

- 2014 ANNUAL REPORT -

ACTION TODAY SO FUTURE GENERATIONS CAN CONTINUE TO ENJOY OCEAN ACTIVITIES

W W W . C L E A N O C E A N A C C E S S . O R G

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT



It was hard to imagine when we gathered at the Elks Lodge in 2006 that the concern would last more than one cycle of outrage and calls for action. The outrage was genuine: beaches were closed because of raw sewage spills, access to surf spots was in dispute, and we routinely stepped over garbage on our way to the water. The action was effective: we began testing the water, negotiating access, and organizing cleanups.

Over the years, we began to realize that we could make a difference, but we needed the support of residents, businesses, and elected officials. We allowed ourselves to dream of a sustainable Clean Ocean Access that would support the next generation in enjoying clean water, beaches, and access. That dream is possible because many people volunteered countless hours and inspired all of us. We were granted nonprofit status this year and are now building a sustainable organization to support it.

We have attracted national attention for the amazing activities we have done, but few realize that we have been entirely volunteer-led. Nine years in, we now need to raise enough money to hire full-time staff and increase the impact of our work. I hope that you will review our accomplishments, and join me in making a commitment to help COA become sustainable for now and our future!

Thank you for making this happen!

Drew a. Carey

Drew A. Carey, President, Board of Directors drew.carey@cleanoceanaccess.org

UPDATE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



today!

This wave of positive change is not going to stop. Our actions have made noticeable contributions toward beautifying our coastline; one can only hope that we are also improving ocean health. Finding the right balance of environmental consciousness and fiscal responsibility isn't easy, but with persistence, patience, courage, and grace we can continue to lead the way in making sure our community-based environmental efforts result in protecting our Aquidneck Island environment.

However, the biggest accomplishment of Clean Ocean Access is the momentum of abundance of friendships and positive energy that continues to build within the entire community. When people get outside, connect with nature, and meet other people who care deeply about the coastline, that is when we start to talk openly and easily about the issues facing our island. Making the right decisions for the environment is within our reach and something we can achieve.

The planet will be here for a long time, and the best way to take care of it is to take good care of each other today, so that future generations can continue to enjoy ocean activities. This is our organization and I really look forward to working with everyone on the island and making sure COA lasts forever.

Thank you.

Dave McLaughlin, Executive Director dave.mclaughlin@cleanoceanaccess.org

I can still feel the emotions of a cold January evening in 2006 as we walked into the police station sharing our concern about a parking issue along the cliff walk. People who care about water guality and shoreline access came together in the months that followed. Those months have turned into years and here we are



Eliminating marine debris from the shoreline and changing human behavior to improve ocean health

C | PARTICIPATE IN THE BEACH CLEANUPS BECAUSE FEEL VERY STRONGLY ABOUT BEING ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE. IT IS IMPORTANT TO RAISE AWARENESS OF THE PROBLEMS WITH HOW WE BEHAVE. WITH SO MANY BIG PROBLEMS IN THE WORLD TODAY, THIS IS ONE THAT EVERYONE CAN DO SOMETHING ABOUT.

-RACHEL BENNETT

CLEAN

Whether it is enjoying a walk on the coastline, days at the beach with family or a multitude of ocean activities with your friends; CLEAN exists to make sure these activities occur on a beautiful shoreline of a healthy ocean for future generations. After eight years of cleanups, in 2014 we dedicated our efforts toward creating sustainable programs for marine debris removal and prevention via education and outreach.

2014 Impact

- Performed 61 marine debris removal events covering 46 miles of coastline
- Engaged **1,305** volunteers who performed **2,358** hours of community service
- Removed 11,272 pounds of small to medium size marine debris
- Created the Marine Debris Solutions Lifecycle project at Sachuest Point National Wildlife Refuge
- Continued the 13 weeks of Thursday AFTER5 summer cleanups in Middletown
- Led community-based advocacy for no-smoking ordinance on Aquidneck Island shoreline
- Led community-based advocacy for elimination of single-use plastic bags
- Led island-wide marine debris removal efforts at seven locations for International Coastal Cleanup Expanded marine debris removal via nine events in Portsmouth
- Hosted 16 community and corporate day of service coastal cleanup events
- Promoted marine debris prevention via education and outreach at community events
- Received award from DEM and NEEC for environmental sustainability protocol at Surf Fest IV
- Led Atlantic Cup (presented by 11th Hour Racing) course-wide cleanup

2015 Goals

- Establish Newport Harbor Cleanup pilot program





Expand bimonthly marine debris removal and Marine Debris Solutions Lifecycle pilot project Inspire community-led elimination of smoking on Aquidneck Island shorelines Reduce use of single-use plastic bags, straws, Styrofoam, and balloons via education & outreach

OCEAN

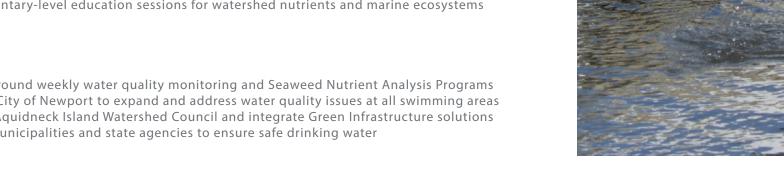
Once you enter the water to enjoy an ocean activity we all want to know that the water is clean and safe for swimming, fishing, and all ocean activities. OCEAN exists to make sure these activities can occur in clean water. 2014 was a year of significant accomplishments as we created an entirely new program for the watershed and improved our regular water collection to 96%.

2014 Impact

- Absorbed the Aquidneck Island Watershed Council into the OCEAN program
- Engaged **52** volunteers who performed **3,127** hours of community service
- Collected year-round weekly water samples in Newport, Middletown, and Portsmouth
- Created year-round weekly Seaweed Nutrient Analysis Program for watershed management
- Collected 408 water samples for Enterococci working with RI Department of Health
- Collected 305 water samples for nitrates, phosphates, PH, and salinity
- Collected 312 seaweed samples identifying genus and species
- Assisted swimmers with water quality in Portsmouth for USMA certification (3rd Annual RIAHOF)
- Monitored water quality in Newport Harbor for 2nd Annual Sharkfest Swim Tournament
- Part of (panel discussion on) Water, Water, Everywhere hosted by Aquidneck Land Trust
- Joined the Green Infrastructure Coalition with lead representation for Aquidneck Island
- Started education and outreach on new EPA 2015 standards for Beach Action Values
- Continued to bring attention to dry-weather elevated levels of bacteria
- Hosted elementary-level education sessions for watershed nutrients and marine ecosystems

2015 Goals

- Expand year-round weekly water quality monitoring and Seaweed Nutrient Analysis Programs
- Partner with City of Newport to expand and address water quality issues at all swimming areas
- Re-energize Aquidneck Island Watershed Council and integrate Green Infrastructure solutions
- Assist local municipalities and state agencies to ensure safe drinking water



C THE WATER TESTING IS A SIMPLE WAY FOR ME TO HELP COA AND MAKES ME FEEL GOOD. IT GIVES ME A CHANCE TO BE PART OF THE MESSAGE OF INSTILLING GENUINE CONCERN AND LOVE OF OUR LOCAL ENVIRONMENT.

-KIRK VIDOTTO

from healthy watersheds to marine ecosystems



Improving water quality for permanent year-round clean water







Working to protect, preserve, and maintain shoreline access for residents and visitors



ACCESS

Getting to the shoreline is how an ocean activity starts. This is also the issue that prompted the community to start COA. Public access to the shoreline is part of the RI Constitution and expanding public access via CRMC is part of the RI General Assembly laws.

2014 Impact

- Monitored 14 public rights-of-way in Newport and Middletown
- Engaged 11 volunteers who performed 452 hours of community service
- Completed 290 site surveys identifying issues and prompting local officials for resolution Provided eight quarterly reports to Newport and Middletown
- Adopted four rights-of-way along the Newport Cliff Walk in partnership with CRMC .
- Expanded monitoring program to three additional rights-of-way in Middletown
- Partnered with Friends of the Waterfront (FOW) in protecting public access to Newport Harbor
- Assisted with creation of the Harbor Walk Commission with City of Newport and FOW .
- Assisted DOT and City of Newport with cliff walk repairs because of Hurricane Sandy Actively participated in Cliff Walk Commission
- Developed and shared state-wide strategy for protecting coastline between access points

2015 Goals

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- Expand monitoring of public rights-of-way program to all of Aquidneck Island
- Work with CRMC on COA-authored strategy for adopting coastline between access points
- Join and lead efforts of Harbor Walk Commission to create a continuous harbor walk
- Educate the public about shoreline access and inspire long-lasting stewardship



WANT TO PROTECT EVERYONE'S RIGHT TO ENJOY THE OCEAN NOW AND IN THE FUTURE. VOLUNTEERING GIVES ME THE ABILITY TO FURTHER THIS CAUSE, MAINTAIN MY CONNECTION TO THE OCEAN YEAR ROUND, AND SHARE THIS WONDERFUL CONNECTION WITH MY DAUGHTER.

-PATRICK DOYLE







COMMUNITY

Connecting with our community is the essential ingredient for sustainability; it is also lots of fun! Over the years we've welcomed all opportunities to organize and participate in community events to bring awareness to the importance of taking good care of the environment. These events create friendships and give people the opportunity to participate in becoming stewards of our ocean and island.

2014 Impact

- Participated in 48 community events to share the Clean Ocean Access message
- Engaged **253** volunteers who performed **1,844** hours of community service
- Partnered with schools, youth groups, and non-profits to improve quality of life on the island

2015 Goals

- Strive to make sure that everyone on the island has an opportunity to be part of COA
- Make sure all COA volunteer activities are fun, easy, impactful, and rewarding
- Develop education programs for hands-on problem-based learning for local schools
- Partner with schools, youth groups, and non-profits to improve quality of life on the island

Events

AmericaCorps VISTA project Annual Winter Party Aquidneck Island Outreach Paddle Barrington Cub Scouts Conservation Award Bureo Skateboards and Green Drinks Cambridge Associates Community Service CCRI Graphic Arts Partnership Clean Water Action Environmental Awards Cluny School Environmental Education Earth Day at Portsmouth High School Earth Day at Salve Regina University Embrace Home Loans Community Service Endless Summer Camp & Island Sports Genentech Community Service Green Infrastructure Neighborhood Walk Inaugural Fundraiser at Easton's Beach Rotunda International Coastal Cleanup

International SeaKeepers with Boys & Girls Club Education Jamestown Community Skate Contest Living Water Surf Shop Cookout Maidford River Discovery Project Newport Bridge Run Newport Girl Scouts Newport Harbor SharkFest Swim Event Newport SUP CUP Environmental Awareness Newport Yacht Club Green Drinks NewportFILM DamNation Newport 10Miler Joe Would Go Water Stop Patagonia Holiday Party Portsmouth Girl Scouts Prout School Community Service Rhode Island Aquatic Hall of Fame Swim Rhody Surf Sloppy 2nd Beach Cleanup

RhodySquash Environmental Education RWU and Chinese Exchange students' environmental education Saint Patrick's Day Parade Salve Regina University Community Day of Service Salve Regina University Sociology Imagination Project Salve Regina University Taste of Service 2nd Annual Paddle to Remember Sheldon Whitehouse Environmental Summit Surf Fest IV Environmental Sustainability Thompson Middle School Oscar Awards Volunteer Appreciation Cookout WADK Radio Shows Weaver Cove Discovery Event





DONORS & SUPPORTERS

Clean Ocean Access thanks these individuals, businesses, and organizations that provided financial support (monetary and in-kind gifts) in 2014. These contributions provide the funding to execute our core programs which, along with our numerous volunteers, advance our mission.

A Market A1 Roofing and Construction LLC Cheryl and Marvin Abney Danielle and Sid Abruzzi Flaine Amaral Anchor Bend Glassworks Aauidneck Island Watershed Council Aauidneck Pizza Patricia Archer and Jane Steele Aull Pilates **Beach House Newport** Annie Becker Patricia Bestoso BJ's Wholesale Club Gretchen Bloom **Blue Plate Diner** Andrew Bobenski Thomas Borden Melanie Bouchard Donna Bouressa **Richard Braun** Matthew Breede Broadway Pizza Lesley Brooking-Elms Cate Brown Photo Michael Brown Kari Brugman Judith Byrnes Drew Carev and Lisa Colburn Robert Carrellas Lauren Carson Linda Carvelli Bill Casey Marty Casey Lynn and Vincent Ceglie Mark Chesterton and Meaan O'Rourke Dana Clay Coastal Urge Inarid Coddinaton Coddington Brewery Elizabeth and Martin Cohen Concord Music Group Constellation Brands

Corona Beverages Leslie and Russ Costa Helen and John De St. Jorre Monica DeAngelis Edna Dennis *Correne and John Donnelly* Edward Draper Ned Draper Bobby Drought Shellev Dunaan Ronald DuVall Eastern Surfing Association, South New England District Elemental Island Sports Colleen Elias Jaclvn Emma Empire Tea and Coffee Enviro Sports Productions, Inc. Dawn Euer Jason Evans Casey Fasciano Phvllis and Thomas Finn Thomas Finn Mark Flaherty Flint Audio Thomas Freeman Fruition Joseph Germano Pamela Gilpin Lorraine Going Pamela and John Grant Helene Grosvenor Jamie Haines and Kris Matthews Ann and Donald Hammer Kacie Harrington Nicole and Brian Hawkins Matthew Haves George Hill John Hirschboeck Eric Hovermale and Mary Clare O'Gradv Island Heron Island Liauors Lynn and Jonathan Kaye Winifred Kelley

Kathleen and Jeffrey Kenney Meg Kerr Kingston Pizza Nancy and Richard Klaffky Melanie Lamountain Livina Water Surf Shop Pamela and Jeffrey Logioco Deborah Lucente Carla Lundquist Marilvn Lvell Pede Manchester and Marion Pierce Paul Manning Kate Markey Adrian Massie Jennifer and John McCabe Dave McLauahlin Frannie McLaughlin Jayna McLaughlin Men's Hair Beth and Russell Milham Mission Mission2.Ocean Patricia Murphy Newport Acupuncture Newport Athletic Club THE NEWPORT EXPERIENCE Newport Nautical Supply Newport Restoration Foundation Newport SeaFoam Newport Storm Newport Tent Company Newport Vineyards Joseph Nicholson Andrew and Lynn Nicoletta 99 Restaurants Norey's Alvson and Bob Novick One-Eighty One Pelham East Lynn and Edward Ousley Michelle and Ian Estaphan Owen Sandra Oxx Andrea Panaggio John Panaggio

Patagonia Exum Pike Pour Judgement Pruitt Chiropractor Jackson Reaper Patrick Redmond Reflexology **Re-Sails** Rhode Island Foundation (ECRI) Rhody Surf Jose Campbell Rock Linda Rogers RPMS Mike Rubin Briaid Rvan Ryan Maguire Art Studio Kathy and Turner Scott Louise and Richard Shovelton Smith Optics Spindrift Soap Company Starbucks Newport Stop & Shop Bellevue Stop & Shop Connell Highway Stop & Shop Middletown Stroller Strides Alexander Sumberg Surf Fest IV Michael Sweeney Tavern on Broadwav Tito's Cantina WaterBros Judith Webb Teresa Paiva Weed Susan and Roger Wells Duffield White Lvnn Wiinikka Mark Williams June Wina Barbara and Robert Winkler Christine Winslow Henry Winthrop Marv and David Wixted Chip Young ҮМСА

Solutions for environmental issues start by connecting people with nature and inspiring actionable small steps to improve the quality of life. Thousands of people have volunteered for COA activities and this effort is the lifeblood of our organization. We want to recognize the folks who put in consistent dedicated time to our core programs in 2014. If your name is missing, don't worry, Mother Nature is keeping the master list...

Danielle Abruzzi Barbara Alpert Constantine Amarant Sandra Baer **Rich Balouskus** Elizabeth Barker Fred Barker Dominique Baron Lindsey Basile Kevin Behan Rachel Bennett Sam Berger Barbara Bessette Patricia Bestoso Correna Blewett Tyson Bottenus Melanie Bouchard Donna Bouressa Michael Brown Jim Brugman TJ Brugman Eddie Burke Aspen Burke Jon Burr Heather Casey Justin Casey Martha Casey Marty Casey Jameson Chace Jonathan Clancy Ingrid Coddington Joe Cooper Symon Cousens Billie Crawford Brendan Crawford

Brad Crook Mary Ann Crook Dawn Dimeola Larry Dimeola Skylar Dimeola Patrick Doyle Bob Elliott **Bert Emerson** Ruth Emerson Michelle Estaphan Owen Jason Evans Linda Everitt Timothy Fater Dave Fitzgerald Andrew Florey Darcy Flynn Hootie Fogg Daphne Forster Bruce Foulke Kathy Foulke Thomas Freeman Jay Garrett Michael Geraghty Elizabeth Gibbs Pam Gilpin Ella Going Tara Gragg Erin Greco Kate Greene Marty Grimes Sue Grimes Mary Guenther John Guilfoyle Don Hammer Linda Hammer

THE BEAUTY OF CLEAN OCEAN ACCESS IS THAT IT BRINGS TOGETHER HUNDREDS - MAYBE EVEN THOUSANDS -OF US WHO LOVE THE OCEAN AND THE BAY, THE BEACHES AND THE ROCKY SHORE, TO EACH DO OUR PART IN CREATING A POWERFUL, LASTING STEWARDSHIP FOR OUR COAST. -FI IZABETH GIBBS

VOLUNTEERS

Frank Hanson Nicole Hawkins Brian Hawkins Matthew Hayes Colleen Hench Lola Hererra Kala Horvitz **Christine Houle** Jim Houston Eric Hovermale Andrew Johnson Mil Kinsella Tatiana Kravanja Melanie LaMountain Mike Landers Nicole Landry Benjamin Lee Steve Leslie Dave Livingston Aaron Lloyd Laura Loftus Jeff Logioco Ben Lundgren Jay Lyons Peter Martin Adrian Massie Elizabeth Mathinos Lee Ann McCarthy Joe McGovern (RIP) Jack McVicker Peter Medeiros John Migliori Katie Moorhead Jason Oakley Jeremiah O'Connor

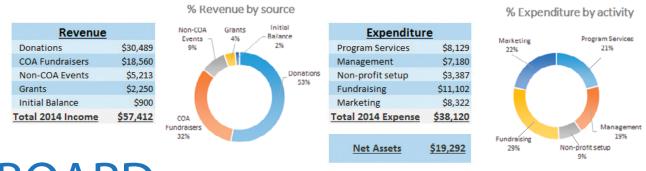
Kevin O'Halloran Chris Palmer Sue Panaggio Kevin Patel **Gregory** Pearson Aggie Perkins **Owen Perkins** Ky Plamondon Kirk Razza Christa Reise Tom Reko Meghan Rinaldi-Young Amy Rose Sarah Rundquist Steven Sabo Brian Sargent Laura Schmitt Meghan Sepe Patrick Sheerin Ashley Sobin Teaque Sobin Krystal Sotelo Michelle Sullivan James Underwood Tom Vars Victor Vazquez Courtenay Veenis Kirk Vidotto Johanna Vietry Kathy Weathers Andrew Wesner Travis Wright



FINANCIALS

2014 started with an initial balance of less than \$1000. After a successful winter party in January the board incorporated Clean Ocean Access on February 20th and the IRS granted our 501c (3) status on September 15th. This was perfect timing for our inaugural fundraiser in October. We supported events outside of Clean Ocean Access and shared in revenue from those events. We expanded our programs, spread the word about COA, and ended the year with over \$19,000 and the ambitious goal for 2015 of transitioning from a volunteer-run organization to hiring full-time staff.

In 2015 we will focus on a COA-original fundraising campaign, grants, and business partnerships so that our executive director and staff (to be determined) can earn salaries and keep the wave of momentum going forward.



BOARD



DREW CAREY, PRESIDENT

Drew developed the COA water testing program and argued on behalf of all the animals that live at Ruggles. He has a PhD in Marine Ecology and Geology from the University of St. Andrews, Scotland and a BS in Oceanography and Geology from The Evergreen State College. He has been a marine environmental consultant on Aquidneck Island for 25 years.

KATHRYN MARKEY LUNDGREN, VICE PRESIDENT

Kate has led the seaweed nutrient analysis program and inspired the community to get actively involved in improving the health of our watershed via monitoring water quality and seaweed analysis. As vice president she has worked on organizing the board, fundraising, and community events. She has a BS in Aquaculture and Fisheries Technology, and a MS in Aquaculture from URI. A resident of Middletown, she is employed at Roger Williams University as a technician in the Aquatic Diagnostic Laboratory.





lan has been actively involved in COA for several years; his most recent efforts helped transform COA into a non-profit. He has an EEE Degree from the Royal Navy (UK) and received a commendation from the UK's Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA) when he helped set up and run an oiled bird rescue and rehabilitation center in Saudi Arabia during the first Gulf War. Ian is currently a senior program manager at Sonos Inc. A resident of Jamestown, he loves fishing just as much as surfing.

Monica DeAngelis, Secretary



ANDREW GOING, BOARD MEMBER Sciences and a MS in Physical Therapy from URI. A Newport native who currently lives in Bristol, he is a licensed and practicing physical therapist.

ELAINE AMARAL, BOARD MEMBER Elaine has been actively involved with the marine debris removal programs and leads the efforts to integrate high school community into core programs. She has a BS and MS in Secondary Science Education from URI. She teaches Physics, Earth Science and Oceanography at Portsmouth High School.



MICHAEL SWEENEY, BOARD MEMBER Michael has been actively involved with the core programs and is one of the founding citizens who led the grassroots movement. Michael received his BA in Marine Affairs from URI. He is currently employed at the Goat Island Marina as the general manager. Mike is a life-long Aquidneck Island resident which has led to a lifestyle revolving around the ocean and outdoor environment. A proud father of three, he now lives in Portsmouth.

Ned Draper, Board Member Ned first connected with COA during the cliff walk repairs project in 2013 and participates weekly with watershed efforts. He has a BA in Business Administration and a MS in Management from Salve Regina University and is the Director of Academic Budgets and Resources at the Rhode Island School of Design. As a resident of Portsmouth he has deep appreciation for the diversity of Aquidneck Island, and our reliance upon the ocean.



JAMIE HAINES, BOARD MEMBER Jamie grew up in Jamestown, RI and spent her younger years either in or on the water. She is an ambassador for 11th Hour Racing and has a BA in Marine Biology from Connecticut College. Jamie is a professional sailor and is committed to restoring and protecting the health of the ocean. Jamie works to make the sailing community aware of its environmental impact.

JIMMY FLYNN, BOARD MEMBER Jimmy Flynn has spent most of his life on the water, growing up in the coastal town of Juneau, Alaska followed by a 30-year career in the United States Coast Guard. Jimmy retired in 2011, and moved to Rhode Island and is working on a degree in Marine Biology at Roger Williams University. Jimmy has been involved with Clean Ocean Access and Seaweed Nutrient Analysis program (SNAP) since 2013 alongside his wife, Darcy.



ANNIE BECKER, BOARD MEMBER

Annie Becker sailed into Newport on a boat and never left. Annie is a realtor on the island and has a BS in Statistics and Finance from Syracuse University. Annie brings combined experiences from thousands of miles of offshore sailing, work in the environmental and non-profit fields, and a strong personal connection to the outdoors and the marine environment to COA's mission.

David McLaughlin, Executive Director Dave is the Co-founder of Clean Ocean Access and is working on transforming the organization into a sustainable non-profit such that the mission lasts forever. He received his BS and MS in Applied Mathematics from the Florida Institute of Technology with a concentration in atmospheric science and physical oceanography. Before this journey, Dave had a career in Information Technology as an enterprise architect at Hasbro Toy Company which he applies to COA every day

Monica's COA activities include the cliff walk repairs project, outreach, education, special events, and fostering partnerships. She has a BS in Biology from UNH and a MS in Biology from SDSU and is employed by National Marine Fisheries Service as a marine mammal biologist. She was born and raised in Newport and is passionate about educating people about the environment, especially children, so they can teach others about the importance of clean, healthy oceans.

Andrew is one of the founding citizens who helped create our grassroots movement. Andrew's conviction that community engagement leads to accomplished goals is one of our founding principles. He has a BS in Human

BOARD









OUR MISSION

ACTION TODAY SO FUTURE GENERATIONS CAN CONTINUE TO ENJOY OCEAN ACTIVITIES



OUR ANNUAL REPORT IS DEDICATED TO THE VOLUNTEERS AND DONORS WHO HAVE WORKED SINCE 2006 ON OUR MISSION AND MADE CLEAN OCEAN ACCESS A LEADING ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP ON AQUIDNECK ISLAND. IT IS OUR GREATEST DESIRE FOR THE COMMUNITY THAT OUR MISSION WILL ONE DAY BE COMPLETE, BUT UNTIL THEN WE NEED YOUR HELP.

JOIN US IN PROTECTING OUR PRECIOUS COASTAL ENVIRONMENT AND SPREADING OUR MESSAGE.

PLEASE GIVE WHAT YOU CAN THROUGH OUR APPEALS OR AT OUR WEBSITE: WWW.CLEANOCEANACCESS.ORG.



3 Haskell Avenue Newport, RI 02840 | 401-465-0628 | info@cleanoceanaccess.org COA was founded in 2006 and became a 501 (c)(3) not-for-profit organization in 2014.