



NJ Friends of Clearwater Newsletter

December 2009

Volume 2, Number 12

New Jersey Friends of
Clearwater
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07701

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Upcoming NJFC Events and
Meetings

Sunday, December 6
General Meeting, 2PM
Eatontown Community Ctr
72 Broad Street, Eatontown

Monday, December 21,
Environmental Cmte Mtg.,
Cobblestone Restaurant,
Eatontown

Board of Directors Meeting,
Monday, December 28
Eatontown Public Library

For more info on NJFC
meetings go to:

[http://www.mcclearwater.org/
calendar_New/calendar.php](http://www.mcclearwater.org/calendar_New/calendar.php)

**ANNUAL
MEMBERSHIP
DUES
RENEWAL
NOW DUE!**

NJFC Membership Info:
[www.mcclearwater.org/docs/
membership-form.htm](http://www.mcclearwater.org/docs/membership-form.htm)

END OF THE YEAR?

By Lynn Humphrey

Here it is December 2009, which is the end of the year for some! But for NJ Friends of Clearwater it's a beginning. It's time to tell the world who we are. Time to make decisions on who will sit on the Board of Directors. That's right, it's election time and we hope you will be at the General Meeting on Sunday, December 6th. It all gets under way at 2pm at the Eatontown Community Center. There's also a Pot Luck Dinner Event and a Celebration. Let's make 2010 a year to remember for NJFC!! Let's get all of NJ to know who we are and what we do.

ON ELECTION DAY: Please vote for up to 5 nominees (this would include the names placed in nomination by the Board of Directors AND any possible write-in candidates). VOTE CAREFULLY – A ballot with MORE than the maximum 5 will be disqualified. ALSO, if you decide to change a vote, make sure your change(s) very clear or the vote may incorrectly count your choices.

- | | | |
|--|---|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jim Franchi | <input type="checkbox"/> Barbara Charlton | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> George Moffatt | <input type="checkbox"/> Jack Charlton | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Andrea Spinelli | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |

The normal board rotation is one half one year and one half (+1) the next. One ballot per member and as many separate ballots constituting the family unit. To be counted, ballots must be at the post office by Saturday, December 5, 2009. See Mid-November Special Ballot Newsletter for details.

REMEMBER, YOU MUST BE A PAID-UP MEMBER TO VOTE. YOU CAN MAIL IN YOUR DUES OR BRING THEM TO THE MEETING. DUES are:

Individual \$25; Family \$35; Student/Senior \$10.

NJFC Membership Forms and Info: www.mcclearwater.org/docs/membership-form.htm

Tour of Award-Winning Green School

Monday, Dec. 7, 2009 6:30pm

115 Corlies Avenue (Rt 33), Neptune City, NJ 07753--(732) 776-2200

This Leadership in Energy and Design (LEED) Platinum-level Midtown Community Elementary School is the greenest of green schools. With geothermal heating/cooling, solar passive & electrical energy,



sensor-driven lighting, a roof garden, and more--this school is a hotbed of ideas that serves as the central element in cross-curricular lessons in science, arts, biology, sociology, and math. Need headcount. RSVP to: info@mcclearwater.org.

Directions: Corner of Atkins and Corlies Avenues near Memorial Drive.

Board of Directors
President: Chrissie
Goedkoop
Vice President: Ed
Dlugosz
Treasurer: Tim Johnson
Secretary: Joellen Lundy
Ben Forest
Jim Franchi
Andrea Spinelli
Marylin Johnson
George Moffatt
Lynn Humphrey

Article Deadline for the
January issue of NJFC
Newsletter is Monday,
December 21

E-mail your articles to
newsletter@mcclearwater.org
By the deadline stated
above, please use the
phrase "MC Clearwater
article" in the subject of
your e-mail

NJFC Membership Info:
[www.mcclearwater.org/do
cs/membership-form.htm](http://www.mcclearwater.org/docs/membership-form.htm)

If any of the links do not
work, cut and paste the
full URL into the address
box.

Fort Monmouth Contamination Battle Moves Forward

By Edward Dlugosz

Clearwater has been battling FM's draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) and its supporting document Environmental Assessment (EA) since last spring. "I don't feel that the town can afford to go forward without understanding all of the environmental impacts, all of the remedies and the time frames and the cost that will be involved," said NJFC VP and Eatontown Environment (EEC) Chairman Ed Dlugosz. He presented the facts and issues to a Eatontown Borough Council Workshop on November 4, 2009 and was successful in persuading the Council to pass a formal resolution opposing the FM finding and calling for an full-fledged public Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). [See full Atlanticville/ Hub Workshop report, "[Army's Findings On Fort Contamination Criticized](#)" by Daniel Howley.]

This followed a stand taken—at the October 2009 FMERPA Environmental Advisory Committee meeting—by EAC members from Eatontown, Oceanport, and Tinton Falls and other members of the public who were unanimous in their rejection of the EA/FNSI and in favor of the EIS and an open meeting to discuss the issues. These two events preceded the release of formal critical comments on the EA/FNSI by Clearwater, Clean Ocean Action, EEC and Birdsall Engineering, Tinton Falls, Monmouth County Board of Health, NJDEP, and numerous members of the public sent to the Army Installation Command at Fort Monmouth in May 2009. For a look at Clearwater's and other formal comments, click: <http://www.monmouth.army.mil/C4ISR/brac/ea/ea.shtml>

On another battlefield, two Clearwater members Ben Forest and Ed Dlugosz participated in walking and riding tour of the Landfill Streambank Stabilization project and the Underground Storage Tank (UST) removal project carried out by Fort Monmouth and Army Corps of Engineers (ACoE) contractors. In previous NJFC Newsletters, we've detailed our support for the need to stop the leaching of the landfill contaminants (e.g., arsenic, lead, VOCs, PCBs, PAHs, and other oil derivatives) into our watersheds by excavating contamination and capping the landfills, and stabilizing the banks. The Army has finally, after almost 10 years of erosion and 3 years of our campaigning, to capitulate but has reversed the logical process. We can report that the stabilization is almost done while the Army still dithers on the capping design and awaits funding. As reported in the Atlanticville and our earlier reports, several of the landfills are Classification Exception Areas (CEA) and/or Declaration of Environmental Restriction (DER)—meaning that the groundwater or soil is so polluted that nothing can be built upon them. A recent RAB-website posting of the Army's 5-year old report, *Classification Exception Area Information For Various Sites*, indicates that their computer modeling of those pollutants' lifecycle at 5 sites can take up to 4500 years to meet NJDEP non-residential criteria without aggressive remediation. Their natural attenuation approach that is their norm is not aggressive. See Figure 1.

The UST project is going better than expected. After initially following the guidance of their US Army Installation Command lawyers to NOT REMOVE/REMEDiate the ECP2-identified 24 USTs, the local DPW was convinced by Clearwater and a host of other critics to proceed. The count of leaking USTs [or UHOTs as FM now calls them] has now topped 50 and they're still discovering new tanks. The local DPW contractors, who are doing a conscientious job, showed us one of their newest finds, a leaking 1000 gallon tank filled with oil and water which had stained an area of greater than 60 square feet. They were still excavating the downgradient area leading to Parker Creek when we left.

When asked whether the unfunded, future Baseline Ecological Evaluation (BEE) would assess the sediment of the Parker, Oceanport, and other streams, Ms. Wanda Green, spokesperson for the RAB, said that it would. When further

questioned regarding the extent of the assessment, she said that FM and NJDEP would document it in the BEE Work Plan that is being finalized. Asked if a draft copy would be available to RAB members (Mr. Dlugosz is a RAB member) she maintained that not until finalized. Same old story!

Site	Acres	Shelf Life	Expiration Date	Concentration	NJDEP GWQC	NJDEP SWQS
M-12	2.1	4,500	6504 AD			
Lead		4,500		52.90	8.00	0.02
Arsenic		150		82.90	10.00	5.00
M-18	4.1	>1000	after 3004 AD			
Benzene		5.4		29.18	1.00	0.15
Arsenic		1000		221.00	10.00	0.017
Cadmium		1000		630.70	4.00	10.00
Chromium		1000		1344.00	100.00	160.00
Lead		1000		836.00	10.00	5.00
FTMM-56 Bldg 80/166		>1000	after 3004 AD			
a-Chlordane				1.63	0.50	0.00
g-Chlordane		20		2.72	0.50	0.00
Arsenic		600		71.60	8.00	0.02
Lead 84.1		>1000		84.10	10.00	5.00
FTMM-57 Site 108		>1000	after 3004 AD			
Arsenic	1.0	>1000		63.20	8.00	0.02
FTMM 61 Bldg 283	10.0	>210	after 2214			
Benzene		19		1009.73	1.00	0.15
Ethylbenzene		NA		1160.45	6.000	
Total Xylenes		NA		5960.77	1.00	NA
Lead		>210		33.10	10.00	5.00

Figure 1: [Classification Exception Area Information for Various Sites \(http://www.monmouth.army.mil/C4ISR/brac/oed/CEAVarioussites.pdf\)](http://www.monmouth.army.mil/C4ISR/brac/oed/CEAVarioussites.pdf)

Traveling Environmental Festival Update

By George Moffatt

The Traveling Environmental Festival (TEF) has gotten off to an early start this school year, when we visited two Long Branch schools in November. Meanwhile, other Monmouth and Ocean County schools are being lined up for Spring '10. About 1,300 grammar school students participated in the interactive program during the Fall '08-Spring '09 school year. Children love the program and teachers praise it's academically solid, hands-on approach.

The most recent schools were Clark School and Anastasia School, both in Long Branch. A total of about 240 students attended the presentations, including a presentation tailored for special education students. We've been invited back to both schools this Spring to reach other classes, and one visiting science teacher who saw the program wants us at her school, as well.

TEF continues its informal relationship with Brookdale Community College's Science Field Station at Sandy Hook, where eight science students have signed on this semester as TEF instructors. This Spring, we expect several more students to join the instructors' list. In all about 24 BCC science students have been trained for TEF, using our 110-page TEF Instructors' Manual that has been praised by science teachers.

Funds to provide the student instructors with stipends come from municipal environmental commission grants, plus two generous grants from Whole Foods and from Wachovia Bank (now Wells Fargo) and the Lakewood Blue Claws. At the current level of about 10 schools per school year, we can run TEF for at least three more years. We also are seeking additional grants and looking at ways to expand our informal relationship with Brookdale.

We are concentrating on bringing the in-school, one-hour program to urban schools, where funding for environmental field trips is tight, and where many children have little knowledge of pollution problems. We've presented to up to five classes in a school day, involving as many as 150 students. In order to maximize

the impact of our grant funds, we require that we present to at least three classes at a school, which guarantees that we reach a minimum of 90 to 100 students.

Our program begins with a 10-minute overview of pollution problems affecting the land, sea, and air. This portion includes the water cycle, food chain, scarcity of fresh water, and our dependence on the sea for food, oxygen and fresh water.

The children then rotate through three hands-on, interactive stations, each taking 15 minutes. The stations include:

* Food chain – Students use eye-droppers and wet slides to capture and study live zooplankton and other micro-marine creatures – all part of the food chain, which they then view with a microscope projector (a tip of the hat to Jack Charlton, who grows the plankton);

* Raritan Bay – Students identify the marine life in a salt water fish tank, learn about the importance of dissolved oxygen, review local marine species through our extensive collection of shells and skeletons, discover how vertebrates and invertebrates evolve and grow, and learn why we must protect our local and ocean waters (some of the critters are supplied by BCC); and

* Littering Your Town – Students litter a three-dimensional topographical watershed model of a generic community to learn how non-point (or multi-source) pollution affects watersheds and water supplies. NPS includes overfertilizing, pesticides, oil spillage, and littering. The students love to litter. We conclude the presentation by emphasizing the importance of recycling and how we all can prevent littering.

If any club members are interested in helping run TEF, please call me, George Moffatt, at 732-544-1726 for more information.

Environmental Justice Roundtable

By Ed Dlugosz

Note: For the past 2 Clearwater Festivals we've engaged national and statewide activists, including Lois Marie Gibbs—heroine of the Love Canal, in an important dialogue about what Environmental Justice is/isn't, how to recognize it, and how we as individuals and an organization can help. Clearwater campaigned against eminent domain abuse in Long Branch is an example. Each month I will highlight a bit of history and current efforts in our communities, state, and nation. If you have a contribution, please send it to Newsletter@mcclearwater.org and we will try to publish it in the newsletter and online.

Environmental Justice Milestones—1980s-1990s:

- 1982 - Primarily African-American community in Warren County, North Carolina, rises against dumping of toxic PCB-laced soil; first nationally recognized environmental protest by people of color.
- 1983 - Congress's General Accounting Office finds that three-fourths of the hazardous waste disposal sites in eight southeastern states are in poor and African-American communities.
- 1984 - California Waste Management Board report advises governments and companies looking to site hazardous waste facilities to target small, low-income and rural communities with a high percentage of people who are old or have little education. (Los Angeles Times breaks the story to the public in 1988.)
- 1984 - In Bhopal, India, toxic fumes from pesticide manufacturing plant kill at least 6,000 people.
- 1986 - U.S. government evacuates and relocates residents of Times Beach, Missouri, after discovery of dioxin contamination.
- 1987 - The United Church of Christ's Commission for Racial Justice releases Toxic Wastes and Race in the United States, the first report to show that race is the most important factor in determining where toxic waste facilities are sited in the United States.
- 1988 - Latino grassroots group Mothers of East L.A. defeats the construction of a huge toxic waste incinerator in their community.

- 1988 - In Dilkon, Arizona, a small group of Navajo community activists spearhead a successful effort to block siting of a \$40 million toxic waste incinerator.
- 1988 - Community activists lead the Great Louisiana Toxic March and bring attention to harmful environmental conditions faced by residents of Louisiana's "Cancer Alley."
- 1989 - Morrisonville, Louisiana, a town settled in 1870 by freed slaves, is bought out and closed down due to contamination from nearby Dow Chemical vinyl factory.
- 1989 - Exxon Valdez runs aground in Alaska's Prince William Sound, spilling 11 million gallons of oil.
- 1989 - Indigenous Environmental Network, a coalition of more than 40 grassroots Indian environmental justice groups, is formed.
- 1990 - Robert Bullard's book, *Dumping in Dixie: Race, Class, and Environmental Quality*, underscores importance of race as a factor in siting unwanted toxics-producing facilities.
- 1990 - Several environmental justice leaders co-sign a widely publicized letter to the "Big 10" environmental groups accusing them of racial bias in policy development and hiring.
- 1991 - The First National People of Color Environmental Leadership Summit meets in Washington, D.C., and creates the Principles of Environmental Justice.
- 1992 - Environmental justice delegation takes part in U.N. Environmental Summit in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
- 1992 - President-elect Bill Clinton appoints environmental justice leaders Benjamin Chavis and Robert Bullard to his transition team.
- 1992 - Rep. John Lewis (D-GA) and Sen. Al Gore (D-TN) introduce the Environmental Justice Act of 1992 in Congress. The legislation fails to make it through the legislative process.
- 1992 - The National Law Journal publishes "Unequal Environmental Protection"; study shows that communities of color receive less vigorous enforcement of environmental laws.
- 1992 - The EPA releases Environmental Equity: Reducing the Risk for All Communities, one of the first far-reaching government reports on environmental justice.
- 1992 - The EPA Journal devotes its whole March/April 1992 issue to environmental justice.
- 1993 - West Harlem Environmental Action settles a lawsuit against the City of New York for \$1.1 million and receives a promise of engineering changes to decrease air pollution impacts of the North River Sewage Treatment Plant on the adjacent West Harlem community.
- 1993 - Predominantly Latino residents of Kettleman City, California, succeed in preventing siting of a toxic waste facility in their community.
- 1993 - The EPA establishes 25-member National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC), which provides recommendations to the EPA administrator on environmental justice issues.
- 1993 - Bill Clinton's EPA administrator, Carol Browner, announces that environmental justice is one of her four program priorities.
- 1993 - Rep. John Lewis (D-GA) and Sen. Max Baucus (D-MT) reintroduce the revised Environmental Justice Act of 1993. Again, it fails to pass. The act will be reintroduced several additional times during the next decade and fail.
- 1993 - The Asian-Pacific Environmental Network forms to bring an increased Asian Pacific Islander perspective to the environmental justice movement and

work with Asian Pacific Islander communities.

- 1993 - The documentary Toxic Racism is broadcast on PBS.
- 1994 - President Bill Clinton signs Executive Order 12898 directing federal agencies to identify and address disproportionately high adverse health and environmental effects of their policies or programs on low-income people and people of color.
- 1996 - New regulations require public drinking water suppliers to give customers information on the chemicals and microbes in their drinking water.
- 1999 - Foundation is laid for formation of the National Black Environmental Justice Network.

Festival Committees Reforming

The NJ Friends of Clearwater Festival is our annual open-air music and arts festival celebrating the spirit of people working and singing together for the environment. The finest in music and dance combines with environmental activism to celebrate our waterways. We need volunteers to plan and manage the upcoming 35th Annual Clearwater Festival through the following committees:

- Site
- Entertainment
- Children's Area
- Environmental Display
- Hospitality
- Concessions
- Environmental Activist
- Vendors
- Publicity
- Universal Access
- Peacekeeping
- Recycling
- Construction
- Roadies

If you liked what you saw or would like to make a change, then volunteer by

Responding to: ClearwaterFestival@mcclearwater.org or visit us at:

http://www.mcclearwater.org/docs/clearwater-festival/Volunteer_Form_Festival.pdf

Come to our January Meeting: Date/time To Be Announced (TBA)

Quote of the Month:

“Write in your heart that every day is the best day of the year”--Ralph Waldo Emerson

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!

Newsletter Information
Editorial Committee:
Ed Dlugosz, Lynn
Humphrey, Jack Charlton

PLEASE NOTE: If you would like to be removed from the NJ Friends of Clearwater Newsletter List

Please e-mail Lynn (newsletter@mcclearwater.org) with the message: “Remove from NJ Clearwater Newsletter List” in the subject box