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“Our goal is to improve the degraded water quality of the marine waters off the New Jersey/New York coast.”

*Ocean Advocacy
Since 1984*

Spring 2020



Carmela Caraccappa Photography

As spring dawns around the globe, Clean Ocean Action (COA) hopes you are well, and that your good health continues. To those who may be affected, may recovery be swift.

The Covid-19 virus has unleashed challenging times for everyone; they are unprecedented, uncharted circumstances.

Responding responsibly to this challenging world is our top priority; thus, consistent with official health guidance, COA has cancelled or postponed all events through March 31st, and is continuing to monitor federal and state direction. While COA staff are working in flexible work environments and adhering to strict personal distance recommendations, rest assured that COA is on the case ensuring true-blue ocean advocacy continues. That also means working to engage all of you through virtual means to help defend the ocean.

For many of us, the ocean and bays serve as places of joy and solitude in good times and bad. During these extreme uncertain times they can soothe our soul and bring solace, and be a source of renewal. With hundreds of miles of shoreline and thousands of miles of back-bays and waterways, our region is open for cautious healthy enjoyment.

These treasured natural resources are also in need of vigilance and protection. Often in times of chaos, laws or rules are passed that fundamentally weaken environmental protection. With the public attention focused elsewhere, proposals such as the NESE project could move forward due to lack of public opposition. Environmentally destructive actions will cause harm for generations. We must raise our voices even louder to defend Mother Nature.

Let us find courage defending our ocean...and helping others to do the same! COA will be sharing actions, news, and information about the ocean for you to have and to share with others.

COA seeks to be nimble, flexible, and creative in ensuring work continues to protect our ocean. As for future events, COA's staff scientist is carefully monitoring federal and state reports and guidance to ensure the utmost public safety. For example, while the 35th Anniversary of SPRING Beach Sweeps will definitely be unlike any other, we are awaiting more definitive answers from health officials on or before March 31st before making any final decisions about modifications. (Please see more below.)

Spring 2020 is like no other, and yet nature's rhythms give us hope and comfort. Terns are returning to beaches, plants are leafing and sprouting, the days are getting longer and the sun brings soothing warmth.

Stay well and keep defending nature as if life depends upon it...because it does.

Ever onward, together,



Cindy Zipf and all of us at Clean Ocean Action



***P.S.** We are awaiting more definitive answers from health officials on or before March 31st before making any final decisions about modifications to the Spring Beach Sweeps. In the meantime, we are asking you to please save the date for Saturday, April 25th, and to stay tuned for updates.*