



SAVE LAKE MONTAUK & FORT POND BECOME A LAKE STEWARD



CCOM LAUNCHES "SAVE THE LAKE - SAVE THE POND"

The natural systems that filter and clean Lake Montauk and Fort Pond are overwhelmed. New York State has designated Lake Montauk as an imperiled water body, resulting in the closure of once-thriving shellfish beds and the shuttering of the public beach at South Lake. Fort Pond is similarly unsafe for swimming for much of the summer season. "As beautiful as it is, it's in peril. . . . The unfortunate reality is that our water quality is not what we want it to be," Jeremy Samuelson, the president of C.C.O.M., said during a news conference on Friday at Carol Morrison Park on Fort Pond." - East Hampton Star



CCOM's President, Jeremy Samuelson at the launch of the Save the Lake - Save the Pond Program at Carol Morrison Park on Fort Pond.

Save the Lake - Save the Pond is a step-by-step program that brings together residential and commercial property owners and the Town of East Hampton to clean up Lake Montauk and Fort Pond. **The program is designed to specifically reduce or eliminate nitrogen, the most serious threat to Montauk's water.**

Visit SavetheLakeSavethePond.org to learn more about the program and/or to have your property assessed for free by one of our volunteer Ambassadors. You'll be surprised how quickly water quality can improve by just making a few small changes on your property - most notably having your cesspool drained.

Cleaning up our local waterways is only possible with your support. Please consider making a tax deductible contribution to support cleaning up Montauk's waters today. Your donation will be specifically earmarked for water quality. CCOM is a 501(c) (3) environmental non-profit funded entirely by donations.

Thank you for your support!

TWELVE ACRES OF MONTAUK MOORLAND PRESERVED

CCOM is proud to announce the preservation of 12 acres of undeveloped Montauk Moorlands along Old Montauk Highway east of Downtown Montauk. The land, covering two separate parcels, contains globally rare plant and animal species and adjoins the 340-acre preserve known as The Sanctuary. East Hampton Town bought the parcels using the community preservation fund, a two-percent real estate transfer tax dedicated to land protection and water quality.



Montauk moorlands at Amsterdam Beach Preserve

CCOM is proud to have partnered with numerous conservation leaders and advocates in moving this project forward and making the case to Town officials for preservation, including: South Fork Natural History Museum, Third House Nature Center, Long Island Botanical Society, The Nature Conservancy, Group for the East End, East Hampton Trails Preservation Society, New York Natural Heritage Program and, noted naturalist, Mike Bottini.

"This feels like a real win for all of us," said Jeremy Samuelson, CCOM's President. "These 12 acres are one of the last places on earth where some of these plants and animals can be found. CCOM is proud to have been a part of preserving this critical area."

WATER QUALITY TESTING PROGRAM IN ITS FOURTH YEAR

In its fourth year, the Concerned Citizens of Montauk (CCOM) in partnership with the Surfrider Foundation's nationwide Blue Water Task Force water quality testing program, has been sampling Montauk, Amagansett, East Hampton and Southampton water bodies for the bacteria enterococcus.

Highly trained and dedicated volunteers collect and test water samples in CCOM's lab and then post the test results online on Surfrider's Blue Water Task Force portal. To view all the water testing results, please visit CCOM's home page at PreserveMontauk.org and click on "Water Quality" under our "News & Noteworthy" section.