



# River Currents



Winter 2013

[www.gehwa.org](http://www.gehwa.org)

Issue 61

## Jersey Shore Open for Boating

“Of course we’re going to have a boating season—this is New Jersey! Sandy was devastating, but the State is cleaning up our waterways. We’re going to have a great shore season, you just need to be a little more careful than before Sandy and use a little more common sense out there.

— Governor Chris Christie

New Jersey waterways are open to recreational boating, fishing and hunting. Marinas are cleaning up, slip rentals are available, charter boats and party boats are booking customers, and kayak liveries and sail schools are gearing up for paddlers and sailors.

Governor Christie is committed to ensuring that coastal communities are open for tourism and recreation this summer. The State is removing storm-related debris and sand from its waterways throughout coastal New Jersey and our storm-impacted bays. Cleanup likely will continue into the fall. Superstorm Sandy was extremely destructive and you may encounter hazards in the water, so use caution.

Be a responsible boater:

- Stay in the navigation channels or deeper water.
- Proceed at lower speeds and use a lookout, as if piloting in uncharted waters.
- If you see an area marked to stay away from, stay away from it. Keep your eyes open for debris that might be out there but isn’t marked.
- Always wear a life jacket.
- Stay clear of debris removal and dredging operations.

Be aware of potential changes in waterway conditions since Sandy:

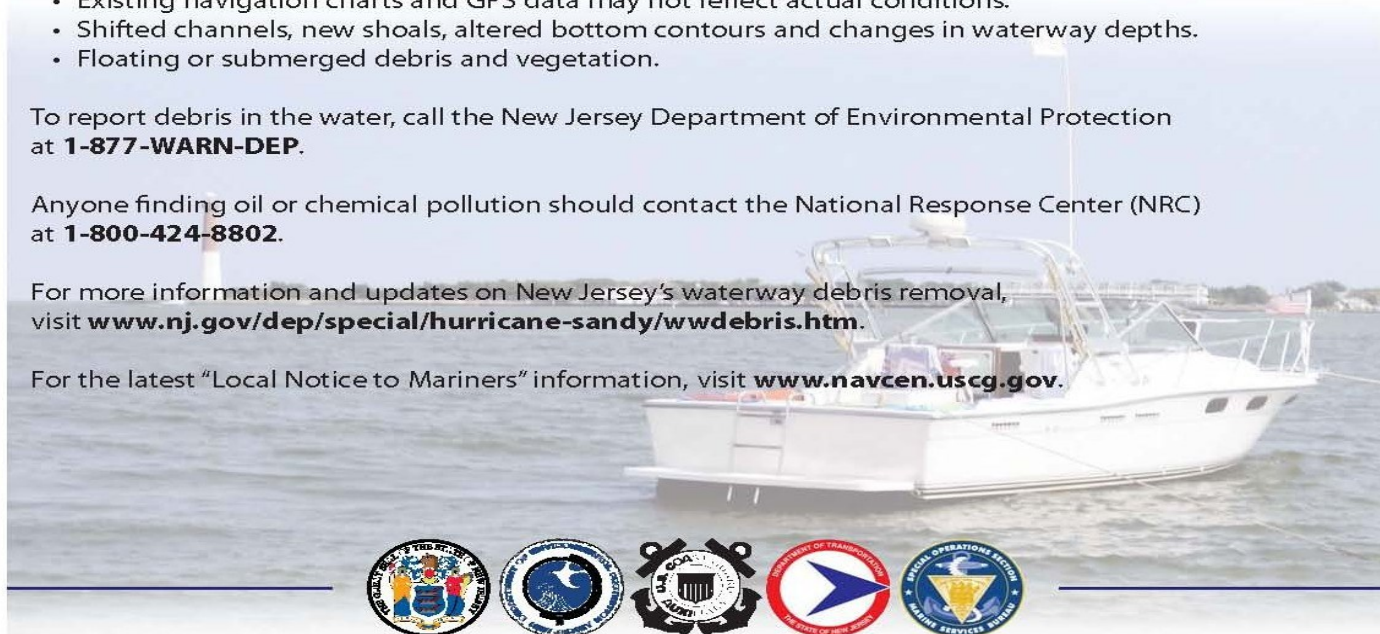
- Existing navigation charts and GPS data may not reflect actual conditions.
- Shifted channels, new shoals, altered bottom contours and changes in waterway depths.
- Floating or submerged debris and vegetation.

To report debris in the water, call the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection at **1-877-WARN-DEP**.

Anyone finding oil or chemical pollution should contact the National Response Center (NRC) at **1-800-424-8802**.

For more information and updates on New Jersey’s waterway debris removal, visit [www.nj.gov/dep/special/hurricane-sandy/wwdebris.htm](http://www.nj.gov/dep/special/hurricane-sandy/wwdebris.htm).

For the latest “Local Notice to Mariners” information, visit [www.navcen.uscg.gov](http://www.navcen.uscg.gov).





## River Neighbor Lynn Wood Keeps a Watchful Eye on the Great Egg Harbor River

Lynn Wood, who lives along the banks of the Great Egg Harbor River keeps an eye on the activities that take place on the Osprey platform that is located across the river from her home.

On January 26, 2013, Lynn took a photograph of two Bald Eagles perched on the old, leaning, snow covered

Osprey platform and sent the picture to Fred Akers. Fred thought that the Osprey platform needed to be replaced, especially after finding the pole from a similar platform snapped in two following the Derecho last year.

That nest had three Osprey chicks that died after being dumped on the ground.

Plans were made to replace the old platform on March 23, 2013. A male Osprey had already returned to the nesting site but had not begun building a nest.

Any work being done to the Osprey platform needed to be completed before April, 1. This is the deadline that has been established by the NJDEP. By that date Osprey have already begun migrating back to New Jersey and have begun building their nests. Osprey pairs generally return to the nesting site used the previous year. The male returns before the female.

Even though the male Osprey was sitting on the nesting platform, the plans to remove the old platform and replace it with a new one went forward. The old platform was cut down and the new platform was erected on March 23. Not to be deterred by a bit of new construction, the male Osprey quickly reestablished himself at his chosen site. He was photographed on the new platform on March 24. By March 30, a female Osprey had joined the male and they began building their nest. By April 5 the nest looked completed.

Hopefully Lynn will send pictures of the new babies.



**The Watchful Eye of River Neighbor Lynn Wood**



**Bald Eagles on the Snowy Old Osprey Platform 1/26/2013**



**Male Osprey Establishing its Territory on the Old Osprey Platform 3-23-2013**



**New Osprey Platform March 24, 2013**



**March 30, 2013**



**April 5, 2013**





**Pictures from the  
March 23, 2013 re-  
placement of the old  
Osprey Platform**





# Exploring the World of Honeybees

Part 1 in a 4 Part Series

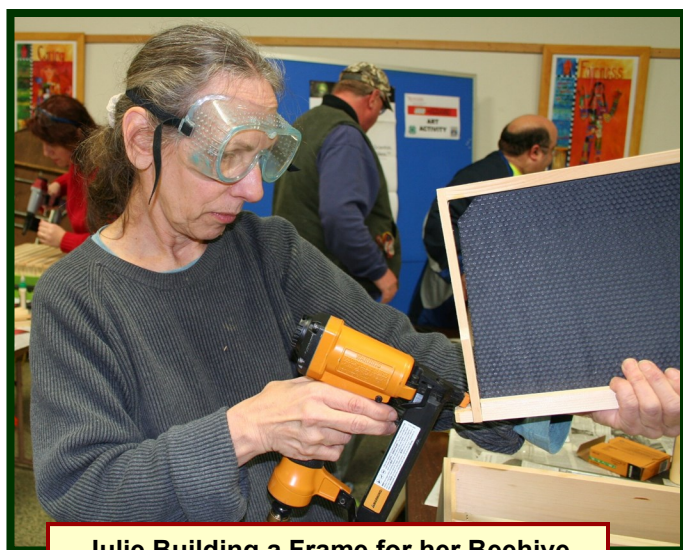
By Lynn Maun



**Worker Honeybees**

During the months of February and March of this year Julie Akers and Lynn and John Maun attended the “Beginning Beekeepers Course” that was sponsored by the Jersey Cape Beekeepers Association (JCBA). During the classes, which were led by members of the JCBA and Tim Schuler, NJ State Apiarist, we learned beekeeping basics. In case you’re wondering what an Apiarist is (I didn’t have a clue), it is a beekeeper who has beehives which are kept in a apiary or bee yard. We increased our vocabulary by learning many new words associated with bees and beekeeping.

We are planning to be hobby beekeepers. Our focus is to help sustain the threatened honeybee populations in our region. Honeybees are the major pollinators of many of our fruits and vegetables. In recent years there has been widespread die off of honeybees around the world (known as Colony Collapse Disorder). Though there is no definite answer as to what is killing the bees, there is a great deal of attention focused on the neonicotinoid pesticides and varroa mites (first discovered in honeybee hives in the 90’s). We will be practicing organic beekeeping methods in an effort to reduce our bees’ exposure to chemicals.



**Julie Building a Frame for her Beehive**

Over the course of the coming year, we will share our experiences as we learn to manage our beehives. Julie’s apiary is located in the pinelands and is surrounded by an oak/pine forest. Lynn and John’s apiary is located in a more diverse habitat of forested uplands and wetlands, backyard gardens and farm fields.

After finishing our seven weeks of instruction, we are looking forward to receiving our bees and installing them into their new hive. The following is a link to the New Jersey Beekeepers Association website: <http://www.njbeekeepers.org/>.

Over the



**Lynn and John Celebrating Successfully Building Their Beehive**



## GEHWA Member Meeting

### **"Hike for Frogs"**

**Tuesday, May 28, 2013 at  
7:30 PM, at Sahara Sands  
In Monroe Township**



Amphibians found previously at Sahara Sands have included: Pine Barrens Treefrog, New Jersey Chorus Frog, Northern Spring Peeper, Southern Leopard Frog, Carpenter Frog, Fowler's Toad, Green Frog, Northern Grey Tree Frog and Bullfrog.

Call Lynn if you have any questions at 856-453-0416 or email [lynnkmaun@comcast.net](mailto:lynnkmaun@comcast.net). I will be available by cell phone (856-649-2792) on May 28<sup>th</sup>. **We will be getting our feet wet, so wear old shoes or boots. Don't forget your bug spray and a flashlight.**

**Directions from Rte. 322:** Go south on Piney Hollow Rd./Brewster Rd. 1.2 miles from Rte. 322 to Jackson Rd. Make a left onto Jackson Rd and go about .7 miles to the parking area/entrance to Sahara Sands on the left/north side of Jackson Rd. If you get to Cedar Lake WMA on your right, you went a bit too far.

**Directions from Rte. 40:** Go north on Piney Hollow Rd./Brewster Rd. 4.6 miles from Rte 40 to Jackson Rd. Make a right onto Jackson Rd and go about .7 miles to the parking area/entrance to Sahara Sands on the left/north side of Jackson Rd. If you get to Cedar Lake WMA on your right, you went a bit too far.



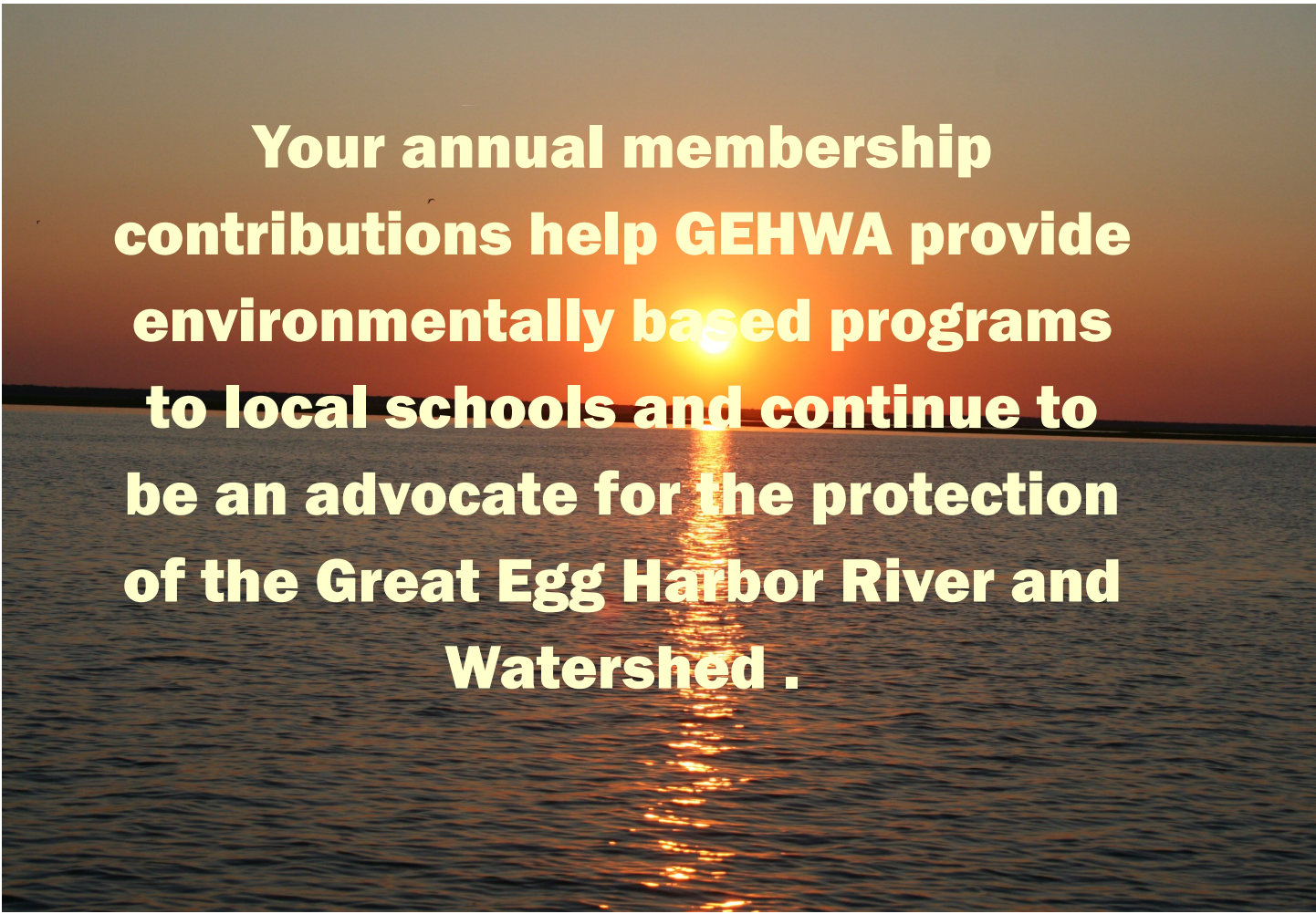
**Please join us** as we search for the elusive Pine Barrens Tree Frog and many other frogs and toads during GEHWA's

### **"Hike for Frogs"**

At Sahara Sands in Monroe Township.





A photograph of a sunset over a body of water, with the sun low on the horizon and its reflection shimmering on the water's surface. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and blue.

**Your annual membership  
contributions help GEHWA provide  
environmentally based programs  
to local schools and continue to  
be an advocate for the protection  
of the Great Egg Harbor River and  
Watershed .**

### **GEHWA Membership Information**

Your membership supports our mission and ensures our survival as a non-profit advocate, as we work to protect and preserve the Great Egg Harbor River and Watershed throughout the year. Your support is needed now more than ever. Without you, we could not exist. Thank you for your support!

Name/Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State and Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ **Yes, I would like to receive notices by Email.**

**Annual Membership:** Individual: \$10; Family: \$15; Supporting: \$35; Patron: \$50; Corporate: \$100

**Please mail this form along with your check to:** Great Egg Harbor Watershed Association,  
Membership P.O. Box 109, Newtonville, NJ 08346



The **Official** New Jersey Fishing, Hunting & Wildlife Guide is a mobile app that is **FREE** to download!

<http://www.pocketrangerexchange.com/apps/Detail/63964006-6a22-f3f2-1144-85aa4e0a23b4>

Gain access to useful information in the palm of your hand. This innovative outdoor guide, powered by Pocket Ranger® technology, brings the outdoors to your fingertips and helps you plan the perfect backcountry adventure. You will be able to locate New Jersey's many fishing, hunting and wilderness sites and gain immediate access to on-the-spot species profiles, rules and regulations, and important permits and licensing details.

Advanced GPS technology enhances any trek through the woods, allowing you to record trails and use waypoints and photo waypoints to mark traps and keep track of wildlife sightings. With the app's "Nearest Me" feature, uncover which wildlife resource management areas or public fishing areas are closest to you, so you can embark on your adventure right away. With the NJ Fishing, Hunting & Wildlife Guide in your pocket, you'll be able to spend more time hunting, fishing and wildlife viewing and less time trying to recall details from memory.

### Contact Information

#### Great Egg Harbor Watershed Association

Julie Akers, President (856) 697-6114  
Fred Akers, Administrator (856) 697-6114  
P. O. Box 109; Newtonville, NJ 08346  
Email: fred\_akers@gehwa.org  
Web Site: [www.gehwa.org](http://www.gehwa.org)  
Lynn Maun, Coordinator (856) 453-0416  
Email: lynnkmaun@comcast.net

**National Park Service** - Paul Kenney  
(215) 597-5823 Paul\_Kenney@nps.gov

**NJDEP Watershed Management Office**  
(609) 777-0580

**Atlantic County Department of Planning**  
(609) 645-5898

**US Army Corps of Engineers** (215) 656-6725

**NJDEP Regulatory Office for Atlantic County**  
(609) 292-8262

**NJDEP Enforcement Officer**  
(732) 255-0787

**Pinelands Commission**  
Main Number (609) 894-7300

**NJDEP Hotline:** 1-877 WARN DEP

### *Calendar of GEHWA and GEHRC Meetings 2013*

**Tuesday, May 28, 2013 - GEHWA Member Meeting (Annual Frog Walk)**  
*Information found on page #5.*

**Wednesday, June 19, 2013 - Great Egg Harbor NS & R River Council Meeting**

**Tuesday, July 23, 2013 - GEHWA Member Meeting (Picnic and Campfire)**

**Wednesday, August 21, 2013 - Great Egg Harbor NS & R River Council Meeting**

**Saturday and Sunday, September 28-29, 2013 - GEHWA Canoe/Kayak/Camping Event**

**Wednesday, October 16, 2013 - Great Egg Harbor NS & R River Council Meeting**

**Tuesday, November 26, 2013 - GEHWA Member Meeting**

**Wednesday, December 18, 2013 - Great Egg Harbor NS & R River Council Meeting**

**If you should see debris or shoaling  
while traversing on New Jersey waters  
please call:**

**1-877- WARNDP (1-877-927-6337)**

**To report an environmental incident  
impacting NJ, call the Toll-Free 24—  
Hour Hotline 1-877WARNDP / 1-877  
-927-6337**



**Red-bellied Woodpecker and Blue Jay Sharing Suet?**

Great Egg Harbor Watershed Association  
PO Box 109  
Newtonville, NJ 08346-0109