

William deCamp, Jr, Chair
Save Barnegat Bay
906-B Grand Central Ave.
Lavallette, NJ 08735

16 July 2008

Dear Mr. Decamp:

I was very happy to see the progress you and Save Barnegat Bay have made in proposing the Nitrogen Lawn Ordinance. As you know, we here in Woods Hole have been working for several decades on these issues, and have worked up nitrogen loads for Barnegat Bay, and elsewhere. We are more than pleased to see the results of our research implemented by the proposal to implement the Model Lawn Care Ordinance.

Given that wastewater nitrogen has more or less been addressed in Barnegat Bay, it is timely to face the next nitrogen input that we might reasonably have some control over, the use of fertilizers. The measures your Ordinance suggests are good steps to initiate the process. I might have added some restrictions on use of nitrogen fertilizers by golf courses, since these are major users and sources for coastal water bodies, but, in general, I believe your plan will improve water quality in the Bay, and help preserve that marvelous natural resource for future generations.

I completely support your efforts, and wish you the best in having the ordinance approved, and implementing the ideas.

Thank you for making this major effort on behalf of our coastal waters.

Sincerely,



Ivan Valiela