



Summer is officially here and it seems as though we are busier than ever! We look forward to seeing everyone at our [upcoming outdoor events](#). Whether it's discussing septic upgrades on July 15th & 16th, cleaning up Ditch Plains Beach with local teens on July 24th, or meeting for cocktails and conversation at Gurney's Montauk on July 21st, there will be plenty of opportunities to meet and hear about our work to protect and restore Montauk's natural beauty and environmental integrity.

After over a year of operating virtually, we are excited to safely reopen our offices at 6 South Elmwood Avenue and welcome you back. So please give us a call at 631.238.5720 and come meet our staff team and find out about the great environmental work we have planned for 2021!

With thanks,

President

CCOM AWARDS COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

2021 WINNER: ANNA CARMAN

CCOM Board Chairman, David Freudenthal, recently awarded East Hampton High School Senior, Anna Carman, the 2021 Peter Lowenstein Memorial Scholarship at the May 27th Scholarship Awards night. CCOM's

Scholarship is awarded annually to a graduating Montauk student pursuing environmental science in college. Peter Lowenstein was a 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.

Anna noted, "As a local of Montauk, its beauty has played an important role in so many people's lives including my own, so I hope to have enough knowledge of the environment in order to help continue to preserve my hometown's beauty for future generations."



Anna will be attending SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry (ESF) in Syracuse this fall.

BECOME A CCOM MEMBER!

MORE SAND FOR MONTAUK'S BEACHES **THE LATEST NEWS**

This week sees the delivery of up to 13,000 cubic yards of additional beach sand for the downtown and Ditch Plains beaches. For Ditch Plains this marks the [first time additional sand has been needed since 2013](#) and is in addition to the 17,000 cubic yards of sand that was placed on the M

Beach sand nourishment can provide an interim stopgap as discussed by the [East Hampton Press editorial](#) this week. Still, it highlights the need for a larger, longer-term comprehensive plan to address the coastal resiliency of our vulnerable Montauk beaches. Much of that work is contained in the [Coastal Assessment and Resiliency Plan for Montauk](#) that CCOM has been helping lead Montauk downtown beach earlier this month as part of its ongoing maintenance.



EXPANDED ELIGIBILITY FOR SEPTIC REBATE FUNDS **40% INCREASE IN PROPERTIES THAT QUALIFY**

The recent expansion of East Hampton Town's Water Protection Districts is great news for Montauk residents as these districts are used for determining rebate amounts for eligible property owners who apply for rebates through the Septic Improvement Program. Based on these expanded districts, 683 more property owners in Montauk are now eligible for the Town's full \$20,000 rebate amount, a 40% increase!

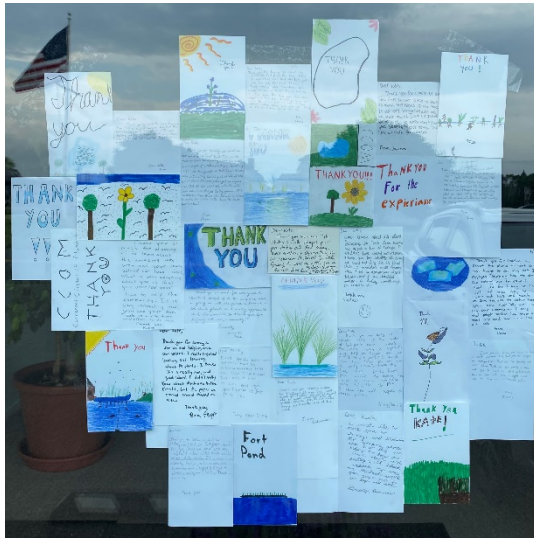
Visit the [Resources page on our website](#) for a comprehensive list of information and necessary paperwork to get your septic upgrade process started to help improve our ground and surface waters.

Have septic questions that you want answered face-to-face? Come see representatives from CCOM and the Town's Natural Resources Department at the following outdoor events:

Thursday, July 15th | Montauk Farmer's Market | 9am – 12pm
Friday, July 16th | East Hampton Town Hall | 9am – 12pm

For more info, [visit our events page](#).

FLOATING WETLANDS PROJECT BENEFITS FT. POND **– AND OUR STUDENTS' EDUCATION, TOO!**



Earlier this month CCOM's Environmental Advocate, Kate Rossi-Snook, had the opportunity to meet with the amazing Montauk School kids in Mr. White's science class to talk about CCOM's Fort Pond Floating Wetlands. The children, having already discussed hydroponics and ecosystems during the school year, were primed to learn about our water quality improvement project.

The project involved [planting more than 7000 native plants](#) into custom mats to create nearly 3,000 square feet of floating wetlands in Fort Pond. As the plants mature, their roots will uptake excess nitrogen and phosphorus from the pond as food. The goal is to reduce the nutrient load in the pond to lessen the extent and severity of the harmful algal blooms (HABs) that have plagued Fort Pond for years. At the end of the growing season when the plants reach full maturity, the mats will be removed from the pond and the nutrient-rich plant material will be donated to local community gardens for composting or for shoreline buffers and raingardens.

The best part of Kate's conversation with the students was their wonderful feedback. We invite you to come to the CCOM office to see the collage of Thank You letters in the window of our office on South Elmwood Ave.

Please meet CCOM intern Fisher Hirsch. Using his interest and skills in photography, he is documenting the growth and progress of the wetland plants this summer. The ever-popular Montauk business, Puff 'n' Putt, deserves a big THANK YOU for offering Fisher access to a kayak in support of our project. Puff 'n' Putt understands that their business, and many others in the downtown area, rely on the health of the pond for residents and visitors alike.

We are really feeling the love from the Montauk community!

SAVE THESE DATES UPCOMING CCOM EVENTS

CCOM'S SUMMER SOIRÉE | GURNEY'S MONTAUK

WEDNESDAY, JULY 21ST, 6-8PM



We are thrilled to announce our upcoming "Summer Soirée" at Gurney's Montauk on Wednesday, July 21st from 6 – 8pm on the Spa Terrace. Enjoy a rooftop ocean vista with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres benefitting our mission to preserve and protect Montauk's unique environment.

Tickets are \$75 per person in advance, and \$100 per person at the door.

When tickets are available for purchase, we will send an email and also post to our social media pages. In the meantime, [bookmark our website's events page](#).

3RD ANNUAL TEEN BEACH CLEANUP | DITCH PLAINS BEACH

SATURDAY, JULY 24TH, 9AM-12PM



Meet our impressive group of high school interns at the Ditch Plains parking lot on Saturday, July 24th and help clean the beach!

Our tent will be set up with bags and gloves available to participants from 9am – 12pm, so come when you can and do your part to help keep Montauk *Montauk*.

LAKE MONTAUK POLLUTION SOURCE STUDY IMMINENT HIGHLY ANTICIPATED REPORT COMING SOON

In 2018, CCOM initiated a comprehensive scientific study of the pollution sources in Lake Montauk by partnering with the U.S. Geological Survey to conduct what is known as the Lake Montauk Microbial Source Tracking (MST) Study. This study will help identify the sources of bacterial contamination, characterize nitrogen sources and transport mechanisms, and estimate pathogen loads.

Despite a government shutdown and COVID-19 delays, sampling work continued, with CCOM [hosting a webinar in late 2020 to share some of the preliminary data](#) with our members and community. A formal final report is imminent, and we look forward to sharing our important work with you and continuing to advocate for remediation measures to improve the health of the Lake.

CCOM WEBINAR SERIES

RECORDING NOW AVAILABLE:

[6.23 ENERGY CONSERVATION & SOLAR ENERGY](#)

Thank you to those who were able to join our webinar last week to participate in a 1-hour discussion on the range of energy conservation measures, including solar, that are available today to help save energy and achieve cost savings in your home. The webinar, led by local experts in the renewable energy field, is available for viewing [HERE](#).

UPCOMING:

[8.4 FORT POND FLOATING WETLANDS](#)

Learn about the technology behind our water quality improvement project and get the latest update on the Fort Pond wetlands and the status of the blue-green algae in the pond so far this season.

PARTICIPANTS:

Steve Beeman | Beemats Floating Wetlands | President
Kate Rossi-Snook | CCOM | Environmental Advocate

Pre-registration is required to attend this webinar.

[CLICK HERE](#) to pre-register.

[CLICK HERE TO MAKE A DONATION!](#)

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