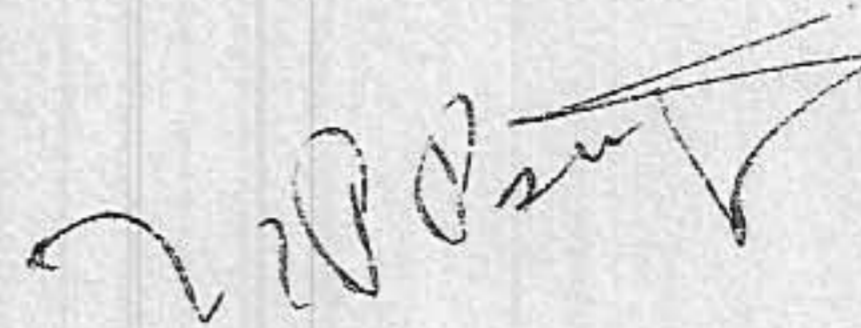


July 17, 2008

To: Freeholder Joseph H. Vicari, Director
Ocean County Board of Chosen Freeholders
101 Hooper Ave.
Toms River, New Jersey 08753

From: Norbert P. Psuty, Professor Emeritus
Institute of Marine and Coastal Sciences
Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey
Sandy Hook, New Jersey 07732



Re: Model Lawn Care Ordinance proposed by Save Barnegat Bay

I am a coastal scientist at Rutgers University and I have conducted research in coastal New Jersey for nearly four decades. As part of this experience, I served on the Scientific Committee of the EPA Barnegat Bay National Estuary Program for about five years. During that time, I grew to appreciate the myriad of environmental issues pertaining to the quality of Barnegat Bay and to the importance of individual and community action. There is no doubt that the water quality of Barnegat Bay is a major issue and also that it is approachable through a combination of individual and community action. The Model Lawn Care Ordinance proposed by the Save Barnegat Bay organization is a step in the right direction towards water quality improvement in the bay.

It is the two-tier approach (individual and community) that is at the heart of the Model Lawn Care Ordinance. It addresses the problem of nitrogen loading at one of the most important sources, lawn care at many levels, as a component of reducing the excessive nutrient inputs from the small drainage systems leading to the bay.

I urge you to give this Model Ordinance careful consideration in its application throughout the county as a means to begin to ameliorate the eutrophication problem that is increasing in Barnegat Bay. We are all shepherds of the small piece of earth that we each occupy and live on, and we are all part of the larger region. This ordinance gives us the opportunity to become better stewards of the resources within our immediate domain (our lawns) and it involves us in the restoration of the larger region (Barnegat Bay). It is time to take this bold step. You have this opportunity to be a champion for the environment. I encourage you to support this ordinance.

Cc: Freeholder John C. Bartlett, Jr.
Freeholder John P. Kelly
Freeholder James F. Lacey
Freeholder Gerry P. Little
William decCamp, Jr., Save Barnegat Bay ↗