



10 Steps to a Healthier Barnegat Bay *American Littoral Society Action Plan*

The 10 Steps in our plan are designed to

**Pro-actively plan: consider the bay's future today *and*
Reduce current pollution and prevent new pollution**

Step 1: Enact comprehensive watershed-based planning

- *Municipal Plan Endorsement review of Barnegat Bay impacts*
- *County Plan Endorsement desirable*
- *Increased use of transfer of development rights (TDR) within watershed - regional perspective*

Step 2: Increase open space protection to offset overdevelopment

- *Support the Garden State Preservation Trust ballot measure*
- *Increase Ocean County Natural Lands Trust open space tax*
- *Use Trust for Public Land Century Plan and Barnegat Bay 2020 as guide to identify priority sites*
- *Increase protection of remaining forested lands in watershed through land use controls*

Step 3: Establish nutrient reduction targets (both interim and overall)

Create a funding source to provide adequate support to Barnegat Bay National Estuary Program and state and local partners for supporting science and information development

Step 4: Evaluate, prioritize and retrofit existing stormwater basins for improved water quality

- *Create needed revenue source*
- *Ocean County needs to support creation of stormwater utility - support Senator Smith's legislation (S. 2145)*

Step 5: Aggressively implement existing environmental programs and regulations

- *Stop delaying implementation of new Water Quality Planning Rules*
- *Review the cumulative impact of watershed development as required under CAFRA*
- *Water allocations must include Barnegat Bay impact review and not interfere with baseflows to streams*

Step 6: Create a “tributaries protection program” - All waterways must have protective buffers to improve water quality

Category One designations on all tributaries of the Bay - Barnegat Bay is Category One SE waterbody under the Clean Water Act

Step 7: Require that new development does not increase pollution (no net increase in nutrient loads) to the Bay

- *Require Nutrient Control Plan in development reviews*
- *Require pollution assessment for unavoidable negative impacts to be used to clean up existing sources of pollution*

Step 8: Require cooling towers at the Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station

This will ensure 70-95% reduction in the 1.7 Billion gallons of daily thermal pollution and biological demand loading, and to reduce Bay species mortality rates due to current practices

Step 9: Pinelands and inland community growth plans must consider overall Bay water quality impacts

- *Pinelands commission must weigh nutrient pollution contributions from regional growth plans*
- *“Head waters” towns in upper watershed must account for downstream impacts*

Step 10: Enact a County-wide Fertilizer Ordinance

Reduction in fertilizer use and proper applications will decrease nutrient loads