



### **PEP CAC Summer Meeting Agenda**

Monday June 15, 2015 6:00pm-8:00pm

East Hampton Town 159 Pantigo Rd. East Hampton, NY

Call in Information: 1-855-244-8681 WebEx meeting number: 647 397 660

Password: CaC2015

- 6:00PM Introductions- Kevin McDonald, CAC Committee Chairman
- 6:10PM Program Office Update- Alison Branco, PEP Program Director
- 6:20PM Peconic Estuary Protection Committee Partnership- Rachel Gruzen  
Coordinator
- 6:45PM Plum Island CAC Statement – Chris Cryder, Plum Island Preservation  
Coalition
- 7:00PM Community Program Presentations  
Presenter: Dan Gulizio, Peconic Baykeeper (20 min)  
*"Understanding the link between water quality, land use and public policy"*  
  
Presenter: Glynis Berry, Peconic Green Growth (20 min)  
*"Community Characteristics impacting water quality in the Peconic Estuary"*
- 7:45 PM Discussion and Closing Remarks

### **Important 2015 PEP CAC Dates**

- ✓ Call to Action Conference Tuesday September 22 8:00am-12:00pm  
Atlantis Aquarium Ballroom Riverhead, NY 11901  
FIELD TOUR: Riverhead Sewer District at Indian Island Golf Course 12:30pm
- ✓ Fall CAC Meeting Wednesday November 18 1:00-3:00pm  
Cornell Cooperative Extension 423 Griffing Ave. Riverhead, NY 11901
- ✓ POSTPONED to March 10, 2016 Location TBD  
Joint Long Island Sound Study/Peconic Estuary Program Meeting

### **CONTACT**

[cac@peconicestuary.org](mailto:cac@peconicestuary.org)

Sherryll Jones, PEP Outreach Coordinator 631/727-7850 ext. 353

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East Hampton Town Hall 159 Pantigo Rd. East Hampton, NY

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PROGRAM UPDATE- Alison Branco Program Director

Gave a short history of program, summarized initiatives, and described stakeholders for the many new faces to the meeting. Continued Congressional funding of ANEP, Zeldin on Congressional committee to approve. PEP CAC sent a letter of support in the fall to ask for support on the budget approval.

Riverhead STP/irrigation project description. Move to find other golf courses in the same area to hookup to the project. CAC member asked about doing the same to sod farms. Tour of plant being given after the Call to Action conference in September.

Alison passed out a copy of the bill for the Community Preservation Fund (CPF) to inform members. Moving ahead into the next few years, committees need to update the CCMP that was last updated in 2001.

Peconic fishkill- Alison explained anoxia and passed out the Press Release points. Ray Huntington population questions answered by this event and by separate correspondence between Alison and Emerson.

CAC Action → How can the CAC support the CPF

THE NEW PECONIC ESTUARY PROTECTION COMMITTEE- Rachel Gruzen

Introduction to the new inter-municipal group between eleven municipalities. Mission statement protecting and improving water quality, similar to PEP. Help with restoration projects and water quality goals. 2015 group of municipalities includes:

- Town of Easthampton
- Town of Southampton
- Town of Shelter Island
- Village of Sag Harbor
- Village of North Haven
- Town of Brookhaven
- Town of Riverhead
- Town of Southold
- Village of Greenport
- New York State Department of Transpiration
- Suffolk County Department of Health Services

Sharing best practices Riverhead and Greenport Stormwater improvement technologies/ septic agricultural, residential fertilizer discharges.

Addressing DEC shellfish bed closures- obtaining a Quality Assurance Plan (QAP) to get more data and water quality samples. Volunteer network between the municipalities and citizens- training to start over the next year at SCMELC, data useful to the aquaculturists, for training and educations purposes leading to citizen involvement with PEPC. Sherryll Jones and Rachel Gruzen - use estuary protection and civic committees and the **Stormwater Stewardship Network** to start this educational training water quality testing.

Public comment period for groups with qualitative and quantifiable data to report to the DEC in June 2016. All parameters not necessary just a report. What is the full list of protocol for monitoring (bacteria, nitrogen)? Rachel will collect criteria and location to communicate to the public by next June to make a remediation plan. (Class A water bodies not listed). Rachel to have a special meeting just for this purpose with all interested parties.

CAC Action → Get involved in the Stormwater Stewardship Network

PLUM ISLAND PRESERVATION COALITION- Chris Cryder, Save The Sound

Gave background on the history of the Plum Island. Finer points of lawsuit and what was/was not involved in the proper research of the island discussed. Congressman Zeldin- Save Don't Sell bipartisan. Financial points of sale vs. cost of building in Kansas/ value of island presented. CAC Statement of support passed around. Preliminary poll showed committee is interested in signing it. Letter will be distributed via email for signatures.

Plum Island Art Show offers virtual tour and photography of the island. Looking for venues. Contact Chris at [ccryder@savethesound.org](mailto:ccryder@savethesound.org) for dates and times.

CAC Action → Pass the statement around and get a letter signed

PECONIC BAYKEEPER- Dan Guilizio

Dangers of growth and development and density everywhere particularly on the east end. Change the way localities change their planning. Baykeepers message, education to the public. Get more Citizens to show up at planning commission meeting- get public opinion at meetings. Science drives policy. Contact [info@peconicbaykeeper.org](mailto:info@peconicbaykeeper.org) for more on the Baykeeper conservancy model

Ways to help:

- 1) New plans adopted policy
- 2) Septic plans with good science- quantifiable goals
- 3) Look at regulatory process-get politics out of it

## PECONIC GREEN GROWTH- Glynis Berry

Offered an overview of her research on cesspools in the five east end townships. Cesspools are grandfathered into regulation, not required to be updated if fail. Style direct deep injection need to change to shallow field. Groundwater raising with climate change, flood and storm surge. All hamlets and towns and data on the PCC website <http://www.peconicgreengrowth.org>

Nitrogen action laws. Address nonconforming issues; look at lbs. per acre with development. Social equity and subsidies needed to apply standards  
Offer her choices for action: Upgrade to code, enhanced single on site system, soil based treatment, clustered, central sewer districts.

## CAC ACTION DISCUSSION

A discussion of these topics and more followed the presentations:

- Need County to approve so we can do the things we want.
- Time to get data from officials for analysis is too long.
- People very interested in the second half of PGG presentation. Offer at another CAC meeting? Online? Special Presentation?
- Future of infrastructure: Supplemental revenue source, watershed improvement district (tax bills over 30 years financed), surcharge on water bill to a infrastructure improvement fund (developer impact fee). Southampton Town rebate program short-lived
- Citizen concerned about posting for this meeting in the East Hampton Star- Kim Shaw and Sherryll Jones both sent notice.
- Town of Old Saybrook, CT as an example for politics and ecosystem action.
- Tampa Bay Estuary Program as an example, 30 years ago implemented, they have met their seagrass goals.
- Role of citizens pressure their towns and counties to reform and then state and feds to refinance/fund.
- Citizen concerned about little yellow signs for pesticides application. Simple action not so technical- how to reach out to those like her?
- Spraying of Acabonic Harbor for vector control- Freshwater mosquitos in saltwater areas. Talk to neighbors about your position. Be advocates.
- Hold special meeting topics in PEP (Survey with topic voting)
- Wetland Stewards Law to assess that health (GET MORE INFO ON THIS)