## **Helping New Jersey's Environment**

It's no secret that when Hurricane Sandy hit the New Jersey coast in October 2012, it left a lasting effect on our communities that will be felt for years to come. Environmental organizations from across the state stepped up to help with clean ups, restorations, and plans for the future. Since the Hurricane, <u>Save Barnegat Bay</u> has been active in hosting and participating in several cleanups around the area to help restore the shore. Many don't realize that in addition to the community around the Bay, the landscape of the Bay floor has drastically changed!



Photo by Noelle Zalesk



Clean Ocean Action has organized Waves of Action along the entire shoreline to help organize communities and volunteers as they help to restore following the storm. American Littoral Society coordinated the restoration of bay beaches, which are

intricate to our ecosystems across the state, before horseshoe crabs and shorebirds arrived in the spring. And the **Surfrider Foundation** has not only worked on beach issues, but brought in hundreds of volunteers and supplies to help after the storm.

Do you enjoy hiking the pristine trails across New Jersey? NJ Conservation Foundation,

Flat Rock Brook Nature Center, Pinelands Preservation Alliance, The Land Conservancy of New Jersey and the NY/NJ Trail Conference all work to make sure open space is preserved and there are safe places for you and your family to enjoy.

Are you concerned that water quality and supplies across the state are in danger? Groups like Clean Water Fund and the Association of NJ Environmental **Commissions** are working with communities and officials to protect this vital resource.

Have you seen an increase in wildlife outside their "normal" habitat and are concerned for their safety? Conserve Wildlife Foundation of NJ, NJ Audubon Society, Wetlands Institute and Woodford Cedar Run Wildlife **<u>Refuge</u>** care for our wildlife from protection to rehabilitation.

Urban environmental concerns are abundant and groups like *Isles, Inc.* and the Greater Newark Conservancy work within communities to educate the public and make change for the better. And groups like the Hackensack Riverkeeper

and Friends of Liberty State Park work in urban communities to protect the delicate ecosystems that have become the

center of these communities.

The members of *EarthShare New Jersey* have had an impact on all of these issues and more which influence the quality of life we experience here in the garden state. You can



