

CITIZENS CAMPAIGN FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Annual Report 2010



Citizens Campaign for the Environment, Inc.

2010 ANNUAL REPORT

CCE's MISSION

CCE's mission is to build widespread citizen understanding and advocacy to protect land and water resources, wildlife, and public health. CCE carries out this mission through public education, research, lobbying, organizing, and public outreach.

Citizens Campaign for the Environment (CCE) celebrated its 25th year in 2010. CCE continued to advance environmental programs, which benefit the residents of New York and Connecticut and the Nation.

CCE's five program areas include:

- Water Protection
- Public Health and Toxic Chemical Contamination
- Open Space, Habitat and Wildlife Protection
- Climate Change and Energy Policies
- Environmental Policy Advancement

The following is an overview of work CCE carried out in 2010.

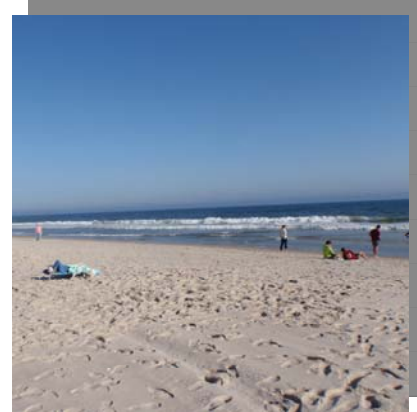
CCE is a 501 (c)(4) not-for-profit organization registered as Long Island Citizens Campaign, Inc., which is doing business as Citizens Campaign for the Environment, Inc.

WATER PROTECTION

New York and Connecticut are water-rich states. CCE was active in areas affecting coastal and drinking water throughout New York State and Connecticut. Ensuring clean and plentiful water resources is a core CCE program priority. Below are CCE's major campaigns aimed at achieving water protection in 2010.

OCEAN PROTECTION

Over 2,000 miles of tidal shoreline define New York and Connecticut. Our many bays, rivers, and estuaries, including the Long Island Sound, the Peconic Estuary, the South Shore Estuary Reserve, the Hudson River, and the Housatonic, Quinnipiac and Connecticut Rivers, provide miles of beaches, and fish, shellfish and wildlife habitat. New York and Connecticut residents depend upon our waters for recreational and commercial activities, such as boating, fishing, clamming, and kayaking. CCE supports proactive local, state, and federal measures to protect our water resources and the historical use of our waterways.



In 2010 CCE continued collaborations with a number of environmental organizations in the NY Ocean and Great Lake Coalition to advance ocean and Great Lakes protection and restoration and ensure state funding for these vital programs.

GREAT WATERS COALITION

In 2009, CCE participated in the launch of a new national coalition—the America's Great Waters Coalition. America's Great Waters Coalition is an alliance of national, regional, state and local organizations working to protect, preserve and restore America's Great Waters. The coalition is bringing the community together to "raise all restoration boats."

CCE united with over 30 other organizations to restore water ecosystems to protect people, wildlife, and the economy from the Great Lakes to the Florida Everglades. The coalition aims to help leverage the vast political support among citizens from across the country. The mission of the coalition is to protect, preserve, and restore America's Great Waters, which include, but are not limited to, the Chesapeake Bay, Coastal Louisiana, the Everglades, Great Lakes, Gulf of Maine, Long Island Sound, Mississippi River, Puget Sound, San Francisco/Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta.

THE GREAT LAKES

Protecting, restoring and improving the Great Lakes, the largest freshwater ecosystem on the globe, is a core CCE program area. In 2010, CCE's Great Lakes efforts focused on the following priorities:

The Great Lakes St. Lawrence Basin Water Resources Compact (Compact) and Great Lakes Basin Water Resources Agreement Ratified by all eight Great Lakes States and Congress, the Compact became law in 2008. In 2010, CCE focused efforts on implementation of the Compact in New York State. CCE serves on the NYS Great Lakes Basin Advisory Council, the entity responsible for developing recommendations for NYS to implement the Compact. In August of 2010, the Council released its final report of recommendations, entitled “Our Great Lakes Water Resources.”

In 2010, CCE advocated for NYS Water Withdrawal legislation, which would regulate large water users, develop water conservation and efficiency standards, and ensure that NYS is in compliance with the Compact. The bill passed the NYS Senate in 2010. CCE continues to advocate for passage of this important legislation needed to implement the Great Lakes Compact in NYS.

Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI). Enacted in the FY 2010 federal budget, the GLRI is a \$475 million annual investment in addressing priority issues to protect and restore the lakes, including: cleaning up toxic hot spots around the Great Lakes; combating invasive species; promoting nearshore health by protecting watersheds from polluted runoff; restoring wetlands and other habitats; and working with strategic partners on public outreach. In 2010, CCE advocated for continued GLRI funding.

Healing Our Waters (HOW) Great Lakes Restoration Conference

CCE is an active member of the Healing Our Waters (HOW) Great Lakes Coalition and co-chairs the New York Healing Our Waters coalition. HOW is a diverse coalition of more than 100 organizations working to protect and restore the Great Lakes.

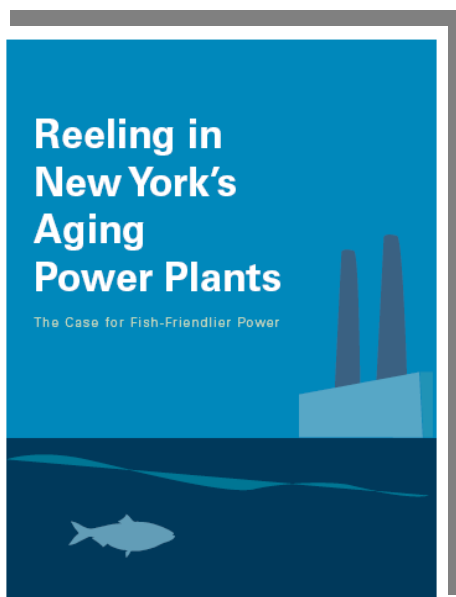
CCE was a lead organizer of the sixth annual HOW Great Lakes Restoration Conference in Buffalo, NY, from September 22-24, 2010. With more than 200 of the leading stakeholders from non-governmental organizations, government, tribes, industry, and the public attending, the HOW conference was the largest Great Lakes restoration conference in the nation. Participants worked together to develop strategies to protect and restore our Great Lakes, networked with advocates from all eight Great Lakes states and Canada, and attended local Great Lakes field trips.

CCE participated in Great Lakes Day in Washington, DC, in March 2010. CCE staff joined hundreds of Great Lakes activists throughout the basin to meet with members of Congress to ensure continued investment in Great Lakes protection and restoration by funding the GLRI.

ESTUARY PROTECTION

New York State and Connecticut are fortunate to have over 1,500 square miles of bays and estuaries and 120 miles of ocean shoreline. The Long Island Sound and the South Shore Estuary Reserve contribute to the regional economy, current culture, and maritime

heritage. CCE works to preserve, protect, and restore our ecologically important bays and estuaries.



Power Plants Kill Fish.

In June 2009 CCE launched a new campaign entitled "Power Plants Kill Fish" to educate members of the public and elected officials on how Long Island's 5 steam electric power plants effect marine life. CCE worked with Network for New Energy Choices (NNEC) to release the report "*Power Plants Kill Fish: National Grids LI Power Plants and their Adverse Effects on Coastal Fish*". The report documented billions of fish, fish larvae, and fish eggs are killed annually due to power plant's antiquated open loop cooling systems. The report also highlighted new technology - closed loop cooling and its ability to reduce fish kills by 95%. In addition to the full report, CCE & NNEC created and distributed over 5,000 copies of a brochure to promote public education on this issue.

In 2010 CCFE worked with NNEC to release a state-wide report entitled "Reeling in New York's Aging Power Plants". The report documented how 25 power plants throughout NY kill billions of fish, fish eggs, and fish larvae a year. The report was released on June 15th, 2010 at press conference held in Albany, NY. CCE also worked with National Grid to research different technologies that could be implemented to reduce fish kills at their Long Island power plants.

Long Island Sound (LIS) Protection

The LIS Restoration Act authorizes up to \$40 million annually and the LIS Stewardship Act authorizes up to \$25 million annually. In 2010 the Long Island Restoration Act was set to expire. CCE worked vigorously to re-authorize an expanded LIS Restoration Act, which would include up to \$100 million for stormwater remediation and sewage treatment plants upgrades. CCE generated over 28,000 signatures and 15,600 letters to congressional leaders urging them to re-authorize the Restoration Act and ensure adequate federal funding to continue the progress efforts already made in the Sound. Unfortunately Congress recessed before the bill was voted on. CCE continues efforts to re-authorize this important legislation in 2011.

In addition, CCE continues to be an active member of the Long Island Sound Study Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC), and the CAC's communications workgroup and the CAC's policy subcommittee.

Long Beach/Pleasure Beach Protection

Pleasure Beach in Bridgeport, CT and Long Beach West in Stratford, CT form a 2-mile barrier peninsula on Long Island Sound. The property, a rare, undeveloped, 65-acre tract

is located near the Lordship neighborhood of Stratford. Bridgeport and Stratford residents voted overwhelmingly to sell the land island to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to restore and protect this island for generations to come as a part of Stewart B. McKinney National Wildlife Refuge.

CCE worked with Audubon CT to preserve Long Beach West and Pleasure Beach as a National Wildlife Refuge. Unfortunately, due to the decline in the real estate market the contract to buy the land has been terminated. The Long Beach West property in Stratford has since been restored and is open for public access, while the City of Bridgeport still has considerable restoration efforts pending due to budget shortfalls. CCE continues to work to ensure these islands are protected and open to the public.

Long Island South Shore Estuary Reserve (SSER)

In 2010, the NYS Department of State (DOS) continued to implement key recommendations of the South Shore Estuary Management Plan. CCE continues to serve as Chair of the Citizens Advisory Committee.

CCE works with New York State, Long Island towns, Nassau County, and not-for-profits to address the severe contamination in the Western Bays. There are 4 sewage treatment plants that discharge 64.5 million gallons of treated effluent a day into the shallow bays.

Western Bays Campaign. In 2010 CCFE worked to launch the “The Western Bays Collaboration Working Group”. The working group is made up of elected leaders and stakeholder organizations with the goal of restoring our Western Bays. Partners include: Assemblyman Weisenberg, Assemblyman Sweeney, NC Legislator Denise Ford, NC Legislator Dave Denenberg, NC Legislator Howard Kopel, Nassau County Executive Mangano’s Office, Citizens Campaign for the Environment, Operation SPLASH, Point Lookout Civic Association, and Green Bay Parkers. The goal of the Working Group is to restore the Western Bays. The working group held several meetings throughout the year.



CCE celebrated 2 major victories in 2010 for the Western Bays:

- The Jones Beach Sewage Treatment Plant will join Cedar Creek ocean outfall. In an exciting new beginning for the Western Bays a critical project needed for the restoration of the Western Bays moved forward in August 2010. The NYS Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation announced construction will move forward to hook up the Jones Beach Sewage Treatment outfall pipe to the Nassau County Cedar Creek sewage treatment outfall pipe. This important hookup will divert Jones Beach’s treated effluent from the enclosed Western

Bays to the Atlantic Ocean, allowing improved water quality in one of the public's favorite recreation spots--Zach's Bay.

- The Stony Brook University study for the Western Bays was finally funded by NYS. After five years, the NYS Department of Budget finally released the much needed, much anticipated funding for Stony Brook University to begin work on an essential research study. The study will be one of three critical studies to be completed in coming years that will paint a comprehensive picture of the state of the Western Bays. This is an exciting first step in restoring the quality of the western portion of the SSER.

Brown Tide

Since 1985 there have been sporadic periods of "Brown Tide", a type of algae, in the Great South Bay, a sub region of the SSER. This algae damages the bay's ecosystem. In 2008 the brown tide bloom in the bay was the most severe, longest bloom recorded to date. This event threatened to severely impact the hard clam population in the bay.

In 2010, CCE convened a workgroup of environmentalists, elected leaders, and scientists to identify the research gaps and possible federal funding opportunities. CCE also worked to convene a meeting with NOAA Administer Dr. Jane Lubchenco.

Rivers & Freshwater

The Niagara River

As a result of legislation passed by the NYS legislature, the state began working to develop a plan to create a greenway along the Niagara River from Lake Erie to Ontario. CCE joined a coalition of environmental groups, called the Niagara River Ecological Committee (NREC), to ensure that the greenway plan was focused on the river corridor, provided public access, promoted environmentally sustainable development, and highlighted the river's rich biodiversity. In 2010, the NREC continued to provide recommendations on which projects should be funded under the Greenway.

Onondaga Lake

Listed on the Federal Superfund National Priority List since 1995, Onondaga Lake is undergoing efforts to remediate legacy pollution and a reputation as one of the most polluted lakes in the world. A total of 82 tons of mercury and other chemicals were discharged into the lake over the last century. CCE is an active stakeholder in the Onondaga Lake Bottom cleanup plan and serves on the Community Participation Working Group. In 2010, CCE began serving on the Onondaga Lake Participation Group that works to engage the community on aspects of clean-up associated with Onondaga County. CCE continues to work with DEC and EPA to ensure transparency, oversight, and meaningful citizen participation in the toxic remediation efforts. CCE works to ensure that the cleanup meets



public expectations, uses best available remediation techniques, provides maximum protection of human health and the environment, and restores a treasured resource that has been tarnished for far too long.



Hudson River Desalination.

Throughout 2010, CCE has worked with the Rockland Coalition for Sustainable Water to promote water conservation, water efficiency, and green infrastructure throughout Rockland County to avoid the construction of an energy intensive water filtration plant from being built along the Hudson River. The Hudson River is an important estuary that contributes to New York's economy, heritage, recreation, environment, and aesthetic beauty. A desalination plant will use enormous amounts of energy, contribute to climate change, and have a significant negative impact on the quality of this important river.

In June 2010, CCE spoke at the Rockland County Legislative hearing and advocated for a resolution against desalination. CCE conducted extensive public education and outreach throughout Rockland County to educate the public on the desalination proposal and sustainable solutions for the county. In 2010 CCE generated 1,971 signatures from members of the public urging their county legislature to pass a resolution against desalination and implement sustainable water solutions.

CCE continues to support these solutions, which include the creation of a sustainable water management, smarter land use decisions, water conservation, and better water management. The Rockland Coalition meets on a monthly basis with over 20 participating members.

Carmans River.

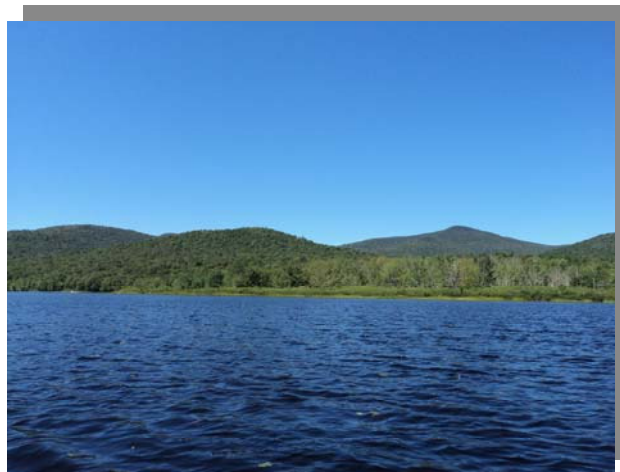
The Carmans River Task Force was created to address the serious invasive species problem facing the upper and lower lakes of the Carmans River in the Town of Brookhaven, NY. The river is inundated and overcome with two species; Variable Leaf Milfoil and Cabomba. CCE chairs the taskforce, which includes Yaphank residents, elected officials, environmental, and civic organizations to address the problems in these lakes. The main goal of the Task Force is to review and evaluate all options of management and eradication of these invasive species of the upper and lower lakes and to make recommendations to the Town of Brookhaven.

In 2010, the Task Force worked alongside the consultant Nelson, Pope & Voorhis, who were hired by Suffolk County to complete research and make recommendations for remediation of the invasive species. In September of 2010, the consultant finished water testing and presented their preliminary findings to the Task Force. The Task Force came to a consensus that after three years of review, a critical part of the remediation plan included the dredging of the soft sediments in both lakes, and if necessary, a limited

application of the herbicide sonar. The final report from the consultant is due to come out April, 2011.

Watershed Protection

CCE works with many other organizations to support a strong federal *Clean Water Act*. CCE serves on the executive board of the national Clean Water Network, a coalition of approximately 1,000 organizations nationwide. CCE serves on the Water Management Advisory Committee to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), DEC CAFO (confined animal feeding operation) Work Group and Agricultural Environmental Management Steering



Committee to promote controlling agriculture run-off. Also, CCE serves the Water Quality Coordinating Committee for Albany County, and serves on the Erie County Water Quality Committee. CCE promotes strong enforcement and public policies to eliminate Sanitary and Combined Sewer Overflows (SSOs and CSOs), and advocates for compliance with state and federal water quality laws and watershed protection.

Wetlands

Commonly referred to as nature's kidneys, wetlands provide crucial functions in our environment. Wetlands buffer storm water to protect our homes and property from flood damage, provide habitat to fish and wildlife, and filter out pollutants. Narrow interpretations of Supreme Court rulings (SWANCC and Rapanos) by guidance issued by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Army Corps of Engineers have effectively creating a new class of "isolated" waters now considered outside protections afforded by the Clean Water Act. CCE worked at the federal level, with our partners at the Clean Water Network to restore the intent Congress to protect all waters of the United States, by building Congressional support for the Clean Water Restoration Act. In 2010, CCE also began working with partners in the Clean Water Network to support the EPA's efforts to exercise its regulatory authority to protect smaller wetlands.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND TOXIC CHEMICAL CONTAMINATION

Brookhaven National Laboratory Cleanup.

In 2010, CCE continued its activity on the Community Advisory Council (CAC) to Brookhaven National Laboratory. CCE evaluated clean up options, associated costs and environmental and public health impacts for several remediation scenarios. Additional reviews included groundwater sampling reports, wetlands restoration progress for the

Peconic River, decontamination and decommissioning of the High Flux Beam Reactor and the Brookhaven Graphite Research Reactor as well as modification to the discharge permit for the sewage treatment plant.

Plastic Bag Pollution.



CCE has been a leading organization on addressing pollution from plastic bags. In 2007, CCE worked with county governments in Suffolk and Westchester Counties to enact laws mandating that large stores recycle plastic bags. The local laws became the foundation for a statewide bill mandating large stores and mid-sized chain stores prominently-display recycling bins and offer reusable bags for sale. In December 2008, Governor Paterson signed the legislation into law in part due to CCE's advocacy.

In Connecticut, CCE worked with local public officials in Connecticut to educate businesses, other local officials and the public about the benefits of a proposed ban on plastic bags. In March of 2009, Westport's ban of plastic bags took effect thus becoming the first municipality on the east coast to ban plastic bags.

Continuing the momentum of this historic victory, CCE began working with business, legislative and environmental leaders throughout Fairfield and in Hartford, CT to draft legislation that would reduce plastic bag use and avoid the unintended consequence of switching to paper bags.

In August, 2010 CCE release the Long Island BYOB Report Card, which looked at the reusable bag policies of local supermarkets. Stores grades ranged from A+ to F as they gained points for a variety of criteria including public education, availability of reusable bags for sale, and employee training. CCE will release a similar report for Westchester in 2011. The Westchester BYOB Report will be alongside a larger education campaign, which will consist of creating education materials, conducting presentations, as well as getting stores to "kick the plastic bag habit" by taking steps to decrease plastic bags sold in their stores.

Manufactured Gas Plants

Manufactured gas plants (MGP) produced gas from a process that used coal as the raw product. The gas was used for lighting, cooking, and heating homes and businesses in the late 1800s. The production of manufactured gas from coal created a legacy of waste byproducts and this pollution persists today. National Grid is currently responsible for the clean up of over 12 sites on Long Island.

CCE continued to be an active participant with the Bay Shore MGP Task Force. The good news is that the plume size was dramatically reduced by the oxygen injection treatments and the levels of VOCs and naphthalene were decreasing.

Pesticides.

CCE continued to educate the public and policy makers to reduce the use of pesticides for lawn care, insect control, and West Nile Virus response. CCE works with the Suffolk County Community Advisory Committee on Pesticide Phase-Out. CCE networks with other local and national organizations. In 2010, CCE successfully advocated for the passage of the NYS Child Safe Playing Fields Act, which bans aesthetic pesticides on playing fields in New York State Schools grades K – 12 and daycare facilities. CCE garnered massive public support throughout NY for this historic legislation. Over 8,000 letters were sent & over 18,000 signatures have been collected in favor of this commonsense legislation that protects children where they spend the most time – at school.

CCE continues to work to ensure that the landmark law is implemented effectively. CCE also worked to ensure no further delay of the similar legislation already passed in Connecticut, which was implemented in July 2010.

HAZARDOUS WASTE LANDFILL

Just a mile from the Lewiston-Porter Central Schools, two miles from the Niagara River, and three miles to Lake Ontario sits New York's only hazardous waste landfill, the Chemical Waste Management (CWM) facility in the Town of Porter, NY. The landfill threatens public health and the Great Lakes, and is unnecessary. CCE works to oppose any increased capacity to the CWM hazardous waste landfill.



In 2010, the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) issued the final Hazardous Waste Siting Plan, which will guide future siting of hazardous waste facilities in the state and determine capacity in the state. The final plan correctly states that there is no need for additional hazardous waste management facilities in NYS. CCE and our partners continue to call on CWM to withdraw their permit application to expand their hazardous waste landfill. Continuing with this unnecessary permit application process only wastes valuable state resources and limited staff time.

West Valley Nuclear Waste Site

The largest nuclear waste site in New York State, the West Valley Nuclear Waste Site is in the Town of Ashford, in Cattaraugus County, about 30 miles south of Buffalo. Operating as a nuclear reprocessing center from 1966 to 1972, the heavily contaminated site was turned over to the government in 1976. The site has been plagued with problems from the start, including leakage of radioactive waste in several areas. A significant underground plume of radioactive elements is spreading through groundwater. The waste site is on a plateau, which is highly susceptible to erosion. Scientists recognize that over time erosion will lead to release of buried toxic waste. The site is in the Great Lakes

watershed, and leaks of waste threaten drinking water, public health, wildlife, and billion dollar industries such as fishing and tourism.

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) released a draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) for cleanup of the site on December 5, 2008. The draft DEIS fails to protect public health and the environment from dangerous radioactive waste. Unfortunately, the DOE and NYSERDA recommend cleaning up only about 1% of the radioactivity now, and waiting 30 years before deciding what to do with the rest of the dangerous radioactive waste. Throughout 2009, CCE and our members weighed in heavily during the public comment period, calling for the safest and most cost-effective option in the long run-- to excavate and clean up the entire site as soon as possible. In 2010, the final EIS was released. While the EIS did reduce the time frame to 10 years before making a decision on the remainder of the waste, it did not go far enough. CCE continues to advocate that the entire area is cleaned up as soon as possible.

OPEN SPACE, HABITAT AND WILDLIFE PROTECTION

Preserving open space and critical habitat and wildlife in New York and Connecticut is a significant CCE program focus. Open space conservation of forests, parks, farmlands, and coastal areas is essential to our region's natural beauty and quality of life.

Environmental Protection Fund.

In 2010, CCE and the Friends of New York's Environment coalition worked to protect the source of funding for the Environmental Protection Fund. The EPF, created by the NYS Legislature in 1993, provides a reliable and dedicated funding source for key environmental programs, including funding for Great Lakes and Oceans protection and restoration, municipal recycling, open space and farmland preservation. CCE generated over 22,000 signatures and 13,000 handwritten letters to elected leaders in support for NY environmental programs and ensuring environmental agencies have enough staff to carry out vital public health and protection programs. Each year, the NYS legislature must appropriate this revenue to the EPF.



Farms and Agricultural Property

Farms and agricultural property are important examples of working landscapes and land preservation. CCE works to promote better environmental practices on farms in New York, including efforts to achieve effective nutrient management policies and regulation of concentrated animal feeding operations. CCE serves on the Agricultural Environmental Management Steering Committee for New York and the Albany Soil and Water Conservation District Committee.

Dauids Island.

Dauids Island, the 78-acre former Army base located less than fifteen miles from Manhattan in Long Island Sound, continues to get closer toward being preserved. In 2006, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE) began demolition of the existing buildings and the NYS DEC began investigating the cleanup of soil. CCE monitored and communicated with federal, state and local officials on the progress of the Dauids Island COE cleanup process, which was completed in 2008. CCE has advocated for more than a decade that Westchester County purchase the island from its current owner, the City of New Rochelle, to create a park to protect the already overstressed western Long Island Sound ecosystem. In May 2010, CCE met with the Mayor of New Rochelle to discuss the importance of preservation and parkland for the Island. In October 2010, CCE began actively attending Dauids Island Task Force Meetings. The Dauids Island Task Force is a group of stakeholders that are evaluating the environmental challenges faced on the island and planning a vision for its future. CCE continues to work with local, state and federal officials to permanently preserve Dauids Island.

WILDLIFE PROTECTION

Protecting the environment also means protecting wildlife. CCE has worked for many years to increase the survival of rare and endangered species including shorebirds and horseshoe crabs that live along Long Island's Atlantic coast.



Piping Plovers. CCE has a long history of protecting piping plovers, endangered shorebirds that utilize Long Island shores as their breeding and nesting grounds. The *Piping Plover Protection Project* has become an annual tradition for CCE, its members, and volunteers. In 2010, CCE generated over 40 volunteers on Memorial Day at Jones Beach State Park, to protect plover nests on days of the year when nests are particularly vulnerable to human traffic and recreational pursuits. In 2010, CCE also participated in a Wantagh Elementary School education program, working with third graders to advance their class project to protect piping plovers at Jones Beach State Park and across Long Island.

Horseshoe Crabs. A decline in the number of horseshoe crabs impacts other species, particularly shorebirds. Several species of shorebirds feed primarily on horseshoe crab eggs that are exposed on the surface after being buried in the shallow waters. Each spring, At least 15 migratory bird species, including the threatened Red Knot, feed frantically on the protein-rich eggs of spawning horseshoe crabs during their two to three week stopover along the Mid-Atlantic coastline. The human activity most damaging to horseshoe crab populations is over-harvesting, as horseshoe crabs are used as bait for eel and conch fisheries. Recognizing



the plummeting population of the red knot, CCE joined with several national bird and wildlife conservation organizations both inside and outside of New York State to increase protections for the Horseshoe crab, to preserve this ancient species and dependent species for future generations.

At the urging of CCE, in 2004 the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (NYS DEC) agreed to limit the number of horseshoe crabs that can be harvested from New York coastal waters to 150,000 per year, consistent with the conservation actions of the surrounding states, and has kept harvesting at that level since. CCE continued in 2010 to advocate to the NYS DEC and Governor's office for lower harvest numbers. CCE continues to advocate for further protections on horseshoe crabs and, ultimately, an east coast harvesting moratorium. In June 2010, CCE released the Horseshoe Crab white paper – 18 pages documenting the importance of the Horseshoe Crab, policies of neighboring states, as well as a policy recommendation section for New York.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENERGY POLICY

Maximizing energy efficiency and development of clean renewable energy is critical for environmental quality, public health and sustainability. The advantages of clean energy sources, what has come to be known as 'green energy' (e.g. wind, biomass, and small hydro), are well known. Clean energy resources are conflict-free, renewable, and unlimited. Non-renewable sources, on the other hand, such as coal, oil, and gas, will eventually be depleted, and their legacy of pollution will live on, forever threatening public health and the environment. Pollution-causing energy sources contribute to acid rain, smog, asthma, higher rates of lung disease, and global warming. In 2010, CCE continued aggressive campaigns at the local, state, and federal level designed to increase our energy independence, maximize energy efficiency, and increase the renewable energy market in New York and Connecticut.



Great Lakes Wind

On April 22, 2009, CCE joined with the New York Power Authority (NYPA) for the announcement of a process to analyze the potential for an offshore wind power project in Lake Erie and/or Lake Ontario. In 2010, CCE and other environmental organizations participated as stakeholders to identify important environmental issues that should be addressed/studied as the process moves forward. CCE continues to advocate that a process to fully analyze the potential for offshore wind power in the Great Lakes moves forward, and that any project that is ultimately proposed respects the amazing Great Lakes ecosystem and current uses. More than 12,000 Western New York residents signed

petitions in support of fully exploring the potential for offshore wind development in the Great Lakes.

Large Scale Solar

Harnessing the power of the sun creates local jobs, improves air quality, and stabilizes volatile energy costs. The solar energy potential for New York State is greater than Germany, the current world leader in installed solar capacity. CCE supports the development of large-scale solar



initiatives. Suffolk County is currently developing 50 MW of solar energy. Thirteen mega-watts will be solar carports at various train stations and county parking lots and 37 mega-watts will be housed at Brookhaven National Laboratory. This project will create hundreds of jobs, avoid the release of thousands of tons of greenhouse gas emissions, and work to secure New York as a pioneer in solar technologies. This project works towards meeting the New York and Federal goals of reducing greenhouse gas emissions 20% by 2020 by using renewable energy. CCE vigorously supported the project and attended the groundbreaking, with the former Governor Paterson.

Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative

Recognizing the important part energy policy has to play to curb global warming, CCE actively participates in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI). RGGI is a regional and collective approach to reduce the Northeast's and mid-Atlantic states' contribution to global warming.

Hydraulic Fracturing and Industrial Gas Development in New York State

In 2010, CCE continued its work on hydraulic fracturing. CCE helped organize a statewide lobby day that brought citizens from across New York State to Albany to discuss their concerns with hydraulic fracturing. New York State has proposed to use this gas extraction process to develop low-permeability shales such as the Marcellus and Utica Shale. CCE staff has been monitoring the development of this gas production in other states, namely Pennsylvania and Texas. CCE has drawn upon the challenges and environmental contamination observed in these states to assess the problems and challenges faced by New York State as the State DEC seeks to advance and incorporate this gas production.

CCE conducted extensive public education and outreach during the DEC public comment period on the draft Supplemental Generic Environmental Impact Statement. In 2010, CCE was instrumental in garnering a 6 month moratorium on hydraulic fracturing in New York State.

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ADVANCEMENT

CCE helps to foster progress through legislation, lobbying, advocacy, committee work, grassroots networking, and reports. CCE works with officials at the local, state, and national levels of government to promote policies to protect public health and the environment. CCE served on approximately 20 advisory committees, providing sound advice on science, policy, practice, and law. CCE utilized printed materials, newsletters, and other documents to support its efforts in the various areas of interest. CCE staff testified at various public forums and hearings in New York, Connecticut, and Washington, DC. CCE visits schools, attends civic meetings, and participates in other venues to provide presentations on water, pesticides, coastal management, sewage controls, toxic cleanups, renewable energy, and various other topics of local interest.

2010 New York & Connecticut State Legislative Agenda. CCE works to advance legislation that will protect our natural environment and public health, while working to oppose legislation that will have an adverse impact on our shared environment.

Long Island Lobby Coalition



CCE and other Long Island Lobby Coalition members hold press conference in Albany.

The Long Island Lobby Coalition was formed in May, 2009 to provide a single, solid message to Albany to establish significant legislation that will guide the future of Long Island. The coalition includes environmental organizations, small businesses, labor unions, civic associations, and chambers of commerce who wish to advance meaningful improvements to Long Island's quality of life and our economy.

On February 9, 2010, we held the second annual Long Island Lobby Day. Over 50 representatives from Long Island organizations made the bus trip to Albany to meet with senate and Assembly members to relay the Coalition Platform. The platform includes five items: Transportation, Energy & the Environment, Small Business, Jobs & Economic Development, and Sewers & Infrastructure.

2010 LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

FEDERAL AGENDA

BEACH PROTECTION ACT

Communities throughout New York and Connecticut are blessed with access to hundreds of ocean, estuarine, and Great Lakes coastline beaches. Beaches provide important economic benefits, as well as valued recreational opportunities and irreplaceable family experiences.

Unfortunately, degraded water quality at many of our beaches severely limits access, and threatens public health. Polluted runoff from over-development and sewage pollution from dilapidated infrastructure fouls beaches with bacteria and pathogens that make swimming unsafe. To protect beachgoers, the legislation requires monitoring, public notification, source tracking, sanitary surveys, and prevention efforts to address the identified sources of beach water pollution.



CLEAN WATER RESTORATION ACT

The Clean Water Act (CWA) was passed almost 40 years ago, and promised to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the waters of the United States. The CWA has done a great deal to protect the nation's lakes, rivers, streams, and wetlands from unregulated pollution and destruction. Despite progress since the adoption of the CWA, the health of our waters remains threatened by pollution and habitat destruction. Supreme Court decisions (*SWANCC 2001*, *Rapanos/Carabell 2006*) and subsequent federal guidance changes, have limited and confused the scope of federal protection for our nation's waters. CCE supports restoring the intent of the Clean Water Act to protect all waters of the United States.

NO SUBSIDIES FOR NUCLEAR OR FOSSIL FUEL POWER

CCE opposes dispensing taxpayer dollars that saddle our economy to fossil fuels and nuclear power, which does not advance our nation's sustainable energy future.

PLASTIC BAG REDUCTION ACT

Plastic bags are ubiquitous litter that pollute waterways, endanger marine life, clog gutters and sewers, litter our streets, shopping centers, highways, parks and beaches, and saddle us to additional fossil fuel-based products. Only 0.6% of plastic bags are recycled nationally, creating the need for plastic bag reduction and recycling initiatives. The

solution to the plastic bag crisis is switching from single-use bags to reusable bags. CCE has worked throughout New York and Connecticut to reduce plastic bag pollution through a variety of policies and supports the Plastic Bag Reduction Act to address this growing problem nationwide.

RAW SEWAGE OVERFLOW COMMUNITY RIGHT TO KNOW

Discharges of untreated sewage from sanitary sewer overflows and combined sewer overflows represent a significant threat to public health, the environment, and our economy. Currently, there is no consistent reporting and public notification requirement for sewer overflows, and public health agencies and drinking water suppliers are often unaware when overflows contaminate waterways. CCE supports require sewage treatment operators to implement an effective monitoring and notification program for sewage overflows to allow the public to avoid unnecessary exposure to harmful untreated sewage.

WATER QUALITY FINANCING ACT

Sewage pollution threatens public health from exposure to pathogens, closes beaches, degrades water quality, and consumes valuable oxygen necessary for healthy fisheries. CCE supports Congress reauthorizing and fully funding the Clean Water State Revolving Fund and dedicating funding for sustainable green infrastructure.

New York Legislative Agenda

COMPLETE STREETS

Providing safe public access to streets in our cities and towns contributes to safer, healthier, and more livable communities. Public access should include all users, including bicyclists, public transportation vehicles and passengers, motorists, and pedestrians of all ages and abilities. The legislation will require that bicycle and pedestrian ways be included in the planning and development of state, county, and local transportation facilities, plans, and programs.



VICTORY! THE CHILD SAFE PLAYING FIELDS ACT

Pesticides are used outdoors at most schools in New York State, even with no evidence of need. The growing body of peer reviewed scientific evidence indicates that pesticide exposure can lead to serious long-term and short-term adverse health impacts, especially

for children. There is clear science showing that pests and weeds can be successfully managed with readily available and affordable non-toxic alternatives. To help protect our kids, New York State should ban non-essential pesticides on outdoor school grounds in schools K-12 and daycare facilities.

DRUG TAKE-BACK PROGRAM: REQUIRE DRUG MANUFACTURERS TO COLLECT UNUSED AND EXPIRED DRUGS FROM HOSPITALS AND RESIDENTIAL HEALTH CARE FACILITIES FOR SAFE DISPOSAL

Flushing unwanted or expired drugs down drains and toilets is an antiquated way of disposal that can lead to contaminating our waters. Emerging research has detected pharmaceuticals in surface and groundwater throughout New York State and the nation. The effects of constant exposure to low levels of various pharmaceuticals on ecosystems and humans are uncertain. However, negative impacts have been observed in several studies. This legislation, which will require manufacturers to create collection programs that take back unused drugs from hospitals and residential health care facilities and dispose of them in an environmentally-sound manner, is a much-needed step to curb pharmaceutical contamination of our waterways.

ELECTRONIC WASTE RECYCLING

Electronic waste is the fastest growing component of the nation's municipal waste stream and its disposal burdens local municipalities, taxpayers, and the environment. According to the EPA, in 2007 about 2.5 million tons of e-waste were discarded nationally. Currently the burden of managing e-waste properly falls upon local municipalities and solid waste authorities, further burdening the local taxpayers. There is a clear role and benefit for producers to manage the end-of-life issues associated their products. New York State should enact a comprehensive e-waste recycling and reuse law, as nearly twenty other states have already done. The switch from analog to digital TV broadcasts has lead to millions of additional televisions being discarded, making this legislation very timely. Enacting a comprehensive e-waste recycling and reuse law will benefit the health, welfare, economy, and environment of New York State.

[CCE's memo of support for this legislation](#)

ENERGY EFFICIENT RESIDENTIAL BUILDING CODES (S6912A – FOLEY / A. 10288A – ENGLEBRIGHT)

Delays in updating energy efficiency standards for new residential buildings has prohibited New York State from fully enjoying the environmental, economic and job creation benefits of increased energy efficiency in new home builds. This legislation will set a minimum performance-based standard for the energy efficiency of new residential construction and require performance testing of all new homes built, to ensure that the standard is met.

FOOD SERVICE WASTE REDUCTION ACT

Polystyrene Foam, commonly referred to as Styrofoam, is commercially manufactured from petroleum and is a suspected carcinogen and neurotoxin. Every year 25 million polystyrene foam cups are thrown away. A single cup can take 500 years to disintegrate. This legislation will require all public departments and institutions use food service materials that are not polystyrene foam and require the Department of Environmental Conservation to conduct a study on the feasibility and environmental impact of a statewide ban on the use of disposable Styrofoam food service ware.

GALLONS-PER-MILE FUEL SAVINGS GUIDE (S. 6141B – SQUADRON)

The purpose of this act is to encourage the purchase of more efficient vehicles through clear and accessible information to the public. Information will include cost savings and fuel usage comparisons between vehicles, by emphasizing the gallons of gasoline used by a vehicle rather than the number of miles driven.

[CCE's memo of support for this legislation](#)

GLOBAL WARMING POLLUTION CONTROL ACT

Overwhelming scientific evidence indicates that human activities contribute to global climate change. Our planet is getting hotter and our climate is changing, adversely impacting New York's economy, public health, environment, natural resources, and quality of life. This legislation will reduce the state's greenhouse gas emissions economy wide 80% by 2050, and develop a plan to adapt change already beginning to occur.

HAZARDOUS WASTE REPORTING ACT

Under current law there is a disincentive to report a hazardous spill. If a spill is reported quickly the DEC is better able to determine the amount of the release, which makes it easier to prove a felony violation. In contrast, if a spill is not reported in a timely manner it frequently only results in a misdemeanor. This bill would criminalize the failure to report the release of a hazardous substance, providing the necessary incentive for individuals to report the releases, and in addition would provide greater punishment for chronic concealment of releases.

HEAVY DUTY VEHICLE IDLING PROHIBITION

Idling engines contribute to air quality degradation, and are a significant source of pollution. Idling has negative health effects, including increasing asthma rates. Preventing idling will improve air quality for all New Yorkers. This legislation will prohibit idling for more than three minutes by heavy duty vehicles 8,500 lbs. or more.

HYDRAULIC FRACTURING MORATORIUM

High volume hydraulic fracturing uses millions of gallons of water per well and creates waste products that New York State cannot currently accommodate. Hydro-fracking has reportedly contaminated water in other states. In response to public outcry and Congressional request, the United States Environmental Protection Agency has launched a study to determine the effects of hydraulic fracturing on water resources. To protect public health and the environment, New York State should enact a moratorium on hydro-fracking until EPA completes the study.

MUNICIPAL GREEN POWER PURCHASING (S.4599A-STEWART-COUSINS / A.7096A-GALEF)

Development of renewable energy is critical to combating climate change, improving public health, increasing energy independence, creating jobs, and strengthening our economy. Currently, there is ambiguity regarding if NYS general municipal law allows municipalities to purchase electricity generated from renewable sources, if it is not the lowest bid. This bill clarifies that municipalities can choose to purchase renewable energy, at a slightly higher cost than conventional polluting energy sources.

[CCE's memo of support for this legislation](#)

NET METERING FIX FOR SOLAR AND WIND

Net metering is a policy that allows electric ratepayers with on-site renewable generation to receive a credit for energy sent out to the electric grid when not needed on-site. In 2008, the NYS Legislature updated New York's net metering law to include non-residential customers; however language included undermined the original intent of the law and now prevents many customers from installing appropriately sized renewable energy systems. This legislation would remove problematic language, ensuring greater development in renewable energy and the economic viability of on-site renewable power generation.

PHOSPHORUS: BAN IN DISHWASHING DETERGENTS AND LIMIT IN LAWN FERTILIZERS

Overloading of phosphorus is a leading cause of water quality impairment in NYS. More than 60 NYS water bodies are impaired due to phosphorus, including the New York City watershed, Lake Champlain, and Onondaga Lake. Continued phosphorus loading from unregulated dishwasher detergents and lawn fertilizers threatens the health of our valued water bodies, multi-billion dollar fishing industry, recreational opportunities, and quality of life. This legislation will ban the use of phosphorus in dishwasher detergents and limit phosphorus in fertilizers in NYS.

REDUCING SULFUR CONTENT IN HOME HEATING OIL

This legislation would mandate that the content of sulfur in all home heating oil sold in NY be significantly reduced from 15,000ppm to 15ppm. Although other areas of the oil industry are mandated to use low-sulfur fuel, home heating oil is not. Excess sulfur emissions have been shown to cause asthma, cancer, and even premature death. They also help create acid rain and smog. Oil with less sulfur is healthier, more efficient, and creates less wear-and-tear on heating systems in homes. Reducing the amount of sulfur in heating oil from 15,000ppm to 15ppm would have positive health, fiscal, and environmental benefits. For all of these reasons, New York State should enact this legislation.

SOLAR INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT AND JOBS ACT OF 2010

The Solar Industry Development and Jobs Act of 2010 would establish a baseline market for solar power in New York, and build upon the Governor’s commitment to 100MW of solar power in New York State by 2011. The Act provides a market commitment for solar power in New York, thus creating jobs, reducing dependence on fossil fuels, and helping to combat climate change.

**Preserved the integrity and the funding stream of the EPF
Environmental Protection Fund**

For seventeen years, the Environmental Protection Fund (EPF) has served as New York’s foremost tool to protect and preserve our treasured water, air and land resources, while bolstering local economies and creating green jobs. CCE supports restoring full funding to the EPF; and for maintaining essential programs, such as protecting open space and farmland, controlling polluted stormwater runoff, revitalizing our waterfronts, and restoring our ocean and Great Lakes. The final EPF was funded at \$134 million.

**Citizens Campaign for the Environment
Annual Report, 2010
Program Expenses**

Program Areas Expenses

- Water Protection Programs \$ 652,000
- Public Health and Toxic Chemical Contamination..... \$ 326,100
- Open Space, Habitat and Wildlife Protection \$ 217,400
- Climate Change and Energy Policies \$ 434,800
- Environmental Policy Advancement \$ 543,770

TOTAL 2009 PROGRAM EXPENSES..... \$ 2,174,070

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For a copy of CCE's 990 Financial Report, please contact the New York State Department of State Bureau of Charities Registration, 41 State Street, Albany, New York, 12231 or contact CCE's main office in Farmingdale, NY, 516-390-7150.