



Welcome to our June newsletter!

Since 1970, CCOM has led the effort to protect Montauk's precious environment and thanks in large part to the work of you, our members and volunteers, we can all enjoy Montauk's beaches, trails, and rugged beauty. Today we are reminded of the importance of science in our everyday lives and in this newsletter we report on our progress in ensuring coastal resiliency, improved water quality, and environmental sustainability. And in our 50th Anniversary Year we are celebrating our 50 years of work in preserving open spaces for future generations. Please stay safe and continue to experience Montauk's natural beauty and thank you for being part of our work.

Warmest regards,

President

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# MONTAUK COASTAL ASSESSMENT RESILIENCY PLAN

## ATTEND PUBLIC WORKSHOP VIA ZOOM



Figure 10-3: Ditch Plains FEMA Flood Hazard Zones

CCOM's leadership and participation in the long-term planning of our coast has resulted in a comprehensive scientific analysis of Montauk's vulnerable coastline, which will be presented at a virtual public workshop via Zoom. The focus areas that will be covered in this meeting are Downtown Montauk, Fort Pond, Ditch Plains, and the Montauk Harbor area. The meeting will review the analysis of the existing and future vulnerabilities for these areas and discuss recommended strategies for better resiliency to sea level rise and flooding.

**WHEN:** Monday, June 22, 2020 at 10 am

**WHERE:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89323750928>

If you are unable to attend virtually, the meeting will be recorded and distributed for the public, and the final presentation slides will also be made available to the public.

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## PROGRESS ON MONTAUK'S BEACHES

### REPLENISHMENT IS WORKING & FIMP MOVES FORWARD



With summer approaching, it is gratifying to see our downtown beaches benefiting from the ongoing sand replenishment efforts. Aram Terchunian, a local coastal engineer, is hopeful, saying recently "all the investment in sand appears to be paying dividends now in the form of a beach that is better able

to withstand storms."

Click [HERE](#) to read the *East Hampton Press* story in full.

We are also happy to report that the Army Corp of Engineers' "Fire Island to Montauk Point" (FIMP) plan is moving into its implementation phase. The Chief Engineers Report was released in April 2020, and initiation of construction contracts is expected later this year. This will result in ~450,000 cubic yards of offshore dredged sand placed along 6,000 feet of shoreline in Montauk, with subsequent placement of about 400,000 to 450,000 cubic yards about every 4 years for a 30-year period after initial construction.

You can find more information [HERE](#)

## CCOM HISTORY SNAPSHOT SHOREHAM NUCLEAR PLANT PROTEST



On June 3, 1979 CCOM members participated in a protest of nuclear power in Shoreham, with the slogan "Fish, Not Fission!" It marked the largest demonstration in Long Island history, with approximately 15,000 participants made up of residents and organizations from across the area, with folk singer Pete Seeger among them. Read the entire NY Times article [HERE](#).

We celebrate our organization's history of peaceful protest, and support those who continue to ensure that their voices, or the voices of others, are heard in the ongoing fight for social and environmental equality and justice.



## MONTAUK'S PARKS AND TRAILS

### SAVING OPEN SPACES FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

Our founders' first accomplishment was their fight for land preservation, leading to the creation of Theodore Roosevelt County Park – and that was just the start. Since then, CCOM has grown to become one of the most effective environmental groups in Eastern Long Island, playing a major role in preserving State, County and local parks such as Camp Hero, Shadmoor, Hither Woods, Culloden Point, The Sanctuary, Amsterdam Beach, and most recently, Fort Pond House at Carol Morrison Park, named after one of CCOM's founders. Today, more than 70% of Montauk's land is preserved for future generations to enjoy.

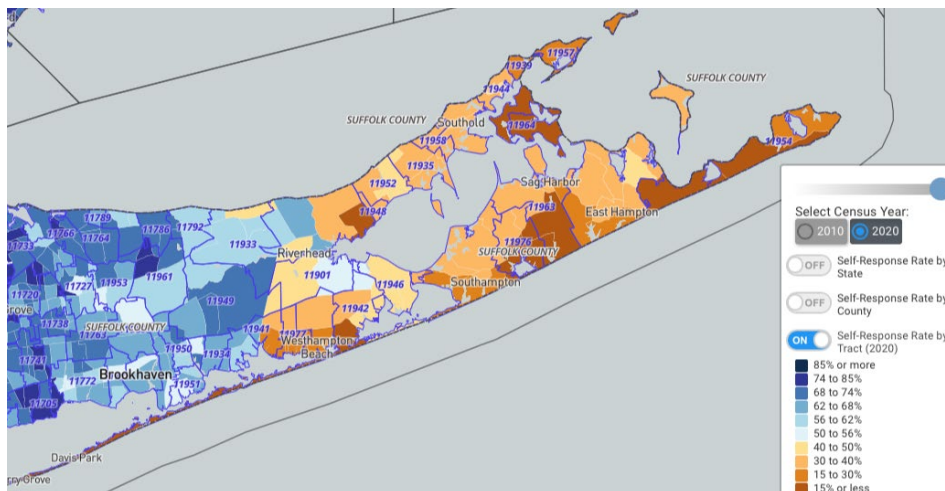


We know many of you have been finding refuge on Montauk's trails, but we are not, so to speak, out of the woods yet with the global pandemic. For now, we must stay the course. As restrictions begin to ease, we invite you to visit our website's [Resources Page](#) for trail maps and a special trail guide we've created highlighting some of our favorite spots - after all, June is National Great Outdoors Month!

We do emphasize, however, that we must remain 6 feet apart from non-household members, or wear a mask when that is not possible. For further guidance on how to best enjoy the outdoors safely, go to the [CDC website](#) on visiting parks and recreational areas.

## COMPLETING THE 2020 CENSUS

### CRITICAL FOR PROTECTING MONTAUK'S ENVIRONMENT AND OUR COMMUNITY



Getting an accurate 2020 Census count in Montauk is of the utmost importance. Census data is used in a variety of ways, including: identifying communities that may be vulnerable to climate impacts, guiding investments and federal funding to mitigate the causes of the climate crisis, and building resiliency to the devastating effects of climate change, among many others.

Unfortunately, Montauk has been labeled by the US Census as a "hard to count" area, and in 2010 was in the bottom 20% of return rates nationwide.

[CLICK HERE](#) to complete your **2020 Census** - it can help ensure our community receives the funding necessary to protect our environment and rebound after natural disasters. The best part? - for some it can take less than five minutes to complete!

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## **IN YOUR WORDS...** **WHAT MONTAUK MEANS TO YOU**



To celebrate CCOM's 50th year, we are reaching out to our membership to tell us, in their own words, what Montauk means to them.

Bill Akin has endless stories from when he was a child enjoying Fort Pond, to his years bartending at Nick's, to now as a proud perennial Montauk resident. Bill was the President of CCOM for 10 years and remains an active honorary Board Member.

[CLICK HERE](#) to view his video and message.

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## **PETER LOWENSTEIN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP** **CONGRATULATIONS, GEORGE KARRAS!**

CCOM is pleased to award our first annual Peter Lowenstein Memorial Scholarship to Montauk's own East Hampton High School senior, George Karras. George, whose passions include music, business, and the environment, is one of the 2019-2020 Senior Interns at Big Reed Pond, a [nature education program run by Third House Nature Center](#) and sponsored by The Garden Club of EH.

"I am proud to be the winner of the CCOM scholarship for this year. Although I am majoring in Business, I am very interested in picking up a minor related to the environment so that in the future when I start my own business I can help the environment and do so on a large scale that will impact not only local environments but ones worldwide."

Peter Lowenstein was a beloved CCOM Board Member for many years. Upon his passing, the Peter Lowenstein Memorial Scholarship was created to help empower Montauk's next generation of environmental stewards.



## **SEPTIC REPLACEMENT Q&A**

### **VIRTUAL MEETING A SUCCESS!**

On Friday, May 29th we held our first virtual Septic Replacement Q&A with the Town of East Hampton and Suffolk County Reclaim Our Water representatives. Thanks to all the participants for your great questions! Didn't get a chance to join in? [WATCH IT HERE!](#)

You can also check out our website's [Resources page](#) for more information.