

PROTECTING MONTAUK'S UNIQUE ENVIRONMENT SINCE 1970

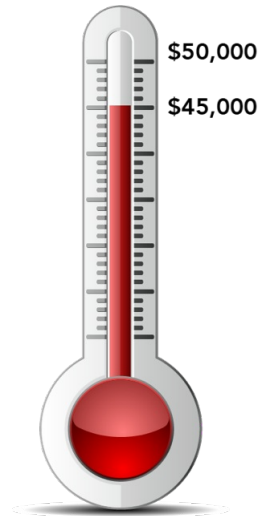


Seasons Greetings !

As we close out 2021, we are deeply grateful for the support of our staff, board members, Montauk community, members, and volunteers. It is because of you that CCOM was able to stay focused on accomplishing Montauk's environmental priorities. Thank you for being such an important part of our mission and community.

Please consider making your New Year's resolution one of continued commitment to the preservation and protection of Montauk's unique environment.

**We are very close to meeting our year-end goal of \$50,000;  
any gift made by midnight tonight will be matched dollar for dollar!**



Warmest wishes for a happy and healthy new year!  
Laura Tooman | CCOM President

## THE YEAR IN REVIEW: HIGHLIGHTS OF 2021

### NEW CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD



At its February 2021 meeting, the CCOM Board elected David Freudenthal as Chairman. He states, "I joined CCOM to give back to this community that's given me so much and is so central to my life, and I'm happy to help CCOM look forward."

**[Read more about David's leadership role...](#)**

### COASTAL RESILIENCY PLANNING FOR MONTAUK'S FUTURE

Since Superstorm Sandy in 2012, CCOM has been helping lead the scientific understanding of our local coastal dynamics and the impact



of climate change and sea level rise. In 2021 when the Army Corps of Engineers announced they would be delaying the scheduled October 2021 sand replenishment by up to 2 years, we rallied the public voice through our “[Downtown Montauk Needs Sand NOW](#)” petition and received 1,495 signatures. Then in May and June 2021, 30,000 cubic yards of sand were placed on the Montauk downtown beach. Clearly we need a comprehensive longer-term, sustainable solution to beach erosion and CCOM continues our work to ensure this happens. [Read more...](#)

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## SCIENCE-BASED ADVOCACY ROLE IN OFFSHORE WIND



Advocating for sustainability through clean energy and energy conservation is one of CCOM’s key environmental initiatives, and we are greatly encouraged by the development of the South Fork Wind Farm (SFW) project. Following a lengthy and rigorous review process in which CCOM participated, in March the New York State Public Service Commission (PSC) unanimously approved the SFW transmission cable landing. This represents a critical step forward in authorizing construction and operation of 15 wind turbines 35 miles off Montauk, which is expected to deliver 130 megawatts of electric power to 70,000 homes on the South Fork by late 2023. [Read more...](#)

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## ANOTHER 13 ACRES OF LAND PRESERVED IN MONTAUK IN 2021



CCOM began in 1970 leading the fight to protect Montauk’s unique and beautiful open spaces. Since 2000 alone, over 500 acres of woodlands, wetlands, and beaches have been preserved in Montauk through the East Hampton Town Community Preservation Fund (CPF), many of which can be found on a trail map [HERE](#).

CCOM fought hard for the creation of the CPF and continues to be a strong voice in the [purchase of Montauk’s land parcels](#) for the benefit of the environment and our community. In 2021, our advocacy resulted in the CPF acquisition of 13 acres in Montauk, all in highly sensitive environmental areas and representing almost 30% of all land acquired for preservation throughout East Hampton.

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## MONTAUK CPF WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS



Since its inception in 2017, CCOM has played an active role on the East Hampton Town CPF WQ Technical Advisory Committee. In 2021, we saw approval of the Committee’s recommendations for Montauk. These include:

- [Expanded Town Water Protection Districts](#), which means more property owners in Montauk are eligible to receive more money for [installing new nitrogen-reducing septic systems](#).
- New, larger-capacity pump-out holding tanks to reduce the human-sourced pollution in Lake Montauk and a second new pump-out boat for the Trustees.



- Progress on the design of stormwater remediation projects at the south end and west side of Lake Montauk. CCOM, with the Town, will be reaching out in the new year for public comment on the implementation plans for these exciting water quality improvement projects. [Read more about these projects...](#)

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## SUCCESSFUL PILOT YEAR FOR FORT POND FLOATING WETLANDS



In May, nearly 40 volunteers helped CCOM staff install our highly anticipated Fort Pond Floating Wetlands water quality improvement project in which 7,200 native wetland plants were secured into floating mats and anchored in Fort Pond. This proved to be a visual and tangible project for the community to understand and love, inspiring wonderful conversations with one of the Montauk School science classes and the broader public at our various events. We rallied another round

of community volunteers to help us remove the wetlands at the end of the growing season in October. The plants were donated to the Montauk Community Garden for compost and the mats are being stored for another season. [Check out our photo gallery...](#)

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## LAUNCH OF NEW “SAVE MONTAUK’S WATERS” CAMPAIGN



To increase understanding of the water quality issues in Montauk's local waters and the steps that can be taken now to address them, CCOM launched a comprehensive public awareness campaign: SAVE MONTAUK'S WATERS, in July 2021. After unveiling the campaign, nearly 500 members of the public [signed our petition taking action to SAVE MONTAUK'S WATERS.](#)

And throughout the summer, at a series of events at the Montauk Farmer's Markets, Ditch Plains, the CCOM Fort Pond House Picnic, and the MightyMan Montauk Triathlon, we continued to increase awareness of CCOM's water quality work. [Learn more about our water quality work...](#)

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## SUCCESSFUL SUMMER SOIRÉE & TEEN BEACH CLEANUP



Thank you again to the nearly 300 CCOM supporters who attended our July Summer Soirée at [Gurney's Montauk Resort & Seawater Spa](#). This was the first time we



July also marked the [3rd Annual Teen Beach Cleanup](#), and our stellar group of CCOM summer interns made it the most impressive one yet! Stationed at Ditch Plains Beach,

were able to meet in-person with the Montauk Community and our supporters in nearly 18 months. It was an incredible opportunity to reconnect, reunite and reengage.

they had an incredible 38 participants who filled 7 large bags of debris. If you would like to volunteer with CCOM in Summer 2022, please email [info@preservemontauk.org](mailto:info@preservemontauk.org) by May 1st 2022.

## MAKE YOUR YEAR-END DONATION TONIGHT!

Tonight, make your resolution one of continued commitment to the preservation and protection of Montauk's unique environment.

Make your gift by midnight tonight and it will be matched dollar for dollar!

**DONATE**

## 2021 WEBINAR SERIES: IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

**January 2021** | Renewable Energy and the South Fork Wind Farm

**June 2021** | Energy Conservation & Solar

**August 2021** | Floating Wetlands & Water Quality Remediation

[Click here to view these and other recorded webinars...](#)

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