



There's no doubt about it – we were incredibly lucky that Henri changed course and was downgraded before landfall, sparing us from what could have been significant damage throughout Montauk.

Scientific analysis and work conducted through CCOM's combined efforts with the Town on the Coastal Assessment & Resiliency Project, Hamlet Plan and others prove that even the smallest of storms can have a huge impact on Montauk.

We should count our blessings and let this serve as a stark reminder that we must continue to participate in long-term planning and fight for long-term solutions, because storms much more powerful than Henri are looming right over the horizon. Until we come together as a community and ensure our critical infrastructure remains out of harm's way and provide for a plan that allows our coastal dunes to properly migrate and provide natural protection, Montauk remains vulnerable to catastrophic losses.

There's a lot of work ahead of us and CCOM is working every day to meet the challenge.

With thanks,

President

"SAVE MONTAUK'S WATERS" **CCOM'S NEW WATER QUALITY CAMPAIGN**

CCOM's newly launched public awareness campaign, "Save Montauk's Waters," is designed to increase the community's understanding of the water quality issues we face, as well as our remediation programs and initiatives.

In light of the first Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) of the 2021 season in Fort Pond, this work could not be more urgent (see below).

In addition to our August community events at the Montauk Farmer's Market earlier this month and



at Ditch Plains on August 31st (see below), on September 18th we will also be hosting our free annual CCOM Family Picnic at Fort Pond house to celebrate one of our founders, Carol Morrison, and CCOM's work in saving Fort Pond House and our efforts to improve the water quality in Fort Pond.

In the interim, CCOM is asking members of the public to [sign our petition](#) demanding we hold ourselves accountable for taking action to SAVE MONTAUK'S WATERS. To learn more about what YOU can do, [please visit our SAVE MONTAUK'S WATERS page](#).

WATER QUALITY ALERT! HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOMS DETECTED IN FORT POND

The first Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) of the 2021 season was detected the week of August 9th at the Fort Pond boat launch ramp sampling site, which is located at the south end of the pond off South Erie Street in Downtown Montauk. This week, August 24th, a bloom has also been confirmed at the Industrial Road sampling site located at the north end of the pond. Toxin level testing earlier this month has shown low levels, suggesting that contact with the water may be ok, but it is strongly suggested that you avoid the water entering your mouth, eyes, and nose, rinse off thoroughly after recreating in the pond, and try to keep dogs from drinking the water.

To stay updated on the status of the HAB in Fort Pond, we encourage you to follow us on [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#), and [Twitter](#) where we usually post our water testing alerts. You can also check our [Water Testing Results page](#) on our website, where you can view all of our recent and past data, including our bacteria testing results.

Please [contact CCOM's Kate Rossi-Snook](mailto:KRossi-Snook@PreserveMontauk.org) (KRossi-Snook@PreserveMontauk.org) if you have any questions or concerns about our water quality.

WARNING

Blue-green Algae bloom(s) have been spotted in this waterbody!

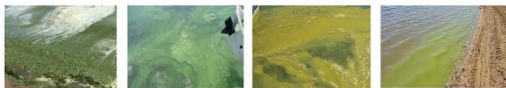
Avoid Harmful Blue-green Algae Blooms while swimming, fishing and boating



Keep kids and pets away from areas with blooms or scum. Swim, fish and boat in areas with no blooms or scum.

Contact can make people and animals sick.

If contact occurs, rinse with clean water.
If symptoms occur, contact a medical provider.



Blooms can look like streaks, spilled paint, pea soup, floating clumps or dots.

Learn more:
www.health.ny.gov/HarmfulAlgae
www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/77118.html

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ADVERTENCIA

Floraciones de algas verdes azuladas han sido descubiertas en el agua!

Evite las Dañinas
Floraciones de algas Verdes azuladas
Mientras nadas, pescas Pasees en bote



Mantenga a los niños y las mascotas alejados de las áreas con floración o espuma.

Naden, pesquen y usen los botes en las áreas sin Floración o espuma.

Contacto puede hacer que los animales y personas se enfermen.

Si ocurre contacto, enjágue con agua limpia.

Si ocurre síntomas, contacte a un proveedor de servicios médicos.



La floración se puede ver como raya, pintura derramada, sopa de arveja, grupos o puntos flotantes.

Aprenda Mas:
www.health.ny.gov/HarmfulAlgae
www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/77118.html

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BECOME A CCOM MEMBER

INTERN SPOTLIGHT

COCO SCHAFF

Coco Schaaff joined CCOM's water testing team behind the scenes in our office laboratory this year! Coco is now starting her senior year at Emory University double majoring in Philosophy, Politics, and Law and Psychology with a desire to work in environmental law. She is grateful to have conducted the water quality testing this summer, as Montauk has been a second home to her all her life.

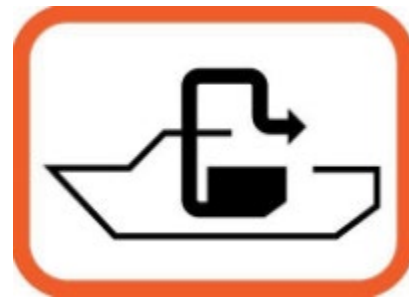


LAKE MONTAUK PUMPOUT SERVICES

BOAT OWNERS: YOU CAN TAKE ACTION, TOO!

CCOM lauds the East Hampton Town and Trustees for putting resources towards upgrading their pumpout boat services and infrastructure in Lake Montauk.

Just as there is much we can all do to prevent pollution on land, boaters also have the responsibility to help the water we all enjoy remain beautiful and safe. Lake Montauk and the entire Peconic Bay Estuary system is deemed a No Discharge Zone (NDZ) – it is illegal for boats to dump their bilge in these waters. Instead, be a responsible boater and utilize the East Hampton Trustee pumpout 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 pumpout stations are also located at Star Island Marina on Lake Montauk and the Town Commercial Dock on Three Mile Harbor.



Help us Save Montauk's Waters – follow these other tips to reduce the threats to our local water quality:

1. 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.
2. Perform regular hull cleaning to avoid biofouling, buildup which can create drag and causes you to burn more fuel. Use nonabrasive cleaning methods to avoid toxic heavy metals found in bottom paint to enter the water.
3. Dispose of old fishing line in designated receptacles, located at most Town boat launch ramps.

8/31 SEE YOU AT DITCH PLAINS BEACH WATER QUALITY EDUCATIONAL KIOSK



As part of CCOM's regular weekly Tuesday water sampling at Ditch Plains, CCOM will be holding an event at the ocean end of the Otis Road parking lot (adjacent to the Ditch Witch) on **August 31st from 10am-1pm** to help inform the community of our monitoring of the water quality at Ditch Plains and throughout the Town of East Hampton.

Water sampling techniques, testing methodologies, and water quality posters and materials will be on display at the CCOM kiosk, staffed by two members of CCOM's Environmental Committee with support from CCOM's Environmental Advocate.

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

CCOM WEBINAR SERIES FLOATING WETLANDS & WATER QUALITY REMEDIATION



On August 4th, CCOM welcomed Steve Beeman from Beemat's Floating Wetlands to speak about CCOM's floating wetlands water remediation pilot installation in Montauk's Fort Pond.

In May 2021, CCOM, with help from Florida-based Beemats Floating Wetlands, local volunteers, and a grant from East Hampton Town's Community Preservation Water Quality Improvement Fund, moored 3,000 sq. ft. of floating

wetlands fitted with 7,200 wetland native plants in Fort Pond. As those 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), which have plagued it for years. [CLICK HERE](#) to view the recorded webinar.

For more detailed information on HABs and toxin-free landscaping practices, check our recorded webinars [HERE!](#)

SAVE THE DATE!

9.18.2021 | CCOM FAMILY PICNIC AT FORT POND

Join us on Saturday, September 18th from 1-3pm at the Fort Pond House in Carol Morrison Park at 128 Second House Road, Montauk. **Bring a picnic** and help us celebrate one of our founders, Carol Morrison, and CCOM's work in saving Fort Pond House and improving the water quality in Fort Pond.



MAKE A DONATION!

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 100% tax deductible donation today.

