



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

October 25, 2021

**CCOM FORT POND FLOATING WETLANDS REMOVAL**

On Saturday, October 23rd, CCOM and nearly 45 volunteers worked together to remove their floating wetlands installation from Fort Pond. The 3,000 sq. feet of floating wetlands, a pilot project funded by an East Hampton Town CPF Water Quality Improvement grant, were installed in May 2021 to remove the excess nutrients in Fort Pond that have been fueling seasonal harmful algal blooms.

The islands themselves will be stored for future reuse, and the harvested plants have made their way to the Montauk Community Garden for composting. A few samples will be sent to Hofstra University for analysis to quantify nutrient removal capacity.

“This project literally took a village,” said CCOM President Laura Tooman, “we could not have done it without the help and generosity of our incredible community. A heartfelt thanks goes out to East Hampton Town, East Hampton Town Shellfish Hatchery, East Hampton Ocean Rescue, Mickey’s Carting, Gurney’s Resorts, the Montauk Community Garden, 7-11 Montauk, Montauk Surfcasters Association and the nearly 45 community volunteers who donated their Saturday to this important project.”

To learn more about the project and see photos from Saturday’s removal, please visit:  
<https://www.preservemontauk.org/photo-gallery>

(Photos: Richard Silver | RichardSilverPhotography.com)