



Goodbye summer and hello fall!

Welcome to CCOM's September newsletter. While the seasons may be changing, one thing that isn't is CCOM's dedication to preserving Montauk's lands, beaches, and water quality and ensuring environmental sustainability.

Recently, many of you may have received a letter or email from us [reminding you to make your 2020 membership pledge](#). As a CCOM member, you are helping to take care of Montauk today, as well as investing in its future. Collectively, our membership supports weekly water quality monitoring, confronting the challenges of erosion to protect our beaches, supporting renewable energy sources such as wind and solar, and leading regional science-based efforts to improve Montauk's ground and surface waters.

If you have not yet already, please **help us meet our 2020 membership goal** by renewing your membership or becoming a member today!

With thanks,

President

[CLICK HERE TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP TODAY](#)

CCOM MONTHLY WEBINAR SERIES

FALL LANDSCAPING FOR CLEAN WATER 10/7/20

Our next webinar will be presented by Edwina von Gal of the Perfect Earth Project. Edwina is considered one of the top experts on toxin-

free landscaping for the benefit of human and environmental health. Insecticides, herbicides, and fertilizers often find their way into our ground and surface waters. Please join the live virtual meeting to learn what you can do this fall to limit the use of these chemicals, while still enjoying a beautiful yard and garden come springtime.



October 7th at 9:30-10:30am

Fall Landscaping Tips | Edwina von Gal | Perfect Earth Project

Click the Zoom link at the above time to join the Webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83909014142>

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT...

Earlier this month we kicked off our new Monthly Webinar Series with a presentation by US Geological Survey scientists discussing preliminary results from their **Lake Montauk water quality study, or "Microbial Source Tracking."**

A formal report will be released once analysis is completed, and we will be sure to announce its release.

View the recorded webinar [HERE](#).

UPCOMING WEBINARS

November:

Harmful Algal Blooms | Dr. Chris Gobler, Stony Brook Southampton

December:

Sea Level Rise and the Future of Our Beaches | TBD

Details and Zoom meeting links will be posted to our website's [Events & Activities](#) page, and announced in upcoming newsletters.

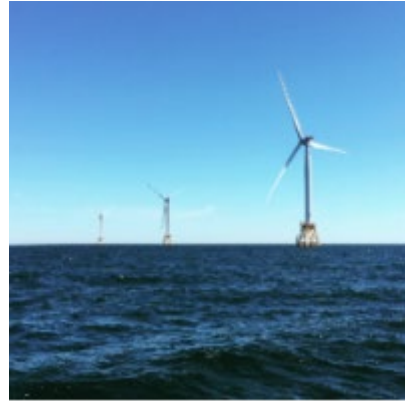
ENCOURAGING WIND FARM PROGRESS

KEY STEPS STILL AHEAD

CCOM continues to advocate for advancing efforts to reduce our region's reliance on fossil fuels and has applauded the Town of East

Hampton's ambitious sustainable energy goals, which cannot be achieved without offshore wind energy.

The South Fork Wind Farm – sited 35 miles off Montauk and expected to deliver 130 megawatts of electric power to 70,000 homes in East Hampton – is currently undergoing a comprehensive environmental and legal approval process.



The Town recently achieved a major first step by securing a community benefits package that has now grown to \$29 million, with an intention of earmarking payments for environmental, renewable energy, and energy efficiency initiatives. The benefits package was secured in exchange for easements allowing the offshore wind farm developer, Ørsted, to land the installation's export cable and bury it on a route to the Long Island Power Authority substation in East Hampton. Full coverage of the benefits package and progress of the wind farm are covered by the East Hampton Star [HERE](#).

While this agreement is a major step forward for the advancement of the wind farm project, it remains contingent on permits being issued by the NY State Public Service Commission (PSC), which is very much still in process, in addition to other future government agency approvals.

LOVE MONTAUK? BECOME A CCOM MEMBER!

ENERGIZE EAST HAMPTON

REDUCE YOUR ENERGY USE AND SAVE MONEY!



Temperatures are dropping, and it will soon be time to turn on our home heating systems.

Through the [Energize East Hampton](#) initiative, the Town is encouraging homeowners to reduce their energy consumption by taking advantage of PSEG'S rebates and incentives to install new "smart" thermostats and energy-efficient lightbulbs, among other products.

They are also offering free home energy audits and discounted pricing on solar panels and battery storage through the Town's Solarize East Hampton program.

COMMUNITY CHOICE AGGREGATION PRESENTATIONS

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IS KEY

Over the last month, the Town of East Hampton and Renewable Energy

Long Island have held a series of presentations and public hearings about Community Choice Aggregation, or CCA.

CCA is a program that gives municipalities and their residents and businesses a choice over where the power they purchase comes from, potentially allowing for a greener power supply and lower energy rates. CCA can also provide discounts and incentives for various products and services.



The East Hampton Town Board is considering legislation that would help determine if CCA could benefit East Hampton.

Learn more about CCA:

- * Watch a recording of the August 17th webinar and Q&A [HERE](#)
- * Review the Q&A sheet, which includes answers to all questions submitted prior and during the webinar [HERE](#)

The Town Board meetings and public hearings were aired live on LTV channel 22 and made available on video on demand soon after.

COMPLETE YOUR CENSUS TODAY

PARTICIPATION NOW WILL IMPACT OUR COMMUNITY UNTIL 2030

CCOM is urging Montauk residents to respond to the 2020 Census. Collecting this data helps to determine the need for federal funding for many environmental and community benefits. Our main concern for Montauk is to ensure we receive assistance in mitigating the causes of the climate crisis and building resiliency to the devastating effects of climate change.

[CLICK HERE](#) to complete your 2020 Census – an accurate count can help ensure our community receives the funding necessary to protect our environment and be able to rebound after natural disasters.

IN YOUR WORDS

FROM THE CCOM MAILBOX

8/15/20

Dear CCOM,

I especially want to thank you for your investigation of the drain pipe between Marham and Surf Club, Surfside Estates. I don't use this beach and we hope our children & grandchildren are safe. Thanks again.

Susan & Wm. Wyrostek

P.S. Enclosed is our CCOM membership

We love when CCOM members take a moment and send us letters of thanks. It lets us know that the work we do matters and makes a difference in the community.

This month we wanted to share a letter from Susan and William Wyrostek, CCOM members since 2017. Their letter thanked CCOM for alerting the Town to the highly polluted water that typically flowed from the Surfside Place outfall pipe - a remediation project is currently underway. Read about it in our [July newsletter](#).

SUPPORT OUR WORK & DONATE TODAY!

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.