



Salem Sound Monitor September 2008 Newsletter

SSCW Contest! Prizes!

Saturday, September 20, 2008 is CoastSweep Day and Salem Sound Coastwatch wants your help.

No, we're not asking you to volunteer (although we will later, so save the date). **We're asking you to give us suggestions of places that need cleaning up.** Do you know of a place along a waterway, in a marsh, or on the coast that has lots of trash and debris?

Call us at 978-741-7900 or email us at info@salemsound.org. If your spot is selected, you will receive a Salem Sound Coastwatch hat and tee shirt!

CoastSweep is part of the Ocean Conservancy's International Coastal Cleanup. Last year almost 400,000 volunteers from 76 countries all over the world picked up six million pounds of trash and debris that could have polluted our oceans and waterways.



We're waiting to hear from you.

Swim & Fin OceanFest A Big Success

The Swim & Fin OceanFest was a big success. Forty seven swimmers and 29 paddlers raced in the clean waters of Salem Harbor, and over \$6500 was raised for Salem Sound Coastwatch's work.

We thank the many volunteers who helped make the festival run smoothly, and a special thanks to our corporate sponsors:

Eastern Bank, Hawthorne Cove Marina, North Shore Medical Center, the family of Dr. Michael Medlock, Beverly Cooperative Bank, and Peabody Essex Museum.



If you have access to email please let us know. Send your email address to info@salemsound.org and we will send you the newsletter electronically. You will be saving a tree and saving SSCW time and money!

Clean Beaches and Streams - SSCW's Flagship Program

You've probably seen them and never thought about what they are--stormwater outfall pipes that is. They are those pipes you see coming out of the banks of rivers and down onto beaches. They carry storm water from our streets and parking lots out to the ocean or into our streams.

For 15 years SSCW volunteers have been getting up at the crack of dawn to take water samples from at least 25 outfall pipes throughout the Salem Sound watershed.

The samples are tested for Enterococcus, a bacteria that shows contamination from human sources, which can indicate a risk to our health. Hot spots are reported to local health and public works departments, and SSCW works with them to find the causes.

Causes can include broken sewer pipes, illicit connections (sewer pipes should not be connected to stormdrain pipes), or animal wastes.

Wild animals can also be a source of contamination--especially birds that collect in one spot. **To keep the water clean, never feed ducks, swans, and gulls and always pick up after your pets!**

Juniper Beach in Salem is a great success story from the Clean Beaches and Streams Program. After SSCW identified this as a hot spot several years ago, a special duck-bill tide gate was placed on the end of the drain pipe and the bacteria numbers have dropped considerably. But there is no "one size fits all" solution. The outfall at Derby Wharf in Salem was recently fitted with a duck-bill, but it is still a hot spot and the hunt for causes continues.

Results from our Clean Beaches & Streams sampling can be found at our website, www.salemsound.org.

Kudos and many thanks to the 12 volunteers who were out at 6 am collecting samples, and many thanks to Cell Signaling Technology for their grant of \$1000 for this program.



And finally, we would like to thank Crunchy Granola Baby, a store in Salem, for collecting money on our behalf and for generously donating all of their gift-wrap fees for several months. Thank you Jennie Cudmore and all the folks at Crunchy Granola Baby.

Sincerely,
Barbara Warren, Executive Director,
Susan Yochelson, Outreach Coordinator

PS--Renew your membership to SSCW or join now online at www.salemsound.org