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*Citizen Science: Theory and Practice*

Schoodic Institute

9 Atterbury Cir

Winter Harbor, ME 04693

Dear Dr. Jennifer Preece,

Please accept my article submission entitled *Mobile Apps and Beach Clean-ups: Tapping Into New Technologies to Promote Local Environmental Stewardship* for publication in *Citizen Science: Theory and Practice*.

This paper describes the implementation and evaluation of engaging volunteers in a beach clean-up project using a citizen science app—*CleanSwell*—developed by the Ocean Conservancy. The project took place in Brooklyn, New York’s historic neighborhood of Coney Island, on the lesser-known shoreline of Coney Island Creek, an area in need of increased attention.

Whereas local waterway and beach clean-ups are popular environmental stewardship projects engaging local communities, I was interested in the practices and outcomes of incorporating digital technology in such traditional events. My paper reflects on what succeeded with my project in addition to some surprising feedback from participants on what a popular and readily available mobile app added to, or detracted from, their experience.

I believe the topics and outcomes of my paper fit within the themes of *Citizen Science: Theory and Practice*, where the focus is on sharing best practices of projects combining public participation and science. Recent articles in your journal have also touched upon developing technology for ecology data collection. My methods and outcomes could aid other organizations that seek to plan similar stewardship events with mobile app technologies.

I look forward to any feedback or interest you may have. My paper may qualify as a case study within your journal, and I would be happy to revisit my manuscript according to any editorial comments.

Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to hearing from you. As I am currently still finishing my graduate program, and also working on a soon-to-expire contract with an exhibition design agency, I would be asking for an APC discount if my submission is accepted.

Sincerely,  
Lee Patrick