



For Immediate Release:

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CCOM AWARDED LONG ISLAND COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GRANT FOR WATER QUALITY PROGRAMMING

Montauk, New York – Concerned Citizens of Montauk (CCOM) today announced that they have been awarded a \$20,000 grant from the Long Island Community Foundation (LICF) to help fund CCOM’s work to improve Montauk’s water quality. This is the second LICF grant award CCOM has received in two years.

“We are thrilled to continue our partnership with the Long Island Community Foundation,” said CCOM President, Laura Tooman. “LICF’s funding helps make all that we do to protect Montauk’s environment possible. From our Save the Lake – Save the Pond educational initiative, to our latest partnerships to test and monitor for harmful pollutants and algal blooms in Fort Pond and Lake Montauk, this grant makes a huge difference.”

Last year’s LICF \$20,000 grant award helped to advance CCOM’s Save the Lake – Save the Pond initiative which engages local property owners in a coordinated effort to reduce the human causes of Montauk’s water pollution. In 2017 alone, CCOM facilitated 170 septic system inspections and pumpouts.

Commenting on the Save the Lake – Save the Pond program, CCOM Environmental Advocate, Kate Rossi-Snook, explained that “the biggest part of the program is to get people to understand that everything they do on their properties has an effect – whether immediate or long-term – on our waters. This year we will continue to encourage all Montauk residents and business owners who haven’t gotten their septic systems pumped in the last three years to do so, and to begin the process of upgrading their systems using the Town and County incentives, as well as visiting our newly redesigned website to sign our Clean Water Steward Pledge.”

The Clean Water Pledge can be found at www.SavetheLakeSavethePond.org. For further information, CCOM encourages people to call or stop into the office located in Downtown Montauk.