



PRESS RELEASE

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NJMSC/NJSG Marine Environment Enhancement Efforts Refueled by Two NJDEP Grants

(Sandy Hook, NJ)..... The New Jersey Marine Sciences Consortium/New Jersey Sea Grant (NJMSC/NJSG) Extension Program recently announced that Michael Danko, Marine Recreation Agent – Fisheries and Boating, has received two grants to continue his long-term work with New Jersey's marinas.

Danko was awarded \$82,060 from NJDEP Division of Fish and Wildlife for the continuation of the New Jersey Clean Vessel Act Program Steering Committee. Now in its fourteenth year, the New Jersey Clean Vessel Act Program provides funds to marinas for the construction, renovation, operation and maintenance of pumpout stations and pumpout boats. The program is conducted as a partnership project among NJMSC/NJSG, the NJDEP, the Marine Trades Association of New Jersey and other appropriate public and private entities.

Additionally, Danko has been awarded \$20,000 from NJDEP Coastal Management Program to continue implementation of the New Jersey Clean Marina Program. The Clean Marina Program, established six years ago, allows Mike and NJMSC/NJSG staff to provide technical support and assistance with implementation of best management practices at marinas working towards Clean Marina designation and to coordinate Clean Marina roundtables and workshops.

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According to Dr. Peter M. Rowe, Director of the NJMSC/NJSG Extension Program, "Mike is to be commended for the longevity he has sustained for both of these programs and the many resulting advances each program has made towards improved water quality and greater stewardship of our state's coastal waters."

For additional information about the Clean Vessel Act and Clean Marina Program visit http://www.njmssc.org/Sea_Grant/Extension/Current_Activities.html and scroll to "Michael J. Danko: Marine Recreation Agent - Fisheries & Boating".

NJMSSC/NJSG is an affiliation of colleges, universities and other groups dedicated to advancing knowledge and stewardship of New Jersey's marine and coastal environment. It meets its mission through its innovative research, education and outreach programs. For more information about NJMSSC/NJ Sea Grant, visit njmssc.org

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