



Welcome to our October newsletter!

This month, I want to acknowledge the importance of volunteers who help us carry out our mission. Whether it's those of you who help us collect water samples for testing in our lab, or who help spread our mission around Town under our CCOM kiosk, or those who recently worked with us to remove the floating wetlands from Fort Pond, our organization is stronger because of each and every one of you!

Thank you for all you do!

*Aimee Tooman*

President

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## SAVE MONTAUK'S WATERS

### CCOM FLOATING WETLANDS PROJECT MAJOR MILESTONE

Since launching our water quality campaign this summer we have been very active with ongoing water quality testing and a series of public events at Ditch Plains, Fort Pond House, the Montauk Farmers Market, and the Fall Festival.

We reached a major milestone on Saturday, October 23rd, when CCOM and nearly 45 volunteers worked together to remove our 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 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 been donated to the Montauk Community Garden for composting. 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."

Please click [HERE](#) to view our volunteers hard at work.

PHOTOS: [RICHARD SILVER](#)



DONATE TODAY! YOUR GIFT WILL BE MATCHED!

## MONTAUK & CCOM NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT

HOLIDAY SEASON MATCH - DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT!



As a CCOM supporter, you are the first line of defense – sometimes the only line of defense – in preserving and protecting the unique environment and ecology of Montauk. Your support enables CCOM to improve and protect Montauk's water quality, advocate for coastline resiliency, and promote environmental sustainability. Because of you, CCOM is at the forefront of tackling these important issues in Montauk.

We are thrilled to announce that two of our most ardent supporters are **matching your gifts, dollar for dollar, up to \$50,000!** If you [donate between now and December 31st your gift will have twice the impact!](#)

Our members and donors are the heart and soul of CCOM. We only succeed in our mission because of generous people like you. Please join our 2,000 members and supporters as a new member, by renewing your 2021 membership, [joining our Sustainer Circle](#), or [donating today](#) to help protect Montauk now and for future generations!

## SUPERSTORM SANDY 9 YEARS LATER

PROGRESS ON COASTAL ADAPTATION & RESILIENCY PLANNING

October marks the 9th year anniversary of Superstorm Sandy and the devastation caused here in October 2012. Since that time CCOM has been leading the charge to help develop sustainable coastal resiliency planning and serves on the East Hampton Town Coastal Adaptation and Resiliency Planning (C.A.R.P) committee which recently presented a series of long range coastal options for Montauk. These options involving 4 coastal areas in Montauk can be viewed on our website

[HERE](#), or you can watch the entire recorded presentation [HERE](#). Now this work is moving to specific policy and code change recommendations including building/regulatory changes and retreat overlay zones. These recommendations were presented publicly on Oct 19, please click [HERE](#) to view the presentation.



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## PROGRESS ON MONTAUK'S ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

### NEW MONTAUK GATEWAY PROJECT IMPROVES RESILIENCY

Announced just this week is exciting news about an intergovernmental partnership to fund the undergrounding of utility lines at the gateway to the hamlet of Montauk. Funding of the estimated \$750,000 cost has been agreed to jointly by NY State and the Town of East Hampton. This project will supplement an ongoing private effort to underground utility lines along Old Montauk Highway with several phases of this effort already having been completed. Read the [press](#)

[release](#) for a detailed discussion of how this project will improve Montauk's resiliency as we are faced with the ever-increasing effects of climate change.



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DONATE & DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT!

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## NOVEMBER 2ND GENERAL ELECTION

### ENVIRONMENTAL PROPOSAL ON THE BALLOT

Whether you're voting early or on election day, it is important to

understand the Suffolk County ballot before you cast your vote.

[Proposal Two](#) on the ballot seeks to amend the New York constitution to “establish the right of each person to clean air and water and a healthful environment.” This would change the state constitution to provide New Yorkers with the right to clean air and water which would then provide a mechanism to challenge the state should those rights not be afforded. We encourage you to vote **YES** for clean air & water.



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## WINTER IS COMING!

### LEARN ABOUT FREE HOME ENERGY ASSESSMENTS

Sustainability isn't just about switching to renewable energy sources – it also means we should all be working toward reducing our energy consumption. Last month Energize East Hampton hosted a webinar on what home energy assessments can tell you, and how to get one for FREE. Click [HERE](#) to watch the webinar and visit [www.energizeeh.org](http://www.energizeeh.org) to learn more.

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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.

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