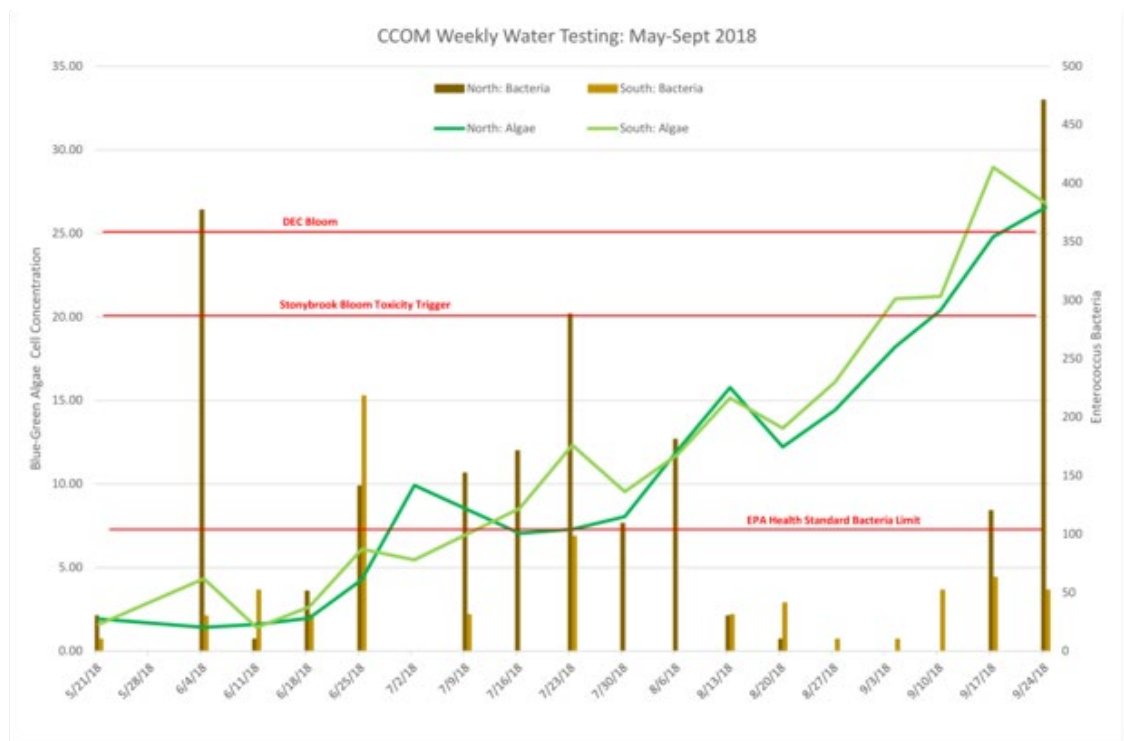




HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOMS IN FT. POND PERSIST CCOM'S WEEKLY TESTING PROGRAM AIDS TRIATHLON RELOCATION



This graph tracks both bacteria AND harmful algal levels in Fort Pond from May - September 2018

Thanks to CCOM's new weekly testing program for Harmful Algal Blooms (HAB's) in Ft. Pond, the organizer of Saturday's Mighty Man Triathlon was able to make an informed decision to move the competition from Ft. Pond to safer waters at Navy Beach.

CCOM partnered with the Gobler Lab at Stony Brook Southampton in May 2018, conducting weekly testing in Ft. Pond for HAB's of cyanobacteria, or blue-green algae. Blue-green algae are microscopic plants that flourish with nutrients - nitrogen in stormwater runoff from lawns, and failing cesspools and septic systems - and warm, sunny weather.

In the past, HAB testing in Ft. Pond was sporadic. Because Ft. Pond has traditionally tested positive for HAB's, CCOM identified a potentially serious public health risk and proactively began weekly testing and reporting to the public. Real science is driving the management and programmatic decisions we make here at CCOM and in our community.

Additionally, since 2013, CCOM has been testing for the bacteria enterococcus throughout the Town of East Hampton in partnership with Surfrider's Blue Water Task Force. Enterococcus is a bacteria found in the guts of warm-blooded animals. It enters our waterways via high tides, stormwater runoff, wildlife and dog excrement, and cesspools and septic systems sitting in water.

CCOM created the [Save the Lake - Save the Pond](#) outreach program to educate Montauk residents and businesses about simple actions **all of us** can take to collectively restore Montauk's water quality.



CCOM Clean Water Steward Volunteer Pauline Rosen & CCOM Vice President Jessica James educating visitors about CCOM's vital water testing programs at Saturday's Mighty Man Triathlon.

DID YOU KNOW...?



Take advantage of this opportunity to save money AND improve water quality. The simple act of pumping out your septic or cesspool every three years dramatically reduces nitrogen and limits harmful algal blooms. Please act now.

**RECEIVE 15% OFF
ONE PUMP OUT**
with



Call today and mention this coupon to schedule your septic service appointment

631-267-7515 Expires 5/31/19!

Sign the Clean Water Pledge

www.SaveTheLakeSaveThePond.org

KEEPING MONTAUK MONTAUK since 1970

You can help improve Montauk's water quality simply through the things you do on your own property.

There are 3 easy actions you can take:

1. Pump your septic system every 3-5 years
2. Avoid using chemical fertilizers & pesticides
3. Choose low maintenance native plants for your garden

Do your part to improve water quality.

Call [Hamptons Septic Services](http://HamptonsSepticServices.com)
(631) 267-7515 & mention CCOM's
coupon to receive 15% off!