



Press Release

Montauk, NY

June 17, 2014

CCOM and Clean Water Coalition Take Push for Clean Water to Albany, Seek Passage of Long Island Water Quality Control Act.

On Monday, June 16th, 30 environmental advocates representing a coalition of organizations traveled to Albany seeking passage of the Long Island Water Quality Control Act (A-9788A/S-7804). This bill sets a course for cleaning up our waters, setting new standards for nitrogen pollution, creating a pesticide reduction plan, requiring improvements to aging and failing septic systems, and improving the monitoring and protection of our underground drinking water supply. Participating organizations included, Concerned Citizens of Montauk, The Nature Conservancy, Long Island Pine Barrens Society, Group for the East End and Citizens' Campaign for the Environment.

“The Long Island Water Quality Control Act acknowledges that we are out of strikes when it comes to ignoring the future of water on Long Island,” said Jeremy Samuelson, CCOM’s Executive Director. “By adopting a comprehensive approach to protecting Long Island’s sole source aquifer, we can finally set about the work of arresting the decline of this essential resource. The do nothing alternative is not an option any longer.”

The legislation, if passed by both the State Assembly and the Senate, will require Governor Andrew Cuomo’s signature before taking effect in Nassau and Suffolk Counties. With only a few days left in the legislative session, the coalition is pressing law makers to recognize and address the growing threats to drinking water and surface waters and seeking their support for protecting Long Island families, businesses and natural wonders. The economic and financial future of Montauk, East Hampton and all of Long Island depends on clean, fresh drinking water and vibrant surface waters. The Long Island Water Quality Control Act is a major step toward ensuring our communities have the financial, legislative and regulatory resources necessary to restore and protect the finite water resources that make life on Long Island possible.

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