



Welcome to our July newsletter!

This month, I welcome you to CCOM's Newsletter from Montauk County Park, CCOM's first land preservation success! My family and I love camping here and exploring its beautiful beaches and hiking trails. I am so thankful to CCOM's founders for protecting this beautiful treasure in Montauk!

[CLICK HERE](#) to view my video.

Sincerely,

Laura Tooman



CCOM IN THE NEWS

IN MONTAUK, A SMALL ORGANIZATION WITH A BIG REACH

On July 16th, 1970 *The East Hampton Star* reported on the founding meeting of CCOM at which Hilda Lindley, with neighbors and friends, formed the group to preserve the 1,000 windswept, pristine acres of Indian Field, after developers proposed to build up to 1,800 houses there – the first of CCOM's many successful fights on behalf of Montauk's unique environment.



Now, 50 years later almost to the day, *The Star* has written an article celebrating our organization's history and impact, sharing some voices from our past, and highlighting the many issues we address, both new and omnipresent.

To read *The East Hampton Star* article, CLICK [HERE](#)

SAVE THE DATE: SATURDAY 7/25/20 2ND ANNUAL TEEN BEACH CLEANUP

We are very excited to announce that the 2nd Annual Teen Beach Cleanup is set to be held on Saturday, July 25th 2020 (rain date 7/26)!

Organized by our two dedicated high school volunteers, Camille and Layla, this year it will be held at the downtown Montauk beach area, with two 2-hour slots: one in the morning (9-11am) at Kirk Park Beach (also known as Umbrella Beach) and one in the afternoon (4-6pm) near Surf Club, at the corner of S. Emerson and S. Essex.

This is a great opportunity to fulfill volunteer hours for school, or to just get outside for some fresh air and help take care of our beautiful beaches.

PARTICIPANTS MUST WEAR A MASK AND PRACTICE APPROPRIATE SOCIAL DISTANCING. Gloves, hand sanitizers and garbage bags will be provided.

For more info visit our [events page](#) or contact CCOM at: Info@PreserveMontauk.org / 631-238-5720



Contact CCOM for more information at 631-238-5720.

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!
2ND ANNUAL TEEN BEACH CLEAN UP
JULY 25TH
Rain Date: July 26

MORNING CLEAN UP
TIME: 9AM-11AM
LOCATION: THE DOWNTOWN BEACH AREA, AT THE ENTRANCE ACROSS FROM IGA

AFTERNOON CLEAN UP
TIME: 4PM-6PM
LOCATION: THE DOWNTOWN BEACH ENTRANCE, AT THE CORNER OF S. EMERSON AND S. ESSEX

In light of the COVID-19 outbreak, CCOM will be implementing social distancing protocol. Gloves, hand sanitizer, and bags will be provided, we only ask that you bring your own mask!

CCOM

SUPPORT OR WORK & BECOME A MEMBER! CLICK HERE

UPDATE: SURFSIDE PLACE OUTFALL PIPE CLEANING & INSPECTION RESUMES + FILTER INSTALL PREP

Citing results from our long-running bacteria testing program, we worked with East Hampton Town to dedicate 2019 CPF (Community Preservation Fund) Water Quality Improvement monies to fund significant work addressing the highly polluted water that typically flows out of the pipe at Surfside Place (also known as Lowenstein Court or Atlantic Terrace).

There have been many delays over the past year, but last month the contractors were able to resume their work to clean out and inspect the pipe system – take a look at the robotic camera they use!

This is an ongoing and involved process, but it serves as preparation for installing a special filter that will help remove bacteria and contaminants before dumping out to the beach.



In the meantime, it is still highly advised to stay clear of the pipe when it is flowing until we know exactly where the water is coming from and why the bacteria levels have been so high.



Photos: Outfall pipe located at Surfside Place (top, right); outfall pipe cleaning (bottom, left), outfall pipe camera inspection (bottom, right). Credit: Mellissa Winslow

MONTAUK COASTAL ASSESSMENT RESILIENCY PLAN VIRTUAL WORKSHOP OVERVIEW



On June 22nd, CCOM helped facilitate an East Hampton Town public Zoom meeting to review the comprehensive scientific analysis of the existing and future vulnerabilities of four coastal areas in Montauk, and to discuss recommended strategies for better resiliency to sea level rise and flooding. The slide presentation on the focus areas that were covered – Downtown Montauk, Fort Pond, Ditch Plains, and Montauk Harbor – are available [HERE](#) for further review and comment.

We will continue to play a key role in further public discussion to ensure sound environmental policy and solutions for Montauk’s future.

BOATING BEST PRACTICES

HELP IMPROVE WATER QUALITY WITH SOME BASIC TIPS

In June 1999 CCOM helped ensure that Lake Montauk was deemed a No Discharge Zone (NDZ) along with the rest of the East Hampton harbors, setting the stage for the entire Peconic Bay Estuary to be included as an NDZ in 2002 – a huge win for our local water quality. However, all boaters have the responsibility to help the water we all enjoy remain beautiful and safe:

- Utilize the East Hampton Trustee Pump-Out Boats, which are available to all boaters free of charge May 15-October 31 – call them on VHF Channel 73 before you head out for the day. East Hampton Town Pump-Out Stations are also located at Star Island Marina on Lake Montauk and the Town Commercial Dock on Three Mile Harbor.
- Typical commercial boat cleaning products are often extremely toxic and harmful to marine life. Many common household products – white vinegar, baking soda, borax, and lemon juice – are very effective alternatives that are easier on the environment and your wallet.
- Perform regular hull cleaning to avoid biofouling buildup which can create drag and causes you to burn more fuel. Use non-abrasive cleaning methods to avoid toxic heavy metals found in bottom paint to enter the water.
- Dispose of old fishing line in designated receptacles, located at most Town boat launch ramps

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.

Pauline Rosen has been a dedicated volunteer water sampler for CCOM's [water quality monitoring program](#) since its beginning in 2013. She and her husband, Rob, are residents on Lake Montauk. They offer sailing charters on their boat, *Solidago*, so knowing that our water is clean and safe is extremely important to them.



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

SUPPORT OUR WORK WITH YOUR DONATION! [CLICK HERE](#)

CCOM is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit environmental organization. Thanks to donors like you, we have been protecting our unique environment since 1970. Please consider making a tax deductible donation today.