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# LITTORALLY Speaking



Littoral: The region along the shore; the intertidal zone

News from the American Littoral Society

Summer 2019

## Upcoming Trips and Events

### September

Sat., September 7, 10am	Sandy Hook, NJ	Shore Birds & Wild Edibles Walk
Sat., September 21, 4 - 7pm	Brooklyn, NY	Jamaica Bay Sunset Cruise
Mon., September 23, 6pm-8pm	Sandy Hook, NJ	Fall Equinox Walk
Sat., September 28, 10am - 3 pm	Broad Channel, NY	Monarch & Pollinator Festival

### October

Sat, October 12, 3 - 6pm	Ft. Tilden, NY	Hawk Watch
Sun., October 20, 10am - 3pm	Broad Channel, NY	Raptor Festival
Tues. & Wed., October 29 & 30, 7pm	Sandy Hook, NJ	Spooky Walk!

### November

Thurs. - Sun., November 7-10	Chincoteague, VA	Assateague/Chincoteague Trip
Mon., November 11, 10am -1 pm	Delaware Bay, NJ	Veterans Day on the Bay
Sat., November 16, 7am - 2 pm	Sandy Hook, NJ	Surf Fishing Clinic

### December

Sat., December 14, 3 - 6pm	Broad Channel, NY	Christmas Bird Count
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### January

Wed., January 1, 11am	Sandy Hook, NJ	New Years Day Walk
Wed., January 1, 11am	Breezy Point, NY	New Years Day Walk

To stay current on all Littoral Society public events and activities, go to: <https://www.littoralsociety.org/upcoming-events>

## Restoration on Delaware Bayshore Provides Foundation for Future

It has been nearly seven years since Hurricane Sandy made landfall in southeastern New Jersey, which is hard to forget given that signs of that devastating storm still linger around the state.

However, in that time the American Littoral Society and its partners were able to deal with the initial environmental damage along NJ's Delaware Bayshore and begin restoring critical habitat for the horseshoe crab and shorebirds, such as the red knot. While those efforts have yielded some encouraging results, the Red Knot population remains near historic lows and much more work needs to be done to ensure it rebounds.

Now the Littoral Society is preparing for the next stage of work to protect



and restore the coast in that area with the signing of a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' (USACE) 10-year regional permit for restoring beach and creating oyster reefs along the

Delaware Bayshore of Cape May and Cumberland counties.

Read the full story at: <https://www.littoralsociety.org/blog/delaware-bayshore-restoration-work>

## Rain Gardens and Barrels are Part of

### Effort to Solve South Jersey's Water Woes

Before heading down the shore for Memorial Day, Carla Burlingame's class from ExCel School is starting the transformation of a vacant lot in Bridgeton into a park with tree plantings, rain gardens, planter boxes.

Bumblebees and butterflies are expected to visit in droves, stopping for a drink in the students' flowers, trees and garden. But this humble patch of wildflowers and spongy soil is more than a seasonal oasis for pollinators; it holds the key to keeping South Jersey's drinking water clean and plentiful all year long.

"Not only are they learning to take care of their environment and community, but how important it is to be an involved, active citizen." says Burlingame. "A student recently cited these community green-up days as highlight of her 7th grade year. The trip taught her how important it is to take care of her community and how it's everyone's job."

The rain garden is only part of ongoing efforts to protect forests and farms, clean up streams, and make cities and



Students from ExCel School transform a vacant lot in Bridgeton, NJ

suburbs greener in southern New Jersey. That work is designed to ensure swimmable, fishable and drinkable water in the Delaware River and its tributaries.

Read the full story at: <https://www.littoralsociety.org/blog/sj-water-woes>

## Restoration Framework Set, Now Time to Watch Nature Work

It was Christmas in May, as a bevy of volunteers did their bit to help begin restoration of an eroded shoreline at Slade Dale Sanctuary in Point Pleasant, NJ.

Now it's Mother Nature's turn to play her role in the process, under the watchful eye of the American Littoral Society.

A first-of-its-kind project for New Jersey, the restoration work involves using recycled Christmas trees placed in branchbox breakwaters and tree vanes to re-establish the shoreline of a salt marsh along Beaverdam Creek. The wetlands have eroded approximately 300 feet over the past century.

"This project is a model for other living shoreline efforts, puts our sustainable principles into action, and reflects wonderful partnerships with the town, US Fish and Wildlife Service and the Corporate Wetlands Partnership," said Tim Dillingham, Executive Director of the American Littoral Society.



Learn more at: <https://www.littoralsociety.org/blog/christmas-in-may>

## Society Applauds Waterfront Access Bill

On May 3, New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy signed a bill protecting the public's right to access the beaches and waterfronts in the state.

The access bill enshrines into state law the public trust doctrine, which is a principle that establishes that the State's tidal waters and adjacent shorelines belong to the public to be used for navigation, commerce, and recreation, including bathing, swimming, and fishing.

The Littoral Society thanks the Governor and NJ lawmakers for taking this action, as well as all of the advocates that campaigned for the new law and all those who sent letters or made phone calls of support.

Learn more at: <https://www.littoralsociety.org/blog/society-applauds-waterfront-access>

## Local Support Grows for Efforts to Protect Ocean and Coast

Less than a year ago in September of 2018, the City of Asbury Park became the sixth New Jersey municipality to be recognized as a Champion of the Coast by the American Littoral Society. The recognition followed Asbury Park's adoption of an ordinance banning intentional balloon releases, marking the third action in a series required by the Society to achieve Champion of the Coast status.

Soft plastics, like balloons, are the type of pollution most likely to cause death in birds and turtles who ingest them, and animals can also become entangled in the attached balloon ribbons.

The Littoral Society launched the Champions of the Coast initiative in 2018 shortly after the Department of the Interior released a Draft Proposed Plan for new offshore oil and gas leases. The goal is to recognize local voices that support coordinated and



A gathering of champions. Pictured, from left: Bradley Beach Mayor Gary Engelstad; Helen Henderson, American Littoral Society; Jennifer M. Coffey, ANJEC Executive Director; Don Weber, Surfrider; Noemi de la Puente, NJ Environmental Lobby; Zack Karvelas, Clean Ocean Action; and NJ Dist. 11 Assemblyman Eric Houghtaling

collaborative planning for use of our shared ocean spaces.

To Learn more, go to <https://www.littoralsociety.org/blog/local-support-coast-and-ocean>

## First Lady of Japan Pitches in on NY Shoreline Cleanup

It was an honor to be joined by the First Lady of Japan, Mrs. Akie Abe and the office of the Consulate General of Japan on September 26 for a shoreline cleanup of Jamaica Bay. Participants in the cleanup also included staff from the National Park Service and Gateway National Recreation Area, as well as several volunteers.

From September 23 to September 27, Mrs. Akie Abe visited the New York accompanying Prime Minister Shinzo, where she had various exchanges with many people. In addition to participating in a beach cleanup on September 26, she also visited the American Littoral Society offices in Jamaica Bay and received a briefing from Tim Dillingham, Executive Director of the Society, and Don Riepe, Jamaica Bay Program Director, about Littoral Society conservation activities in the Jamaica Bay.

See more pictures at: <https://www.littoralsociety.org/blog/mrs-abe-beach-cleanup>



## Beach Access Lawsuit

In January 2019, the Littoral Society filed a lawsuit against the Borough of Deal, NJ to protect public access to that beach after the Borough moved to sell a street end to a waterfront developer.

"Public access to the beaches and tidal waterfronts of our state is constantly under attack" said Tim Dillingham, Executive Director of the American Littoral Society. "We are taking this action to prevent the loss of this important public accessway to the beach, and to ensure that other towns aren't tempted to sell off the public's rights to the highest bidder."

Learn more at: <https://www.littoralsociety.org/blog/deal-law>

## Long-time Littoral Society Friend Passes Away

Late last year, the Society lost a long-time friend, Pat Coren. She passed away on Thursday, November 29, 2018 at the age of 72.

For 25 years, Pat Coren worked with the Society in our Sandy Hook office. Her job title was Office Manager, but she was much more than that.

## 2018 NY State Beach Cleanup By the Numbers

During the 2018 NYS Beach Cleanup 7,053 volunteers in 22 counties removed 45,311 pounds of debris along 194 miles of shoreline.

To the right is a list of the top twelve (Dirty Dozen) items found during the 2018 New York State Beach Cleanup.

You can still register for the 2019 NYS Beach Cleanup! For more information about joining this year's cleanups or to register, please visit the NYS Beach Cleanup website at [www.NYSBeachCleanup.org](http://www.NYSBeachCleanup.org).

### The Dirty Dozen

ITEM	AMOUNT
Plastic Pieces	41,138
Cigarette Butts	30,584
Foam Pieces	28,068
Glass Pieces	26,447
Bottle Caps (Plastic)	22,651
Food Wrappers (Candy, Chips, Etc)	17,567
Beverage Bottles (Plastic)	13,072
Straws, Stirrers	10,895
Bottle Caps (Metal)	9,673
Beverage Bottles (Glass)	7,780
Other Plastic Bags	6,916
Beverage Cans	6,899