



# NJ Friends of Clearwater Newsletter

April 2011

Volume 4, Number 4

New Jersey Friends of  
Clearwater  
P.O. Box 303  
Red Bank, New Jersey  
07701

**NEW:** Clearwater Hotline:  
**732-784-8547**  
e-mail:  
[info@njclearwater.org](mailto:info@njclearwater.org)

Website:  
[www.njclearwater.org](http://www.njclearwater.org)

Upcoming NJFC Events

Sunday, April 3  
General Meeting, 2PM  
Eatontown Community Ctr  
72 Broad Street,  
Eatontown

Sunday, April 10, 8:30AM  
Environmental Cmte Mtg.,  
Cobblestone Restaurant,  
Eatontown

Festival Mtg,  
Tuesday, April 13,  
25 Peters Pl, Red Bank

Circle of Song Sing-Along  
April 12, 6:30pm,  
United Methodist Church,  
Grand Ave, Asbury Park

Board of Directors  
Wednesday, March 23,  
25 Peters Pl, Red Bank

For more info on NJFC  
meetings go to:  
[http://www.njclearwater.org/calendar\\_New/Calendar.asp](http://www.njclearwater.org/calendar_New/Calendar.asp)

## Clearwater Sponsors April Whale Pond Watershed Cleanups

By Ed Dlugosz

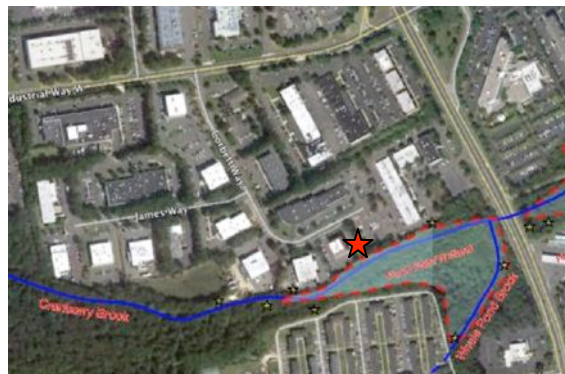
Continuing with our "Protect Our Watersheds" theme, NJ Friends of Clearwater sponsored two cleanups of the Whale Pond Brook Watershed in April with other members of the Whale Pond Brook Watershed Association. Our first cleanup in December 2010 was a resounding success.

Members of the WPBWA performed its second cleanup on April 2, 2011 on the southern streambank near the Hess gas station on east side Route 35 in Ocean. The Whale Pond floodplain (shown below, right of Rt 35) was clogged with construction debris, 55-gallon drums, signs, garbage, recyclables, and packaging. WPBWA members Laura,

Lisa, & Mom Rosemary Bagwell, Jeff King, Ray Pogwiest, Faith Teitelbaum, Susan DiGiacomo, Ceil Mancini, Tim Johnson, and Ed Dlugosz; and Kayla Connor (Watershed Ambassador) worked for over 3.5 hours freeing the Whale Pond of unnatural dams, plastic bottle flotillas and scum, as well as the aforementioned pollution which allowed the free flow of the brook.



We plan to have Cleanup #3 on April 23 on the west side of Route 35 in Eatontown side of the stream near the confluence of the Whale Pond and Cranberry Brooks.



The Eatontown meeting spot and access point will be at 99 Corbett Way (at red star) off of Industrial Way West. It is next to the Surgery Center at 97. As usual, Clearwater will supply gloves, waders, pickup, and coffee. Clearwater is a founding member of WPBWA, which includes the Environmental Commissions of Eatontown, Ocean Township, Tinton Falls, West Long Branch, and Long

Article Deadline for the  
MAY issue of NJFC  
Newsletter is Monday,  
April 26, 2011

Email your articles to  
[newsletter@mcclearwater.org](mailto:newsletter@mcclearwater.org)

By the deadline stated  
above, please use the  
phrase "MC Clearwater  
article" in the subject of  
your e-mail

Newsletter Information  
Editorial Committee:  
Ed Dlugosz, Lynn  
Humphrey

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

## Join as NJFC MEMBER

NJFC Membership  
Info:

[www.mcclearwater.org/0903/membership-form.htm](http://www.mcclearwater.org/0903/membership-form.htm)

Board of Directors  
President: Joellen Lundy  
VP: Ben Forest  
Treasurer: Tim Johnson  
Secretary: TBA

Branch. Our previous cleanup (Cleanup #1) in December was a resounding success (see January's NJFC Newsletter or earlier articles on this webpage.)

## Restoration Advisory Board Meeting Held for April 7, 2011

By Ed Dlugosz

Our next RAB meeting was held on April 7, 2010. There was an agreement last meeting that the community members could hold *adhoc* meetings in between regular meetings. If review of materials required clarification, the Army would be willing to meet or teleconference. We also would not have to wait until a quarterly meeting to receive new data. The Army would distribute the documents to RAB members and make it available online. We have already reviewed data from the meeting and that interim MODFLOW deliverables was published and distributed in this manner. The topics were both meaningful and provoked a lively discussion. The MODFLOW Groundwater Report provide the community with a more comprehensive view and coincided with our contentions that the contaminated GW flowed both on and below the surface creating both sediment and surface water contamination.

In other business we were again frustrated by the unavailability of the testing and results of the Baseline Ecological Evaluation (BEE) Work Plan. Apparently those results were sent to an additional group of Army engineers and were still being reviewed. The results of the Parker/Oceanport Creek sediment and laboratory buildings' vapor intrusion testing were critical to us. Our continued quest to have the ten landfills properly capped and protected is being blocked by the Army's budget woes. There's no money to even design and engineer the capping much less implement a viable solution.

## FMERA Meeting of Environmental Advisory Committee

The third Fort Monmouth Economic Revitalization Authority (FMERA), Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC) meeting was held Thursday, April 12 at 5:00pm at the FMERA offices in Eatontown. Ben Forest and Ed Dlugosz represented Clearwater (Ed also represents Eatontown). The unscheduled, main topic of the meeting was the environmental status of the Fort's infrastructure. Ed attempted to elicit the contamination condition of the sanitary sewers, storm drains, and buildings, etc. that were subject of Matrix's Infrastructure Report. For example, although there was an earlier report on mercury contamination of the sewage infrastructure, there were no follow-up on the other heavy metals that made there ways from the battery and electronics labs into sediments of the streams and lakes. Another question was about the present condition and plans for demolition of the planned excess buildings, like the 1200s--one of which had its roof caved in and was abandoned after a recent storm event. The FMERA staff was not forthcoming with any answers. As usual we were disappointed with the lack of information that was made available.

## Join Clearwater For Our Important Earth Day Events

- April 7: Fort Monmouth BRAC Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Meeting, 7pm, Gibbs Hall, Tinton Ave, Fort Monmouth (public accessible);
- FMERA Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC) meetings will be held Thursday, April 12 at 5:30pm at their offices at 2-12 Corbett Way in Eatontown.
- April 17: Whole Foods, 10:30 - 3:30 PM, Middletown, NJ,
- April 20: Monmouth U. Earth Day: 1-4pm near the Student Center
- April 23: **Whale Pond Brook Watershed Cleanup #3** on April 23 on both sides of the stream near the confluence of the Whale Pond and Cranberry Brooks. The meeting place at 99 Corbett Ways, off Industrial Way West in Eatontown.
- April 28: Rumson-Fair Haven Regional High School **EnviroPalooza**, 6:30-9:00pm
- May 14: NJ Environmental Federation (NJEF) Conference, 9 am - 5 pm at Rutgers University Center for Law and Justice, 123 Washington Street, Newark, NJ; Workshop topics include: Sustainability Landscapes; Moving the Green Agenda; Smarter, Greener, and Cleaner Opportunities; Healthy Schools/Healthy Towns;

Ed Dlugosz  
Jim Franchi  
Andrea Spinelli  
Marylin Johnson  
George Moffatt  
Ingrid Heldt

SAFER Chemicals/Healthy Families; NJDEP Transformation. Grassroots Leadership Awards: Including Environmental Partnership of MC for PFZ.

## **Clearwater Takes Initiative on Contaminated Wampum Lake.**

By Ed Dlugosz

Clearwater has recently submitted a proposal to the EPA for an Environmental Justice Small Grant (EJSG) to independently re-analyze the sediments and surface water that has contaminated Wampum Pond and upstream tributaries for over 50 years and to determine its exact source.

As has been reported in this newsletter and local newspapers, Fort Monmouth has disclosed that dozens of toxic substances including over 20 heavy metals, VOCs, and POLs are present in the surface water, its sediments, groundwater, and soil. While the Army generally takes responsibility for those toxins within the border of the post, it defiantly refuses to take responsibility for any of those same contaminants just downstream or outside its borders for fear of setting a precedent.

The ultimate purpose of NJ Friends of Clearwater's (NJFC) EJ Project is to have those toxins remediated in the sediments and surface waters of the lakes, streams, and wetlands directly downstream from the Fort and restock the watershed. We cited the many subsistence fishermen, crabbers, and clammers that can be seen plying the waters, banks and bridges despite warnings. The first phase will resample/re-analyze Wampum Lake heavy metals and take upstream samples to determine precise sources. Wampum lake lies only 2/10 mile downstream from the western post's border. NJFC will seek additional EJSG funding for future phases for sampling, analysis, and remediation of streams exiting from the eastern post's border and directly entering the Shrewsbury River, which affects a wider population and environment.

Clearwater has sought independent partners, like the Monmouth County Health Department (MCHD) and Monmouth University who both conducted significant testing of Wampum Lake in 1990 using different methodologies—chemical analysis and biological fish tissue sampling. Both concluded that the lake was contaminated with heavy metals—Antimony, Arsenic, Beryllium, Cadmium, Chromium, Copper, Lead, Mercury, Nickel, Selenium, Silver, Thallium, and Zinc—and the risk to human and animal life are high.

## **Clearwater Is Very Active On A Number Of Environmental Fronts**

Here's a sampling of other eco-actions and policy decisions that NJFC has made:

1. Several of Clearwater members attended the Panel Discussion at Brookdale Community College on Wednesday, April 6. The Panelists were Dr. Ronald Bishop, Lecturer on Bio-Chemistry at SUNY-Oneonta and Hazardous Materials expert; Kathleen Malone, US EPA – Region 2, NY/NJ, P.R. and V.I.; and Tracy Carluccio, Deputy Director, Delaware Riverkeeper Network. It was an excellent discussion.

It's great that so many people are educating themselves about hydrofracking. *[Hydraulic Fracturing or fracking is the process of injecting huge high-pressure streams of chemical-laden water into shale deposits to release embedded natural gas.]* It seems some big corporations are bringing millions of dollars to the tables in Pennsylvania and other states, buying rights to the fuels stored in the Marcellus and other shale deposits under our United States of America. There is much harm caused to our water tables from the practice, and millions of gallons of clean water used in the process becoming very polluted water that needs to be properly disposed of. And this in a part of the Northeast where many millions of people depend on a limited amount of drinking water. I plan to learn more about what's going on and see how we can help. Thanks to the League of Women Voters who sponsored this event.--Joellen Lundy, President NJFC

2. Clearwater joined the Center for Health, Environment and Justice (CHEJ) to write a petition to "fully support EPA's proposal to update the Hazard Ranking System (HRS) to include the vapor intrusion pathway, so that sites with significant documented or potential vapor intrusion can be placed on the "Superfund" National

Priorities List (NPL). This action is long overdue, because an uncounted number of Americans are exposed to toxic volatile substances in our homes, schools, and workplaces.”

In Ed’s letter he wrote, “As you [Mike Schade] and Lois<sup>1</sup> know, New Jersey Friends of Clearwater (NJFC) has been fighting the pollution at Fort Monmouth both past, present, and future for many years. Among the 3 major issues that we face, VOC and B/N vapor intrusion into the laboratories and office buildings at FM is one that is the least recognized danger to the health of the soldiers and workers as well as future residents. There is a minimum of 6 buildings on FM that have had vapor intrusion without the knowledge of the workers for at least 50 years. At several of the sites, superfund-level groundwater (GW), soil gas, and vapor intrusion numbers have been documented. I testified at the Brownfields Conference's USEPA's Workshop: Addressing Regulatory Challenges in Vapor Intrusion: A State-of-the-Science Update. The issue is more important to us than to most since it's DOD, whom we're fighting at FM, that is trying to water down this important regulation change.”—Ed Dlugosz, Past President and Environmental Action Director.

<sup>1</sup>The "Lois" to whom I referred above is our 2008 Festival keynotes speaker Lois Marie Gibbs, heroine of the Love Canal.

3. NJFC joined—by means of vote by our Board member on our national parent organization—HRSC, Inc., who was invited by one of the premier nuclear attorneys in the US, who has worked on many nuclear re-licensing cases (including Oyster Creek in Lacey Twp.), to sign on to a legal petition to the NRC that essentially calls for a moratorium on re-licensing proceedings until there has been time to assess the implications on aging US nuclear power plants of the Fukushima disaster, likely the worst or one of the worst in the history of nuclear power, and now certainly equal to Chernobyl.

The name of the petition is: Emergency Petition To Suspend All Pending Reactor Licensing Decisions And Related Rulemaking Decisions Pending Investigation Of Lessons Learned From Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station Accident. HRSC joins not only the lawyer but also 43 organizations fighting the re-licensing of 24 Nuclear Power Plants.

### **NJFC Announces the 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Clearwater Festival in Asbury Park for 2011**

The NJ Friends of Clearwater Festival are happy to announce that it will hold its 36th annual open-air music and arts festival in Asbury Park for the eleventh straight year. The Festival celebrates the spirit of people working and singing together for the environment. The finest in music combines with environmental activism to encourage our continued stewardship of Planet Earth. We are continuing our kickoff drive at our Festival meeting at 7pm, April 13 at 25 Peters Place in Red Bank. All serious volunteers welcome to help create the best Festival ever. Look for updates on our Festival webpage at: <http://www.mcclearwater.org/festival.php>. If you like to volunteer, participate as a vendor, or become a performer, contact us at: [ClearwaterFestival@mcclearwater.org](mailto:ClearwaterFestival@mcclearwater.org). We desperately need leads for several key Festival Committees.

As you can see from the next page’s Festival Flyer, our Festival Entertainment Committee lead, Steve Dlugosz, and crew have made great strides to get things done earlier than ever in our one day festival format.



**36<sup>th</sup> Annual  
New Jersey Friends of  
Clearwater Festival**

Saturday, August 20, 2011 - 11:00 am - 7:00 pm  
Sunset Park, Sunset Ave & Main St, Asbury Park, NJ



This Year's Theme:

**Climate Change: Rising Seas Closing In!**



**Environmental Justice Roundtable**  
Poor & Urban Issues Which Affect Us All  
2pm

**A DAY OF**

**FOOD • MUSIC &  
ENVIRONMENTAL DISPLAYS  
UNDER THE SUN**

**Children's Area**

- Award Winning Children's Performers:  
**Danny Alderman, Yosi, & Polka Dot**
- Face Painting, Tie-Dyeing, Arts & Crafts
  - Butterfly Tent

**Bring Your Own Blankets & Chairs**  
Handicapped Accessible



**Co-Sponsored by  
Saker Shop-Rites Inc.,  
Wakefern, Inc.,  
and many generous donors:  
Free Admission  
For Everyone**

**Main Music Stage**

Matt O'Ree, Matt Wade  
O'Neill and Martin, The Wag  
The Amboys, Thomas Wesley Stern

**Headliner TBA**

**Acoustic Stage**

Spook Handy, Chuck Sheaffer,  
Kathy Moser, Mary McCrink



**Circle of Song Stage**

Ingrid Heldt, Mike Meade,  
Marc Bodino, Carl Croce,  
Rich Deans, Sharleen Leahey,  
Kathy Moser, Joe Petraitis,  
Isis Ra, Jan Christensen, Joe  
Kaminsky, Eric Russell

For More Information:  
[www.mcclearwater.org/festival.php](http://www.mcclearwater.org/festival.php)