MEDIA ADVISORY

East Hampton Environmental Coalition Surveys
Candidates on Environmental Positions

Several independent environmental groups have joined forces to ensure candidates in this fall’s election for East Hampton Town Board and Town Supervisor address key environmental issues. The East Hampton Environmental Coalition (EHEC), which first surveyed candidates in 2011, is again working to educate and engage the public around critical environmental issues facing the town.

EHEC will hold a press conference on the East Hampton Town Hall lawn at 12:00 pm, Friday, September 20, 2013 to formally announce their initiative and distribute copies of the candidate survey to members of the press.

The EHEC survey asks candidates to discuss environmental policy issues such as groundwater & surface water, hazard mitigation & coastal policy issues, dark skies, quiet skies and habitat protection & stewardship. In addition, candidates are asked to describe their environmental credentials and philosophies. Candidates are asked to file responses to the survey by October 11. Complete, unedited responses will be posted exactly as submitted on a dedicated East Hampton page of the New York League of Conservation Voters Education Fund website.

“EHEC believes this survey and the resulting exchange of views will assist voters in making informed decisions in the November election” said EHEC spokesperson Jim Matthews. “Our community will benefit from a detailed conversation surrounding the environmental challenges we face and how best to protect the natural resources critical to our way of life.”

The EHEC is comprised of 12 independent environmental groups representing thousands of local citizens. These organizations -- some formed recently, some in force for more than 40
years -- have worked to preserve and improve the natural environment in East Hampton and have provided guidance for the development of the municipal government’s environmental policy.

The EHEC includes the following groups:

Accabonac Protection Committee
Amagansett Springs Aquifer Protection (ASAP)
Clearview Beach Association
Concerned Citizens of Montauk
Dark Sky Society
Garden Club of East Hampton
Group for the East End
New York League of Conservation Voters Education Fund
Northwest Alliance
Quiet Skies Coalition
Surfrider Foundation
Third House Nature Center

Representatives from EHEC member groups will attend the September 20 press conference.

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