



New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection

# Barnegat Bay Blitz 2012

## Tips for **Coordinating** in a Local Blitz Cleanup

Your interest in coordinating a local Blitz cleanup is greatly appreciated! Please review both sets of tips in advance so that the cleanup is a safe and positive experience for you and the volunteers.

- **Contact the DEP Blitz Captain** for your municipality that you live in or where you want to conduct a cleanup, make them aware of your interests.
- **Help promote the Blitz cleanup at your site** by sharing DEP's Blitz flyers locally with schools, businesses, organizations, churches, media and volunteer groups.
- **Respond to volunteer inquiries** and develop a list of volunteer names and their contact information.
- **Visit the cleanup site/area in advance** of the cleanup.
- **Scout out hazards and mark or make notes about them** -- poison ivy, potholes, ditches, etc. Avoid drainage areas, bridges, steep slopes, tunnels and any other potentially slippery, unstable or unsafe areas.
- **Make sure there is adequate parking space** for volunteers at least 6 feet from traffic areas.
- **Plan the cleanup route** so that volunteers can return to their vehicles safely.
- **Bring a digital camera** to help document the cleanup (site, what is collected, people in action, etc.)
- **Respect private property** -- do not go onto property that is marked, fenced in or gated.
- **Be prepared for foul weather.** If rain is predicted, advise participants to bring rain gear and a change of clothes. If you are working with a group of children that cannot participate in the rain, please coordinate with your DEP municipal captain to schedule a rain date.
- **Hold cleanup during daylight hours** and preferably not during rush hour (if near roads).
- **Secure and provide enough gloves and trash bags** for volunteers (from DEP or sponsors).
- **Work with the municipality to arrange for the pick-up** of trash, recyclables, hazardous materials and large bulky items -- share these directions with volunteers.
- **Keep track of borrowed equipment**, such as shovels, litter sticks and wheel barrels.
- **Meet with volunteers twice** -- before beginning the cleanup and then before ending it.
- **Distribute and collect gloves, bags and equipment** and thank everyone for their service.
- **Have DEP's liability waiver available** and have each volunteer sign one prior to cleanup.
- **Tally all bags of trash and recyclables** as well as other containers, such as dumpsters and trucks.
- **Submit tallies of what was collected** via phone or email to the DEP municipal captain.