

Keyport Environmental Commission
October 27, 2025 Meeting
Keyport Borough Hall

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 8:00 pm by **Chair Joe Sheridan.**

Sunshine Law was Read

Salute to the Flag

Roll Call

	NAME	STATUS	TERM EXPIRES	PRESENT	ABSENT
1	JOE SHERIDAN (JS)	COMMISSIONER, CHAIR/SECRETARY	12/31/2026	X	
2	MIKE PALMISANO (MP)	COMMISSIONER, VICE CHAIR	12/31/2027	X	
3	KATHLEEN BULL DE LOS REYES (KBDLR)	COMMISSIONER	12/31/2025	X	
4	DON PACHECO (DP)	COMMISSIONER	12/31/2025		X
5	LYNNE KOSOBUCKI (LK)	COMMISSIONER, 2-YEAR ALTERNATE #1	12/31/2025	X	
6	MIKE LANE (ML)	COMMISSIONER	12/31/2025	X	
7	DOUG WEIDER (DW)	COMMISSIONER	12/31/2026		X
8	SHAMAR WHITE (SW)	COMMISSIONER	12/31/2027	X	
9	LIONEL NAZCO (LN)	COMMISSIONER ALTERNATE #2	12/31/2026	X	
10	HEATHER BRADY (HB)	KEYPORT BOUROUGH COUNCIL LIAISON	12/31/2025	X	
11	DR. JUN CHENG	KEAN UNIVERSITY ASSOC. PROFESSOR	-		X
12	DENNIS McNAMARA	RESIDENT	-	X	

Keyport Environmental Commission

(JS) – The Keyport Environmental Commission warmly welcomed **Lionel Nazco (LN)**, who was appointed to fulfill the role of Keyport Borough Environmental Commission Alternate Number 2 Member, with his term expiring December 31, 2026.

Corrections to September 22, 2025 KEC Minutes:

None

Review/Approval of Meeting Minutes:

Minutes of the September 22nd, 2025, meeting: Motion to Accept by Lynne Kosobucki (LK); 2nd by Kathleen Bull De Los Reyes (KBDLR); Lionel Nazco (LN) Abstained as he was not present; Minutes Approved.

Keyport Borough Council (KBC) Item Updates:

No new updates.

Dr. Cheng's Report

Submitted via e-mail:



2 attachments (5 MB) → Save all to OneDrive - Valcor Engineering | Save All Attachments

Hi Team,

I did a beach survey last week to capture the Nor'easter storm (October 12-13) induced beach/dune changes. The dune field at the coast of Cedar Street Park experienced dune line retreat of about 6 feet, which is the first time I have measured since summer 2023 (Fig. 1). A couple of field photos over there were also attached. As the dune field there has been showing accumulating over the years prior to this storm. This erosion has removed sand that has been accumulated for a few years in our site I believe.

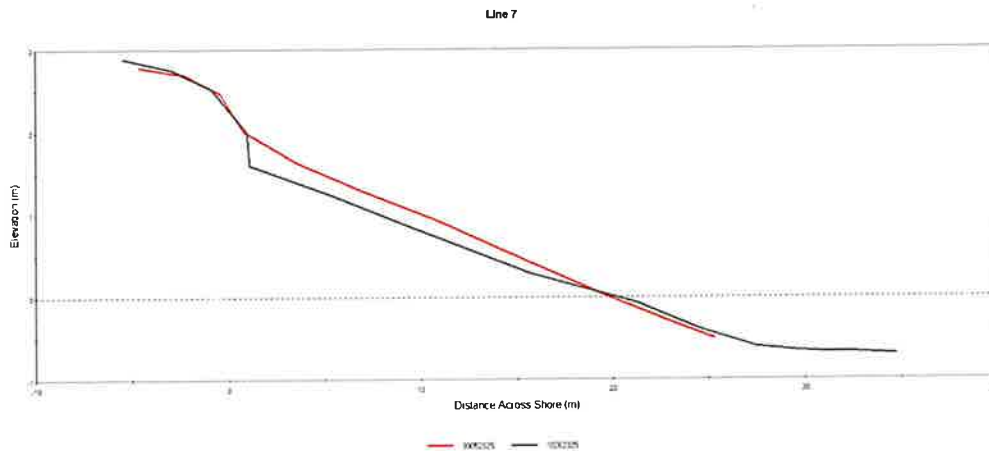


Fig. 1 This line is located at Cedar Street Park. The red line was measured in early September this year, and the black line was measured last Friday. Dune and dry beach erosion was measured.

(ML) – Spoke about Sandy Hook sand not showing up as the sand level along the Keyport waterfront has remained steady.

(MP) – Said that it was more beneficial to have a gradual slope from the shore out into the Bay, as is what Keyport has.

(ML) – Added that a gradual slope is more stable.

(HB) – Talked about the damage that occurred to Fireman's Park due to the recent Nor'Easter.

Clean Ocean Action Beach Sweep – October 18, 2025

(MP)/(LK) – See summary on Attachment #1. MP explained the two Clean Ocean Action Beach Sweeps. The event had 30-40 Volunteers. The most common Item found was a bottle cap. Eight black contractor bags of trash were picked up.



Beach Co-Captain Lynne Kosobucki explaining the Beach Clean-Up process to several Volunteers during the Clean Ocean Action Beach Sweep at Keyport Cedar Street Park Beach on Saturday, October 18, 2025. The inset photo is of some of the items collected and separated. Photos compliments of Joe Sheridan.

(LK): In France, caps are tethered to the bottles. Said there was a line of debris that came in with the tide and had hundreds of bottle caps.

Resident McNamara: The 4H Club makes park benches completely out of bottle caps.

Northern Monmouth Watershed Alliance (NMWA)

(MP)/(LK) – Discussed the October 25, 2025 “Know Your Stream” event (See Attachment #2). Saw erosion, snags, and the effects of outflow from storms. This event qualifies for Green Team points towards sustainability.

New Business

(SW) – Asked about the Keyport Cedar Street Dune Living Shoreline Project, the Keyport Resolution supporting the Living Shoreline Project, and the Kean University Capstone Project about the Cedar Street Park Dune.

(JS): ACTION to e-mail Keyport Borough Living Shoreline Resolution and Kean University Capstone Project Presentation to all the Keyport Commissioners.

(MP) – The beach is very sloped by the dune due to the beach grass and evergreen trees.

(ML) – Spoke about Keyport Combined Planning and Zoning Board items.

(MP) – Talked about the dangers of lithium batteries and how the Residents should be educated on the proper disposal of these types of batteries.

(KBDLR) – Walked down all the locations of dog bag dispensers and noted there are a decent amount for dog owners to help keep bacteria out of the bay from their pets.

(MP) – Noted a marked difference between the level of pollution in the Bay before and after rainstorms.

(MP) – Clean Ocean Action can determine what type of bacteria is causing the high bacteria levels.

(LK) – Ms. Manganelli’s class will help create flyers for the Spring Water/Sewer Bill inserts.

(MP) – Asked for the KEC Minutes to be sent out in PDF and Word formats.

Mike Lane’s Health and Safety Input:

See Mike Lane’s Health and Safety Input for the Keyport Environmental Commission Meeting Dated 10/27/2025.

Open to the Public

10:12pm: JS opened the meeting to the Public.

Resident Dennis McNamara shared his following thoughts:

My thoughts after last night's E. Commission mtg: Feel free to share with appropriate members.

Prior to Spring Planting:

- Establish a **small**, designated waterfront plot needing rehabilitation (i.e. 50' x 100'). Working with a **small** measurable plot makes attaining success easier than attacking the whole project.
- Organize Keyport students + other volunteers for a specific workday to address the **small** plot.
- First, completely rid the rectangle of the invasives in it. This may be the sweatiest task. Have lots of hydration.
- Second, clearly mark out the area where particular native plants will be planted (colored flags for specific species - i.e. red flag for Panic grasses, yellow flag for goldenrod, blue flag for beach plum, etc.)
- Third, establish planting teams - grass team, shrub team, etc.
- Fourth, plant the delivered plants in the designated locations.
- Break for pizza, thank volunteers and Environmental Commission team need to step back and ...
- Assess upon completion of this plot if the size of the plot was reasonable, or if it should be more or less.
- Organize another work party and repeat until the area is as best cleared of invasives and planted with natives.

Rutgers could deliver the plants on the designated day and provide guidance.

Dennis McNamara
Agriculture Associate
Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Monmouth County NJ
4000 Kozloski Rd. po box 5033
Freehold, NJ 07728

Close to the Public

10:15pm: JS closed the meeting to the Public.

ACTION ITEMS LIST

All KEC Members – Continue to research steps that Residents can take to reduce bacteria from reaching the Bay.

ATTACHED ITEMS LIST

- 1. “Know Your Stream” Findings and Summaries**
- 2. October 18, 2025 Clean Ocean Action Cleanup Summary**
- 3. Clean Ocean Action Pamphlets on How to Keep Bacteria Out of Our Bay**
- 4. Mike Lane’s Health and Safety Input for KEC Meeting 10/27/2025.**

Meeting Adjourned 10:15pm: Motion to Adjourn LK; HB 2nd; Unanimous.

The next meeting will be held on **Monday, November 24th, 2025, at 8:00pm, at Keyport Borough Hall Council Chamber.**

Minutes submitted by Joe Sheridan.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Northern Monmouth Watershed Alliance, info@monmouthwater.org

Date: November 18, 2025

Northern Monmouth Watershed Alliance Recaps “Know Your Stream Day” Event—A Watershed Moment for Stormwater & Drought Awareness

Northern Monmouth County, NJ- The newly formed Monmouth Watershed Alliance (NMWA) (www.monmouthwater.org) held its inaugural “Know Your Stream Day” on October 25, 2025, bringing together residents, municipal partners and watershed experts to take a closer look at the water systems that connect our communities from the hills to the shore. The event served as a timely reminder that the health of our streams and stormwater infrastructure is intimately linked to drought conditions, flood risk, ecosystem vitality and our collective responsibility to water.

Event Highlights & Evidence from the Field: (And quotes from the day!)

During the 1:00PM-4:00PM stream walk and observation session (with a special walk at the Keansburg floodgate site beginning earlier) participants visited multiple tributaries of the Waackaak/Mahoras and Flat Creek systems.

Among the key findings:

- Some streambeds exhibited very low base flows, demonstrating a signal of drought stress even in a region not traditionally considered dry.
- At the Keansburg floodgate demonstration, the role of coastal tidal connections, storm surge potential and floodgate infrastructure served as a vivid illustration that water does not simply leave our neighborhood—it flows through, around, beneath and out to larger bodies of water, and may also return inland under certain conditions.

Water is more than just what flows through our pipes or puddles on the pavement—it is the lifeblood of our communities, landscapes and future. The event reinforced several important themes:

Understanding where water comes from and where it goes

Every drop that falls in the Northern Monmouth County area runs off roofs, roads and yards, travels through ditches, streams, storm-drains, floodgates and eventually reaches larger rivers, bays and the ocean. When we pay attention to that journey, we gain the power to be its protectors.

Respecting water as a resource and an ecosystem partner

Drought stress in local streams means less habitat for fish and macroinvertebrates, reducing groundwater recharge and greater vulnerability when rain finally does arrive. Clogged drains, compacted soils, and impermeable surfaces push more water faster into our streams—raising flood and erosion risk.

Linking local action to regional resilience

The infrastructures we too often overlook—storm-drains, culverts, stream buffers, tidal floodgates—are the same systems that respond when drought, flood or fire strike. Through increased awareness and proactivity, each of us becomes a protector of water beyond our front yard.

Meeting regulatory, environmental and community goals together

The NMWA reminds municipal partners and residents that compliance with the Municipal Separate Stormwater Sewer System (MS4) Permit—which mandates stormwater public education, system mapping, illicit discharge detection and other best practices—must be fulfilled by 2027. The Know Your Stream event is a concrete step toward fulfilling the public involvement and education requirements and further positions the watershed as a shared public asset.

“Know Your Stream Day gives our residents the chance to see firsthand the natural systems that quietly support our community every day. When people walk along their local stream, they begin to understand how critical these waterways are to reducing flooding, supporting wildlife and keeping our drinking water clean. We hope this event inspires families across Holmdel and the county to become long-term stewards of the places right in their own backyard,” said **Karen Strickland, Holmdel Environmental Commission Chairperson**

“Standing at the floodgate on Keansburg’s beach as the tide turned, participants had the rare opportunity to witness the opening and closing of the floodgate in real time—a vivid demonstration of how our coastal systems ‘breathe’ with the tide. The NJDEP team offered valuable insight, describing how the floodgate operates and the many factors that influence each decision to open or close it. The system’s operation is both precise and complex, requiring continuous monitoring of tidal conditions and expert coordination to protect nearby homes, streets, and marinas from bay waters. The experience served as a powerful reminder that water moves both ways—what leaves our streets for the bay can return under the right conditions. In Keansburg, stormwater management is more than a regulation; it’s a shared responsibility. We remain committed to working with the Northern Monmouth Watershed Alliance to maintain clear inlets and strengthen our community’s preparedness for future flooding, ensuring Keansburg’s long-term resilience,” said **Kathy Burgess, Zoning Official, Floodplain Manager and Technical Assistant to the Construction Office (T.A.C.O) of the Keansburg Code Enforcement & Construction Office**

“At Waterspirit, we believe that protecting sacred Earth begins with reconnecting to the waters that sustain us. Know Your Stream Day invites people to slow down, listen, and truly experience the living systems that flow through our towns. We’re proud to partner with the Northern Monmouth Watershed Alliance for this event that blends science, spirituality and community connection to foster a deeper sense of care for our shared environment,” said **Rachel Dawn Davis, Public Policy & Justice Organizer for Waterspirit and Rutgers University Cooperative Extension Water Resources certified Green Infrastructure Champion**

“The gift of growing up in Keansburg gave me incredible access to our local waterways. I spent countless hours exploring curiously about where the water would go, how it would end, and why. That early fascination shaped my appreciation for our natural environment. It’s deeply rewarding to now be part of an organization that helps others understand, appreciate, and ultimately protect these waterways,” said **Charlene Kiley, Monmouth County Division of Planning.**

Next Steps

The Northern Monmouth Watershed Alliance invites all residents, municipal staff, business owners and school groups to remain engaged. The data and observation from “Know Your Stream” will inform a broader watershed monitoring and education program. As we approach the MS4 compliance deadline in

2027, the initiative emphasizes the critical importance of not waiting until the next big storm, major drought or infrastructure failure to start caring for water.

About Northern Monmouth Watershed Alliance (NMWA) The Northern Monmouth Watershed Alliance is a collaborative initiative of municipalities in Monmouth County, New Jersey, focused on watershed conservation, education and stormwater management. Covering parts of Watershed Management areas (WMA) 12 and 9, the Alliance brings together towns from the Raritan/Sandy Hook Bay tributaries to the Navesink/Lower Shrewsbury River systems. For more information, to register for upcoming events or to download the stream observation—visit www.monmouthwater.org

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BEACH SWEEPS

MASTER

Please complete both sides

Thank you for participating in Clean Ocean Action's (COA) Beach Sweeps and completing this data card. Data collection is the most important task and turns your dedication and volunteerism into a legacy of information we use to reduce litter and marine debris. The data from this card is collected and analyzed to identify pollution trends in the waters off New Jersey's coast. The final results from Beach Sweep are incorporated into an Annual Report used to educate citizens and lawmakers about nonpoint source pollution. The Fall data is also forwarded to Ocean Conservancy, who maintains an international database for tracking trends of marine debris in world's oceans. For information on how to help raise funds, reduce pollution, and check out COA's Annual Beach Sweep Reports visit www.CleanOceanAction.org.

Consent: As a participant in the Clean Ocean Action Beach Sweeps, I/we understand that I/we participate at our own risk and that there may be photos and/or video taken that may be used by Clean Ocean Action.

CLEANUP SITE INFORMATION			
CLEAN UP SITE NAME	CITY/MUNICIPALITY	COUNTY	BEACH CAPTAIN NAME
CEGAR STREET PARK	KEYPORT	MONMOUTH	MIKE PALMEANO LYNNE KOSBUCKI HOLLY FARRO JABC
Type of cleanup: ☒ Bay ☐ Shoreline/Beach ☐ Lake, Stream, or River			
DATE OF CLEANUP	10/18/2025	NAME OF GROUP/SCHOOL	
NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS WORKING ON THIS FORM	32	KEYPORT CENTRAL SCH, COMMUNICATIONS HS, RABBITAN HS, INGEION INC., KEYPORT ENVIRO COMMISSION, KEYPORT BOROUGH COUNCIL	
BEACH SWEEP VOLUNTEER INFORMATION Teams of two are encouraged			
VOLUNTEER 1		VOLUNTEER 2	
Name: _____		Name: 8 BLACK BAGS 30LB = 240	
Street Address: _____		Street Address: 1 1/2 55 GAL RECYCLE BINS = 90	
City, State, Zip: _____		City, State, Zip: OTHER MISC LARGE ITS 125	
Phone: () _____		Phone: () TOTAL 455	
Email: _____		Email: _____	
BRAND NAMES Please list the brand names and items		MOST UNUSUAL ITEMS FOUND	
MODELO, BUDWEISER, CORONA, 7-11, BUD LITE		BABY WIPES, FULLY INTACT FISHING LURE, MOCKING FLOAT + POLE	
COMMENTS/OBSERVATIONS about the cleanup (including entangled animals)			
LOTS OF CAPS + PLASTIC STRAWS, NEEDS TO BE A BETTER WAY - START IN THE WATER WITH A FINE MESH NET. THEN MOVE TRASH ON TO BEACH			

TIPS FOR A SUCCESSFUL SWEEP:

- Be careful with sharp objects
- Respect wildlife
- Wear gloves
- Do not lift heavy objects
- Stay off dunes
- Have fun!

BLACK BAGS ARE FOR GARBAGE WHITE BAGS ARE FOR RECYCLABLES

Volunteers can reduce the use of plastic bags by bringing their own bucket or reusable bag for trash collection.

Please return this Data Card to a Beach Captain or mail it to:
CLEAN OCEAN ACTION, 49 Avenel Blvd., Long Branch, NJ 07740



732-872-0111
CleanOceanAction.org
info@CleanOceanAction.org
49 Avenel Boulevard
Long Branch, NJ 07740

Clean Ocean Action is a 501(c)(3)
tax exempt nonprofit organization.



#COABeachSweeps

Printed on 100% recycled paper.



Make a tally mark on the line for each item found. Total the tallies in the box provided.

Most commonly found items are highlighted in orange.

Example:

VOLUNTEER DATA CARD Cups ||||| 23 Tires (piece) |||| (whole) 11 7 2

PLASTIC

Bags and Wrappers:

Food, Candy Wrappers/Bags 204

Shells/Shopping Bags 35

Dog Waste Bags 3

Other Bags 18

Bottles:

Beverage/Soda Bottles 75

Other Bottles/Jugs 64

Bottle Caps/Lids 1290

Cap Rings 78

Cigarettes

Tobacco 328

Lighters 8

Packaging 3

Clear Ties 88

E-Cigarette Cartridges/Caps/Pens 22

Fishing:

Bait Bags/Containers 1

Line (tangle) 6 Line (piece) 4

Lures, Floats 7

Nets 2

Food Takeout:

Beverage Cups 45

Forks, Knives, Spoons 23

Food Lids 35

Straws/Stirrers 108

Takeout Containers 10

Health/Hygiene Products:

Cotton Swab Sticks 27

Dental Floss Picks 1

Diapers 1

Disposable Wipes 8

Syringes 38

Tampon Applicators 1

Miscellaneous:

Light Sticks 1 Pens 14

Pieces 97

Ribbon/Tape (no balloon) 4

Rope 6

6-Pack Holders 3

Sheeting 2

Shotgun Shells 1

Strapping Bands 2

Toys 2

Other Plastics (specify) EGGS-4, ICEBOX-1 49

FOAM PLASTIC

Building/Dock Material 1

Cups 4

Packaging Materials 21

Pieces 169

Plates 3 Trays 1

Takeout Containers 8

Other Foam Plastic (specify) BALL, NERF ARROWS-2 180

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

Disposable Face Masks 1

Reusable Face Masks 1

Disposable Gloves 5

BALLOONS & RUBBER

Balloons

Mylar/Plastic 2

With String/Ribbon 1

Rubber/Latex 1

With String/Ribbon 1

Condoms 2 Rubber Bands 1

Reusable Gloves (Tally disposable under PPE) 1

Tires (piece) 4 (whole) 1

Other Rubber (specify) MOUTH GUARD, GLOVE 3

METAL

Batteries (car) 1 (other) 1

Bottle Caps 3

Cans

Beverage Cans 112

Other Cans 1

Fishing: (hooks) 1 (sinkers) 1

Foil 11

Nails 1

Wire 1

Pieces 1

Pop Tabs 1

Other Metal (specify) PIPE-1 STRAP-1 5

PAPER

Beverage Cartons/Boxes 2

Cardboard 4

Cups 7

Newspaper/Magazines 1

Paper Bags 1

Pieces 12

Plates 1

Other Paper (specify) NAPKIN-2 5

CLOTH

Blankets/Sheets/Towels 2

Clothing (specify) SOCK, HOODIE 3

Masks (see PPE section)

Shoes/Sandals 3

String (no balloon) 7

Other Cloth (specify) RAG-1 3

WOOD

Ice Cream Spoon/Sticks 3

Lumber Pieces 2

Pallets 1

Other Wood (specify) LIMB 1

GLASS

Bottles/Jars:

Beverage Bottles 50

Other Bottles/Jars 3

Pieces 573

Other Glass (specify) CERAMIC-12 13



1. Scoop the litter box daily. Never flush cat waste! The litter material can clog sewage system pipes and damage septic systems. Also, some of cat waste may contain a parasite, *T.Gondii*, which is very dangerous to humans and marine health, and cannot be removed during wastewater treatment. To reduce exposure, change litter once daily to minimize the risk of potential infection, as well as reduce odor. Cat litter and waste should be collected, sealed in a bag, and disposed in the trash.



2. Don't let them "go" outside. Studies show that feces can contaminate local waterways. They also may poop or pee in your or your neighbors' gardens or sandboxes. Cats also harm and kill wildlife. To protect water quality and wildlife, leash, supervise or prevent your cat from wandering outside.

3. Use bio-degradable or environmentally-friendly kitty litter products, such as litter from recycled newspaper, wood shavings or sawdust. Use odor control products, such as baking soda.

4. Flea the use of chemicals. Consult with a veterinarian for safe flea and tick treatments.

5. Upcycle household materials. Use old blankets and towels as pet beds; convert old socks and leashes into toys; construct wood and carpet scraps into scratching posts. Be creative!

6. Ice melting products contain salt and can harm your pet if ingested. These chemicals can also contaminate local water bodies. Instead of salt based ice melts, purchase eco-friendly and pet-friendly products that contain carbonyl diamide and glycol admixture or acetates. Protect your cat's paws with booties or wash them regularly.

7. Chemical fertilizer, herbicides, and pesticides used for lawn care have been shown to increase the risk of certain cancers in pets. Use natural lawn-care products or products that are least toxic. *See COA's 10 Tips for Lawn and Garden.*

8. Give new life to lightly used cat beds or toys. Donate them to animal shelters or rescue groups.

9. Consumer power. Buy pet food in bulk and in recyclable or biodegradable packaging. Buying in bulk reduces waste and costs. When buying toys or bedding look for products that are made from recycled materials.

10. Adopt. Visit your local shelter for a family pet. Not only are you giving a pet a home, but you may also reduce the number of feral cats. Also, make sure your cat is spayed or neutered. Do not feed feral cats. Instead, call the local rescue group.

Nonpoint source or "pointless" pollution is the #1 cause of coastal water pollution resulting from stormwater runoff that carries litter, pet waste, fertilizers, pesticides, soil, and waste from leaky sewage systems into waterways. Every time it rains, polluted stormwater travels to the nearest storm drain or waterbody that ultimately drains to the ocean. People can easily become the solution to pollution. By making small changes we can make our ocean fishable, swimmable, and healthy.



www.CleanOceanAction.org
Info@CleanOceanAction.org
49 Avenel Blvd, Long Branch, NJ 07740
732-872-0111



10 TIPS FOR Lawn & Garden

1. Reduce the size of your lawn. Grass lawns are high maintenance, expensive, and add to run-off problems. Minimize lawn area and paved surfaces, and plant native plants.

2. Enjoy a healthy and fertilizer-free yard. Avoid using fertilizers to reduce polluted runoff. Test soil to be sure fertilizer is needed and to select an appropriate regimen. If you must fertilize, use slow-release nitrogen or organic fertilizer minimally when weather is warm.

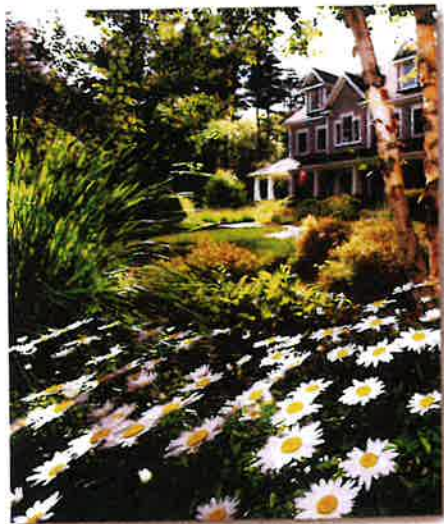
3. Aerate your soil and remove dead leaves by raking to strengthen the lawn.

4. Cut it & leave it. Leave grass clippings on the lawn as a natural fertilizer. Mow high and often to reduce stress on grass and retain moisture.

5. Water in the early morning and only when the soil is dry. Water roots and reduce the frequency of watering. Use moisture sensors if you use auto sprinklers. Cultivate and mulch your gardens to fortify soil and help retain its moisture.

6. Install rain barrels at your house downspouts to reuse rain water and save money.

7. A rain garden is a low maintenance, eco-friendly, and beautiful way to reduce storm-water volume and prevent pollution while averting soil erosion.



8. Start a compost pile. Leaves and garden waste, as well as food waste (except meat, fish, and citrus products), can be used to create a natural, nutrient-rich fertilizer.

9. Avoid chemical pesticides or

herbicides. Chemicals applied to the lawn or garden flow into waterways causing pollution and degrading water quality. Pheromone traps and biological non-toxic controls are safer and healthier for everyone.

10. Plant native vegetation and trees. They absorb more water and are less maintenance. A naturally vegetated buffer or area of native plantings, especially along waterways, filters pollutants.

A Homeowner's Guide to New Jersey's Fertilizer Law

Consumer lawn fertilizer sold or used in NJ must have at least 20% of its nitrogen in "slow-release" form and cannot contain phosphorous, with some exceptions.

The law prohibits fertilizer application from November 15th - March 1st or any other time the ground is frozen.

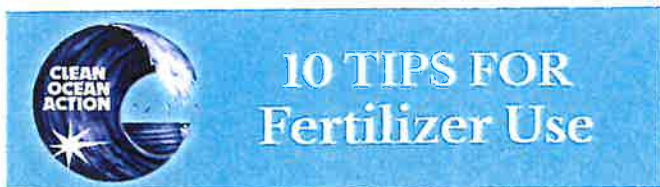
It is prohibited for fertilizer to be applied within 25 ft. of waterways, before heavy rains, or on impervious surfaces. If you use a lawn service, be sure they are certified.

Nonpoint source or "pointless" pollution is the #1 cause of coastal water pollution resulting from stormwater runoff that carries litter, pet waste, fertilizers, pesticides, soil, and waste from leaky sewage systems into waterways. Every time it rains, polluted stormwater travels to the nearest storm drain or waterbody that ultimately drains to the ocean. People can easily become the solution to pollution. By making small changes we can make our ocean fishable, swimmable, and healthy.



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New Jersey passed the nation's toughest fertilizer law, which reduces the amount of pollution entering waterways. NJ is the first state to limit both the nitrogen and phosphorous content of all lawn-care fertilizer products sold at retailers and to regulate the use of these fertilizers by consumers and professionals.

What You Need to Know

Content of Fertilizer Bag:

- Consumer lawn fertilizer sold or used in NJ must have at least 20% of its nitrogen in "slow-release" form. Consumers are urged to purchase fertilizers with the highest content of "slow-release" nitrogen.
- Phosphorus is banned from lawn fertilizer with some exceptions.
- Certain exemptions apply, for more details see cleanoceanaction.org.

Best Management Practices:

- Fertilizer application is prohibited from November 15th - March 1st or any other time the ground is frozen. (Certified/Professional fertilizer applicators can apply until December 1st if the ground is not frozen.)
- For 1,000 sq ft, 0.7 lbs of water-soluble-nitrogen and 0.9 lbs of total nitrogen is allowed per application. The total amount applied within a year is limited to 3.2 lbs of nitrogen.
- It is prohibited to apply fertilizer within 25 feet of waterways, before heavy rains, or on impervious surfaces.
- All lawn care providers applying fertilizer must be certified; for a list see profact.rutgers.edu and click on "Certified Applicators."
- The law exempts commercial farms and golf courses, but grounds keepers must be trained or certified to apply fertilizer to a golf course.



Frequently Asked Questions

Is the law the same for homeowners and professionals?

No. Professionals must be trained or certified, and there are some differences in application rates and times.

What is slow-release nitrogen? Slow-release nitrogen is an organic or coated form that becomes available to plants over time. Fast release nitrogen, or water soluble nitrogen, is immediately available to plants. Excess nitrogen can burn plants. It can also spread to runoff or groundwater during rain or irrigation.

Does my lawn need fertilizer?

No. Check out Clean Ocean Action's *10 Tips for Lawn and Garden* for actions homeowners can take to keep their



yards healthy and fertilizer free. Homeowners should keep soil uncompacted and leave grass clippings on the lawn.

Who enforces the law?

The Department of Agriculture oversees the content of fertilizer for compliance. County and local entities may fine professionals according to the law. Towns need to adopt a municipal ordinance to enforce the law and fine non-professionals who are not compliant with the Fertilizer Law.

What do you do if you see someone violating the law?

If possible, ask if they've heard of the fertilizer law and explain it to them. If that's not possible, contact your county health department or town official.



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CLEAN
OCEAN
ACTION

10 TIPS FOR DOG OWNERS

Dog waste contains many types of bacteria, parasites, and nutrients that degrade water quality and adversely impact human health. One gram of dog waste on average can contain 23 million fecal coliform bacteria. Collect and dispose pet waste appropriately; it is required by law and helps keep harmful bacteria from our waterways.



1. Scoop the poop.

Dispose wrapped waste in the trash or flush unwrapped waste down a toilet. Flushing is preferred, as it goes to a wastewater treatment facility. You can also invest in a pet waste digester that acts as an environmentally-friendly doggy septic tank.

2. Never leave your bag behind. Always properly dispose of your pet's waste, whether that means taking it home or using a nearby trash can. Never throw a dog waste bag into a stormwater drain or in a brush pile.

3. Ice melting products can harm your pet. These salt-containing chemicals can also contaminate local water bodies. Use pet-friendly and salt-free ice melts and use only recommended quantities. Protect your dog's paws and wash them regularly.

4. Chemical fertilizer, herbicides, and pesticides used for lawn care have been shown to increase the risk of certain cancers in pets. Use natural lawn-care products or products that are least toxic. See COA's *10 Tips for Lawn and Garden*.

5. Consumer power. Buy earth-friendly pet food in bulk and in recyclable or biodegradable packaging. Research to ensure your dog's food is sustainably harvested. When buying toys or bedding look for products made from recycled materials.

6. Upcycle household materials. Use old blankets and towels as beds; convert old socks and leashes into toys. Be creative but also keep your dog's safety in mind.

7. Keep a tight leash. To save wildlife keep your dog on a leash. Check the leash ordinance in your municipality to make sure you and your dog are obeying the law.

8. Keep your pet squeaky green and clean. Bathe your pet indoors to prevent runoff into your local waterway. Wash with biodegradable or sulfate-free and phosphate-free products.

9. Flee the use of chemicals. Consult with a veterinarian for safe flea and tick treatments.

10. Join the Sandy Paws Walk Fur Clean Water. Participating dogs and their owners can protect waterways. Visit COAsandypaws.org to learn more.



Nonpoint source or "pointless" pollution is the #1 cause of coastal water pollution resulting from stormwater runoff that carries litter, pet waste, fertilizers, pesticides, soil, and waste from leaky sewage systems into waterways. Every time it rains, polluted stormwater travels to the nearest storm drain or waterbody that ultimately drains to the ocean. People can easily become the solution to pollution. By making small changes we can make our ocean fishable, swimmable, and healthy.



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CLEAN OCEAN ACTION

10 Tips Series

Tips for Pet Owners

1. Scoop the poop. Pet waste contains bacteria, parasites, and nutrients that can degrade water quality. Collecting pet waste is required by law.

- **For Dogs:** Dispose wrapped waste in the trash or flush unwrapped waste down a toilet. Flushing is preferred; it goes to a wastewater treatment facility.

- **For Cats:** Never flush cat waste; it contains pathogens and bacteria that can harm marine life. The litter can clog sewage treatment facilities and damage septic systems. Litter and waste should be sealed in a bag and thrown in the garbage.

2. Use bio-degradable kitty litter made of renewable products. Use baking soda to control odor.

3. Ice melting products can harm your pet, and can contaminate wells and local bodies of water. Use pet friendly and salt-free products rather than salt-based ice melting products.

4. Use eco-friendly cleaning products. Some cleaning products can adversely affect pet skin, coat, eyes, nose, and throat. Use naturally derived and eco-friendly cleaning products.

5. Chemical fertilizer, herbicides, and pesticides used on lawns have been shown to increase the risk of various cancers in pets. See COA's *10 Tips for Lawn and Garden*.



6. Consumer power.

Buy all-natural pet food and kitty litter in bulk and in recyclable or biodegradable packaging.



7. Upcycle household materials.

Use old blankets and towels as beds; convert old socks and leashes into toys; construct old wood and carpet into scratching posts for your cat.

8. Keep a tight leash.

Prevent your cat from wandering outside and keep your dog on a leash to protect native wildlife.

9. Keep your pet squeaky green. Bathe your pet indoors to prevent runoff into your local waterway. Use biodegradable or sulfate and phosphate-free grooming products.

10. Flea the use of chemicals. Consult with a veterinarian and/or visit greenpaws.org for safe flea and tick treatments.

Nonpoint source or "pointless" pollution is the #1 cause of coastal water pollution resulting from stormwater runoff that carries litter, pet waste, fertilizers, pesticides, soil, and waste from leaky sewage systems into waterways. Every time it rains, polluted stormwater travels to the nearest storm drain or waterbody that ultimately drains to the ocean. People can easily become the solution to pollution. By making small changes we can make our ocean fishable, swimmable, and healthy.



For more information and the complete
10 Tip Series visit us at: CleanOceanAction.org

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Connect the drops

-  **Prevent** pollution. Never litter. Maintain yards and gardens without chemicals and fertilizers. Pick up pet waste.
-  **Protect** waterways. Plant native plants and rain-gardens to absorb and filter stormwater runoff.
-  **Volunteer.** Organize or participate in a community cleanup to prevent litter from entering waterways.
-  **Conserve** energy. Walk, bike, or carpool. Turn off appliances and electronics when not in use. Buy compact-fluorescent light (CFL) bulbs and energy efficient appliances. Burning fossil fuels causes climate change and threatens coasts.
-  **Reduce, Reuse, Recycle.** Consume less. Invest in reusable bags, water bottles, and food containers. Recycle everything from soda cans, CFLs, plastic cups, and cell phones to old clothing and household goods.



www.cleanoceanaction.org

Clean Ocean Action -
a leading regional and
national voice working
to protect your waterways
using science, law, research,
education, and citizen action.



Our successful campaigns -



- **Improve** programs and laws that protect public health at your local swimming beaches.
- **Reduce** plastics and litter that pollute waterways, spoil beaches, and harm or kill marine life including turtles, whales, seals, birds, and fish.
- **Protect** your coasts from oil and gas drilling in the ocean, including from Maine to Florida.
- **Work** to establish the nation's first Clean Ocean Zone to start a national chain reaction for all coasts.
- **Reduce** toxins in waterways to ensure fish and shellfish are free of pollution and safe to eat.
- **Educate** and motivate citizens from the small to the tall.



**Connect the drops! Find out more and
be the solution to water pollution
...here and everywhere.**

**IF YOU USE TOO MUCH
FERTILIZER ON YOUR LAWN,
YOU MIGHT AS WELL
FERTILIZE THE STREAM.**



**Rain washes pollutants into storm drains which
flows directly into our streams, lakes,
rivers and the ocean.
So what can you do?**



www.cleanwaterNJ.org

WHAT'S THE PROBLEM WITH FERTILIZERS AND PESTICIDES?

Fertilizers help plants grow by adding nutrients to the soil. Pesticides (including herbicides) are any toxic substances used to kill insects, animals or plants. If fertilizers or pesticides are improperly applied, they can wash off your lawn or garden into storm drains and directly to our lakes, rivers, and the ocean. These chemicals can contaminate your drinking water, as well as kill fish, wildlife and plants. Too much fertilizer washing into a lake can cause algae to bloom in lakes, which will affect swimming, fishing and boating.

YOU CAN HELP!

- Test your soil at your County's Rutgers Cooperative Research and Extension office, or buy a self-test kit.
- Use natural, slow-release nitrogen, or low phosphorus fertilizers.
- Look into natural alternatives to fertilizers and pesticides, such as integrated pest management (IPM).
- If you need to use fertilizers or pesticides, follow the instructions on the label on how to correctly apply.
- Do not apply fertilizers or pesticides before it rains. This will not allow the fertilizers or pesticides to penetrate through the soil.
- Use drought-resistant native plants in gardens; they require less fertilizer and less water.
- Use a mulching mower instead of bagging grass clippings.

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE ABOUT CLEAN WATER?

Stormwater pollution is one of the greatest threats to New Jersey's clean water supply. Clean water provides access to safe drinking water, places for recreation, commercial opportunities, healthy wildlife habitats, and adds beauty to our landscape. Rain washes pollution from streets, parking lots, and lawns into storm drains, then directly to our streams, rivers, lakes and the ocean.

Did you know more than 60 percent of water pollution comes from things like motor oil, fertilizers, pet waste and detergents? By sharing the responsibility and making small, easy changes in our daily lives, we can keep common pollutants out of stormwater.



www.cleanwaterNJ.org



Thanks to the Washington State Department of Ecology,
King County, and the cities of Bellevue, Seattle and Tacoma.

Safety First

**Be curious, not careless.
Stay safe, stay dry (mostly),
and look out for one another.**

What is a Watershed?

A watershed is all the land that drains to a common body of water, like a stream, river, lake, or bay. Everything on the land is connected through water!

Why It Matters

Water doesn't stop at town lines! What happens in one area can affect communities and ecosystems miles away. Protecting our waterways takes regional cooperation, because we're all connected by the same water.

Be a Community Scientist!

Citizen science happens when community members collect data and make observations that support real scientific research. It connects people with nature and empowers everyone to contribute to understanding and protecting the environment.



Scan the QR Code to upload your photos and/or share your data with us!

Would you want to sign up to describe the stream once a month?

☒ Email us at monmouthwaters@gmail.com!



Know Your Stream

Take a moment to observe the stream in front of you. Look upstream and downstream. What do you notice?

Observe only! Please do not enter the water or disturb the ecosystem.

The Northern Monmouth Watershed Alliance is not responsible for participant actions.

Observation Prompts:

- **Vegetation:** In or along the stream?
- **Erosion:** Visible on the banks?
- **Flow:** Is the water moving or still? How strong is the flow?
- **Size:** Approximate width and depth. Does the water fill the streambed?
- **Substrate:** Is the soil sandy, silty, or clay-like?
- **Debris:** Any trash or human impact visible?
- **Access:** Is the stream easy for people to reach?
- **Wildlife:** What animals or signs of life do you observe?
- **Land Use:** Who seems to own or manage the land (resident, town, county)?
- **Foot Traffic:** Are there paths or signs of frequent visitors?

Personal Reflection:

- Do you live near this stream?
- What changes or patterns have you noticed over time?
- What interests you most about this stream?

Please note: the Northern Monmouth Watershed Alliance ("the Alliance") is an all-volunteer organization. Participation in this event is strictly voluntary and at your own risk. By taking part, you acknowledge that the Alliance and its members are not responsible for any injuries, losses, or damages that may occur during the event. Please exercise caution and prioritize your safety at all times.

Health and Safety Input for KEC Mtg. 10/27/25

Items marked NC remain unchanged since 9/22/25 report.

Items underlined were given as verbal input at this meeting.

KUPB Hearings - 2025

Willow Recovery Center at 46-48 Hwy 36, in a facility to be developed in a renovated office building. Issues with parking, driveways, fire safety, patient retention and privacy were raised. Keyport residents in the Van Doran Street residential neighborhood voiced their concerns about the impact of this facility on their life and well being.

D1 Use Variance Positive = Hospital (multiple within 20 minutes (which lessens value of one more), Negative = Reflected in Jail like security. No public questioning of applicants experts was allowed. To be continued at the next hearing of this application.

262 First Street (NC) – Multifamily in RAD – New site plan approved requiring shed removal for more parking and improved parking circulation. **No third residential unit until sheds are gone.** Still recreation space deficiency. Presently there is no recreation-open space onsite and inadequate sight triangle at Fulton and First.

25 East Front Mixed Use 5- Story apartment project approved by the KUPB. Demolition of the

office building is underway. They have applied for a one year extension of the approved plan.

PEDESTRIAN SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (PSIP)

TAP PSIP (NC) – Crosswalks with All Way Stops on First Street and on Broadway for traffic calming. To date, no agreement on All Way Stops and no schedule. At the August 2024 KBC meeting, Borough leadership indicated that First Street residents should petition the County in support of implementation of the TAP PSIP with its “All Way” stops and crosswalks

. The petition was signed by dozens of residents who access First Street from surrounding areas. Based on discussions at the January KBC meeting, **KEC needs to send letters to the KBC, the Keyport Police Chief and County leadership documenting KEC traffic study and support for the PSIP plan and the First Street residents’ petition. Cross walks not listed as a Capitol investment for the next 6 years in the 2025 approved municipal budget. This project will be impacted by water/sewer upgrades program.**

Saving Keyport Downtown Waterfront Park

The approved proposal to establish 21 lots from Borough owned property along American Legion Drive was denied by the County judge. The judge indicated action needs to be

taken by the KBC to address this issue. The BA has not generated the notice to the KUPB that the KBC wants to withdraw the application.

Fire Protection (NC) - KFD operations have been consolidated into two firehouses. Vacated firehouses are for sale with funds going to KFD, the property owners. KFD response **times have improved.**

HARBOR ENVIRONMENT

ACE Team (NC) from Newport News Va. is working on storm protection plans for Raritan Bay communities. A similar study was implemented for Union Beach resulted in a 17 ft. high sand barrier. ACE Staff introduced themselves and the study plan at a Townhall Zoom meeting on 6/10/25. They were informed that Keyport was a port containing 900 boat slips and racks. This port data appeared to come as a surprise. Did not get the impression that they had ever visited Keyport with its extensive bulkhead structures preventing erosion of the waterfront bluffs which contain 100-year-old homes.

ACE has contracted a survey team to map the bottom of the Keyport harbor. The team appeared to be generating data

from the bulkheads to a couple of hundred feet out into the bay. Mapping occurred on Saturday 9/6/25.

Aeromarine Landfill– KBC Redevelopment Initiatives

NJDEP initiatives (NC) – Last summer NJDEP posted signage restricting residents' activity in this area. Signage is now in disrepair. During July 2024, the Aeromarine owner, Bay Ridge Realty, was also served an NJDEP Notice of Violation for work in a riparian area without required permits.

A key environmental issue for KEC is the failure of Aeromarine owners to conduct on-going sampling in the test wells on the site and having the reports provided to the Borough. Still no update on any efforts to eliminate the continuing erosion that is silting in the adjacent bay and creek. This erosion is also exposing landfill trash. A 2024 spring low-low tide exposed more than 120 plus feet of the harbor floor in front of the bulkheads, exposing tires, logs, and trash.

Installation of an Aeromarine bulkhead along the Bayfront and the abutting Creek is required to eliminate the mud and toxins flowing from this site. Sections of the beach at this site are covered with multiple fallen trees that need to be removed prior to the next severe storm.

Severe storm protection requires bulkheads/retaining walls along creeks with banks in 2 different towns, as occurs with Chingarora creek.

Keyport Yacht Club (NC) – Last winter, KYC outsourced the storage of its small boats and floats to the Olsen's Marina site and the Keyport Towers and Marina site. As a result, the lower parking lot abutting the waterfront was available for parking cars, as required by KUPB final site plan.

No sign of site parking upgrades recently approved by KUPB. Parking on the grass continues to be the best fit with the abutting residential lots.

Browns Point Marina (BPM)– BPM has filed a revised CAFRA Waterfront Development Permit Application with the NJDEP. This application covers construction of a two-story 5,500 sq. ft. office and maintenance building, additional boat rack storage, and 2 additional 8' X 20' floating docks. The bulk of this construction is proposed for an area well below the Local Design Flood Elevation.

Standpipe and fire hydrant deficiencies being addressed with Trevor Taylor.

SITE CONTAMINATION

Mariner's Village, Browns Point Marina Contamination – (NC) Roger Miller's status report states the contaminated dirt

pile at the end of Washington St is “historic fill” to be used under the 120-unit apartment area by the EOY 2022. This action has not occurred. **KEC letter regarding contaminated fill at the north end of Washington Street is still not addressed by Borough officials.**

Kaputshy Gas Station on Broad St – On 12/16/20, NJDEP approved funding from the Hazardous Discharge Site Remediation Fund (HDSRF) to conduct a Preliminary Assessment (PA) and Site Investigation (SI). The approved costs from HDSRF is in the amount of \$44,242.

Lack of progress on this clean-up project is validation of the need to reactivate the Brownfield Development Area team to monitor hazardous sites to procure clean-up, funding and to ensure timely implementation of the cleanup.

Ballards have been installed in the front of the building on the old gas tank area. The removal of these tanks is being funded by the BDA.

Keyport Towers and Marina - This Tower project is not listed as a Pending Case in the KUPB file as of this report date. This project, in a SFHA, will require a Floodplain Development Permit approved by the Borough Floodplain Manager. Piles of dirt along the fence abutting West Front Street have been removed. Notice for an Environmental Study and Remediation Activities was posted, 8/3/22. Was the dirt related to site clean-up and where was it disposed of? **It is suggested that Borough Officials request all the**

LSRP reports generated by this investigation. There are significantly fewer boats being stored at this site.

FLOODING

Mystic at Keyport/Deputy Ventures (NC) - The NJDEP issued CAFRA permit requires these homes, in a CHHA, be built on piles with breakaway walls, etc. Reportedly updated architectural plans have been generated. The KBC update indicates that documents were accepted by the engineer. The developer has failed to request and receive one-year extensions of the KUPB approved variances in alignment with the Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance (FDPO) and a KUPB Condition of Approval (COA) require the property Deeds advise buyers of the flood risk at this SFHA site. A Floodplain Development Permit is required prior to construction. The 1/13/24 high tide put the site under more than a foot of water, flooding the street and garage areas of dwellings on the east side of Beers Street. Despite the flooding history at this site, the FDPO, the COA, and the KBC update documents **indicate Deeds with declaration covenants and restrictions are under legal review.**

Flooding Due to Filled Drainage Ditch – (NC) – No update regarding continuing wetland infringement in the area behind Saint Peter's Place. No action by the Borough regarding this issue. Filling in this wetland area and its floodway between Beers and Main has contributed to flooding on Main, Monroe, and Broad by the schools, and Atlantic by the

ballfield (flooding basements in multifamily buildings across from the ballfield).

Port 149 Bulkhead (NC) – Abandoned Bulkhead project remains in disarray. It requires removal of multiple power transformers by JCPL before additional work on the last 50 feet of bulkhead by the bridge can restart. The new bulkhead structure is not presently built to permitted specs that require: 1.) a 10 ft. wide concrete splash pad/sidewalk and the ground elevated to the top of bulkhead, 2.) elimination of ~5 ft. of vinyl sheeting patched on top of old steel sheeting, and 3.) old piles and sheeting are still in place for the last ~50 feet before the bridge. West Front Street near the Fishery flooded during the high tide 1/13/24. The Keyport Fishery is required to manage the bulkhead consistent with state regulations.

Firemen's Park Bulkhead

Firemen's Park future bulkhead return has been designed to deal with lack of Port 149 bulkhead with ground elevation to top of bulkhead. The planned multimillion dollar Firemen Park bulkhead will not eliminate any Beers Street Basin flooding, and only creates fewer flooded parking lot events and parking spaces.

FP Firemen's Park Bulkhead – CAFRA application submitted to NJDEP.

Borough Bond Ordinance was approved for \$4M to fund elevation of the bulkhead and parking lot. This elevation increase will only deal with tidal flooding of this parking lot, not a 100-year storm. There is no fix for American Legion Drive flooding by the Post Office fence abutting this road.

East Third St Flooding - (NC) – At the 7/15/25 KBC meeting a Third Street resident spoke about continuing street and building flooding as occurred on 7/14/25. The drainage-ditch and floodway along the Henry Hudson Trail (HHT), between Atlantic and Manchester, flows to the pipe under the HHT just east of Manchester Street instead of continuing down the floodway to Chingarora Creek. This 20-inch pipe under the HHT dumps water into the street below the HHT, resulting in flooding of homes on East Third and East Fifth Streets. Hudson Pointe is now approved to discharge their stormwater into the pit abutting this pipe under the HHT, which will further intensify the flooding issue on East Third and East Fifth. This stormwater should flow down the HHT drainage-ditch past Fulton to Chingarora Creek.

Development at the Hudson Pointe site has started. However, the HHT drainage ditch east of Manchester has not been cleared to allow this floodway to empty into Chingarora Creek. Construction of single-family and duplex homes is well underway.

Beach Park Outfall Pipe (NC) – The Beach Park 30-inch Outfall Pipe problem with the significantly restricted outfall pipe capacity due to the duckbill on the end of the pipe remains unresolved. Without a pump to push the water through the duckbill flooding continues. Replacing the duckbill with a flapper valve has been done in other towns. No fix will lead to continued flooding of Division Street and East Front Street basins. The 6/14/24 and 7/14/25 intense rainstorms were the latest occurrences of this flooding problem. **Need to follow up on cost of a flapper valve and possible funding source. Contact Frank Palone for possible help.**

Beach Park Pavilion upgrade to be rebid per Resolution at the November KBC meeting.

Developer's Sites in SFHA

- Mariner's Village in CHHA
- 34 West Front Street in CHHA
- 333 First Street townhouses in CHHA
- Raritan Cove abutting CHHA