 08204)
 2. -Thursday, April 16th 6:30 – 8:30pm – Bloom Pavilion in Margate (101 S. Huntington Avenue, Margate, NJ 08402 – behind the library)
 3. Monday, April 20th 6 – 8pm – COA's Office on Sandy Hook (18 Hartshorne Drive, Highlands, NJ 07732)
 4. Monday, April 20th 6:30 – 8:30pm – Jenkinson's Aquarium (300 Boardwalk, Point Pleasant Beach, NJ 08742)
- March 30th - BOEM Offshore Drilling Comments Due
- Visit <http://boemoceaninfo.com/get-involved/comments/> on instructions for how to submit your comments.
- April 16th – Incidental Harassment Authorization Seismic Comments Due
- April 24th - Student Summit Application Due
- April 25th – 30th Spring Beach Sweeps! 9 AM – 12:30 PM
 Pre-register and find locations at CleanOceanAction.org

TRIBUTES



In Memory of

Barbara & Dery Bennett
 Samuel Karinja
 Joan McDonald



BOEM Citizens Hearing & Press conference in AC. Note BOEM represented as brick walls.



Mayor Suzanne Walters of Stone Harbor speaking out against oil drilling proposal.



Attendees listening to public testimony.



Teacher Jeff Martin speaking on behalf of students and community.

No Oil Drilling in the Atlantic

BOEM's Offshore Oil & Gas Drilling Plan

On March 18th Clean Ocean Action held a citizens hearing in Atlantic City where elected officials, residents and environmental leaders voiced their concerns regarding, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management's (BOEM) 5 year oil and gas drilling plan. Thanks to United State Senators Menedez and Booker, and Congressman Pallone who wrote to BOEM requesting a New Jersey meeting resulting in the open house in Atlantic City. Since no public testimony portion was offered at BOEM's open house, we gave the public the opportunity to verbally express their opposition to the oil drilling plan and lack of public involvement, while standing beside a table of four "BOEM panelists" represented by brick walls. All testimony from the citizens hearing is being transcribed and submitted to the federal docket.

Representatives from Senators Menendez and Booker, Congressmen Pallone, and LoBiondo's offices read compelling statements opposing BOEM's plan to open the Atlantic Ocean for drilling. Mayor Suzanne Walter of Stone Harbor expressed the economic impacts and said that mayors of Monmouth, Ocean, Atlantic, and Cape May counties are all opposed to this plan.

The fight to protect the Atlantic Ocean from oil drilling has been ongoing for decades. Adding insults to the sea, BOEM's authorization for ocean blasting activities for oil and gas exploration may start as early as this summer. Thus, talking to BOEM is like talking to a brick wall. There has been clear public opposition, especially from New Jersey, which is why our coast was not included in the proposal, but BOEM continues to push to drill in the Atlantic. Opening up Florida to Virginia to oil development and exploration could have devastating effects on our beaches, marine life, tourism, fisheries, and coastal economies. Expanding offshore drilling will move the United States away from conservation, efficiency, and renewable energy. Instead, the United States will be moving towards a potentially catastrophic spill and the acceleration of climate change.

What you can do!

Please voice your opposition to BOEM's proposal by submitting comments to the federal docket by March 30th. Visit <http://boemoceaninfo.com/get-involved/comments/> on instructions for how to submit your comments.

Policy

Port Ambrose Update Over 60,000 Comments Submitted!

Waves of thanks to all those who submitted comments against Port Ambrose LNG! A whopping 51 groups signed on to our comments and over 60,000 comments were sent in, in opposition of the project. A special thanks to Catie Tobin from Clean Ocean Action, Doug O'Malley from Environment New Jersey, Anthony Rogers-Wright from Environmental Action, Andrea Leshak from NRDC, and Matt Gove from Surfrider Foundation for putting together the 68 page comments against Port Ambrose. Due to the massive amount of comments and deficiencies with air quality and pipelines, the clock has been stopped on Port Ambrose. Although this is a victory, the fight is not over!

In reviewing the Coast Guard and Maritime Administration's DEIS, Clean Ocean Action and the anti-LNG Coalition identified numerous flaws that underscore citizen concerns that the LNG port would be a target for terrorism; threaten fishing, jobs, and tourism; and would be a disaster for our climate. The identified flaws were outlined in our 68 page comments to the federal docket on behalf of the Anti-LNG Coalition, a bi-state (NY/NJ) coalition of community groups, maritime organizations, faith-based, union, and civic leaders opposed to LNG facilities. Some of the most egregious flaws found in the DEIS include:

1. The Energy Information Administration (EIA) stated natural gas imports will be near zero by 2018 and extend to 2040
2. According to a March 2015 EIA report, Asian LNG gas prices are currently at \$7.45, which is down from \$14 this October. However, these are higher than the 2014 US domestic prices – \$4.39 in 2014, and expected prices- \$3.07/MMBtu in 2015 and \$3.48/MMBtu in 2016. More facts prove that the US will not import more expensive foreign LNG over domestic.
3. In gallons, the water used annually for operations alone would equal 1,167,487,020, to put this volume into perspective, it would fill an Olympic size pool 56 miles long every year.
4. Estimated entrainment for the construction phase of the facility is 44,027,806 eggs and 5,075,044 larvae of fish. Estimated annual entrainment during operation, emergency and maintenance activities of the facility is 40,070,732 eggs and 5,986,906 larvae. Estimated annual entrainment during decommissioning of the facility is 2,573,528 eggs and 296,648 larvae." These eggs and larvae would contribute to the ecosystem, are essential to supporting the food web, and threaten to undermine the fisheries industry.



New York City's Committee on Environmental Protection along with the Committee on Waterfronts will be holding a hearing on Wednesday, April 1st at 1:00 pm in the Council Chambers, City Hall, New York, NY, regarding Resolution #549 which calls on Governor Cuomo to veto Port Ambrose. We encourage people to attend and state their opposition to this project.

Seismic Study Threatens Marine Life Again

Despite opposition from New Jersey, federal, state, and local officials and thousands of citizens, NOAA Fisheries recently published a proposed Incidental Harassment Authorization in the Federal Register for the taking, harm or harassment, of marine mammals for the seismic survey offshore of New Jersey scheduled for June through August of 2015. This seismic study conducted by Columbia University's Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory and National Science Foundation along with University of Texas and Rutgers University lead researchers, was supposed to take place last summer, but due to public opposition and vessel issues, the study was delayed. The authorization allows over 32 marine mammal species, six of which are endangered, to be exposed to seismic air guns and three other acoustic blast technologies, all are known to be harmful to marine life. Clean Ocean Action has been working vigorously to stop this dangerous seismic study and we encourage you to join us in the fight!

Public comments on the Incidental Harassment Authorization can be submitted by April 16th. Instructions on how to send in your comments:

Mail Comments to:

Jolie Harrison
Supervisor, Incidental Take Program
Permits and Conservation Division,
Office of Protected Resources
National Marine Fisheries Service
1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

Email Comments to:

ITP.Cody@noaa.gov.
Please include 0648-XD773 in
the subject line.

Science & Education

Catie Tobin, education@cleanoceanaction.org

Apply by April 24th for Student Summit!

The application period is still open for Clean Ocean Action's Student Summit! The Summit, which is held on May 13th & 14th at Sandy Hook, is a great opportunity for middle school students from northern New Jersey (Sussex, Warren, Hunterdon, Mercer, Monmouth, Middlesex, Somerset, Union, Essex, Hudson, Bergen, Passaic and Morris Counties) to experience hands on learning at the Jersey Shore. Students will learn about New Jersey's marine animals, even observe and identify animals in our local Bays. Other workshops include marine water quality monitoring, birding, barrier beach profiling, and understanding marine debris. Schools have the opportunity to choose to participate on either the 13th or the 14th.

The deadline for applications is April 24th. Please visit cleanoceanaction.org under the Education Programs tab to apply. If you have any questions please contact Catie Tobin at education@cleanoceanaction.org.



Events

Tory Woods, events@cleanoceanaction.org

Blue Vision Summit

The 5th Blue Vision Summit will be hosted from May 11th to May 15th in Washington DC. Blue Vision Summits bring ocean conservation leaders together every two years to network, build the blue movement and meet with the Administration and Congress to restore the blue in our red, white and blue. This spring Clean Ocean Action and some 500 people from local, regional and national groups, scientists, explorers and others will attend the Summit that will include a Healthy Ocean citizen lobby on Capitol Hill and be immediately followed by the 8th annual Peter Benchley Ocean Awards (PBOA).

2015 Blue Vision themes include responding to the impacts from climate change, overfishing, offshore oil and plastic pollution and also, with students and youth, working to make sure that healthy public sea and the healthy economies and communities they support, both human and wild, become a national public policy priority by the 2016 Presidential Elections.

For more information please visit: http://www.bluefront.org/blue_vision_blog/



Balanced Mind, Body, and Earth

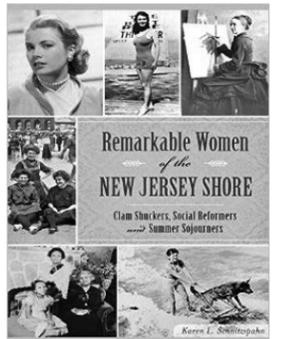
Want to spring forward and get into shape while giving back? Our friends at Balanced Planet Yoga are offering Karma Classes for a donation to Clean Ocean Action. This new and innovative studio's goal is to help its guests find balance in their life, through yoga and through giving back. Join us at the Open House on April 18th from 12-5pm at the studio at 795 Route 70 East, Suite F, Marlton, NJ.



Seaside Reading: Get Your Beach Bag Ready with this Dynamic Duo!

Remarkable Women of the New Jersey Shore Clam Shuckers, Social Reformers, and Summer Sojourners

Looking for a good beach read? Pick up a copy of Karen L. Schnitzphan's book, Remarkable Women of the New Jersey Shore. The book chronicles some of the most intriguing stories of remarkable women of the Jersey Shore including our very own Cindy Zipf! You can get your copy of the book on Amazon, Barnes & Noble as well as Booktown in Manasquan and River Road Books in Fair Haven. Get one for your Jersey Girl and don't forget Mother's Day is coming soon!



Show Your True Blue – Make a Splash on Your Coffee Table

Your Clean Ocean Action "legaSea" keepsake book, True-Blue: 30 Years of Making Waves, is here! Enjoy reliving special moments and the journey toward a clean ocean as we recap thirty years of ocean advocacy-- the challenges, triumphs, and people behind the success. This beautiful full color celebratory book honors the small and the tall who helped shape this remarkable story. Waves of thanks to the Legacy Book Committee Liz Thees, Joyce Donovan, Paula Planer, Jeanne Shanley, and Kari (Jermansen) Martin. Supplies are limited, for your copy donate \$30 (includes shipping) and call 732-872-0111 or go to the website.

