

**BREWSTER**  
**TOWN SERVICES REPORT**  
**Fiscal Year 2011**  
(July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011)

**CAPE COD COMMISSION**

*Planning, Community Development, and Technical Services*

- The Commission assisted the Pleasant Bay Alliance in developing a coastal atlas for Pleasant Bay.
- The Commission made presentations on the Barnstable County Ocean Management Planning District of Critical Planning Concern (DCPC) to the Brewster Board of Selectmen and to a meeting of the Cape & Islands Renewable Energy Collaborative (CIREC).
- The Commission conducted 10 automatic traffic-recorder counts on road segments in Brewster.
- The Commission worked with The Compact of Cape Cod Conservation Trusts to update data about protected open space in Brewster.
- With data collected by staff members aided by an AmeriCorps Cape Cod member, the Commission identified the location of private wells in Brewster to ensure the protection of private water supply wells from herbicide spraying adjacent to NSTAR utility rights-of-way (ROWS).
- The Commission supported the town's work on its Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan and related activities.
- The Commission began watershed analysis for the Massachusetts Estuaries Project for Bass River.
- The Commission organized a forum as part of its "Watershed Tour," to build public awareness and support for watershed-based wastewater planning in these watersheds in Brewster:
  - the Bass River watershed (Brewster, Dennis, and Yarmouth)
  - the Herring River watershed (Brewster, Harwich, and Dennis)

The watershed initiative emphasizes the regional scope of watershed dynamics and encourages citizens to look past their town's boundaries when considering solutions for wastewater treatment. At the forums, the Commission distributes localized maps and information to better acquaint citizens with their watersheds, and shares data and concepts from the Commission's work to develop a regional wastewater management plan. The ultimate goal of these forums is to work with citizen stakeholders to develop cost-effective and appropriately scaled wastewater solutions to benefit and preserve Cape Cod's environment and economy for the future.

- The Commission conducted the annual Pond and Lake Stewardship (PALS) freshwater ponds sampling snapshot for Blueberry, Cahoon, Canoe, Cliff, Cobbs, Elbow, Flax, Greenland, Griffiths, Higgins, Little Cliff, Long, Lower Mill, Mill, Myricks, Owl, Pine, Schoolhouse, Seymour, Sheep, Slough, Smalls, Smith, Sols, Upper Mill, and Walkers ponds.

### *Regulatory Activities*

#### DRI Decisions in Fiscal Year 2011

- Windrift Acres – The Commission procedurally denied without prejudice a DRI for a proposed 22-lot subdivision plan on 55 acres in West Brewster on 9/30/10.

#### DRI Minor Modifications

- Pleasant Bay Assisted Living – The Commission approved a minor modification for changes to the affordable housing requirements on 4/14/11.

#### DRI Reviews Ongoing at Year End

- Windrift Acres (Resubmittal) – a proposed 22-lot subdivision plan on 55 acres in West Brewster.

### **Cape Cod Cooperative Extension**

- The Conservation Department received two grants totaling \$21,897.00 to continue implementing the wildfire protection and preparedness plan for the 815 acre Punkhorn Conservation area. The grants funded mechanical removal of about 80 areas of fuel loads, a lockable gate and signage to mark roads throughout the conservation area.
- On-site and remote technical assistance has been provided on a variety of coastal geology topics including: shoreline change, erosion control alternatives, potential effects of various human activities on coastal landforms, coastal flood plains, coastal hazards, hazard mitigation analyses, and shoreline stabilization techniques. On-site visits typically address site-specific coastal processes/hazards, which are followed with unbiased, written technical alternatives analyses. These site visits are most often requested by Conservation Commission Agents but have also been requested by Beach Committees, Department of Natural Resources, and beach residents. One site visit occurred in the town of Brewster.
- The Coastal Processes Specialist published and distributed educational information to the Conservation Commission Agent of the town. These materials consisted of a Biological Erosion Control Extension Bulletin (4 pages) and a Coastal Managers Guide to Longshore Sediment Transport (46 pages).
- The Coastal Processes Specialist provided technical comments on numerous documents (i.e. Improvement Dredging, Pier/Dock Construction, Sediment Management Plan, Needs Assessment, etc.) for the Pleasant Bay Alliance. In addition, the Alliance sought assistance from the Cape Cod Cooperative Extension Service to develop a coastal management atlas for Pleasant Bay ACEC and adjacent Chatham Harbor area. Technical assistance was provided in compiling and analyzing the information, manipulating and creating GIS-based figures, and writing and editing chapters regarding coastal processes. The atlas should provide a compendium of objective, scientifically based information for Conservation Commissions, other local, regional and state officials, and property owners. Once completed it is hoped that this would be of significant value for projects (ex. coastal erosion protection, beach nourishment, and dredging) to the Alliance communities of Orleans, Chatham, Harwich, and Brewster.

- A total of 531 people of all ages visited the Coastal Explorer while it was at the Cape Cod Museum of Natural History during 3 days in July.
- Eleven children and 5 adults participated in 2 marine science programs held at the Brewster Ladies' Library in July. Eighty-five people of all ages visited the Coastal Explorer during one day in August at the library.
- Two hundred ten students in grades K-2 at Stony Brook Elementary participated in 12 marine science classes offered through the Coastal Explorer vehicle. Teachers were provided with the *Coastal Explorer Curriculum Guide*.
- The 4-H Hands on with 4-H Family Club is active in Brewster and participates in numerous 4-H events.
- 4-H After-school Programs were held at the Eddy Elementary and Stony Brook Elementary Schools. Two 4-week series on Environmental Science and Recycling were held reaching over 80 youth.
- The Brewster Ladies Library hosted a 4-H Babysitting course in June of 2011, resulting in 14 newly trained babysitters.
- The Town of Brewster received 150,000 2-3mm hard clam (quahog) seed in FY 2011 through the Barnstable County Municipal Shellfish Propagation Program. Value of this seed at the time of dispersal was \$1,200.00. Additionally, Brewster received 250 bags of remote-set oysters, also funded through the Barnstable County Municipal Shellfish Propagation Program. It is estimated that each bag contained a minimum of 1000 juvenile oysters. Value of these bags of remote-set at time of dispersal was \$2,875.00.
- Marine staff collaborated with the town's natural resource officers to explore the feasibility of establishing an oyster reef at a breakwater site in Cape Cod Bay. At least 450 oyster remote-set bags were provided by the County for this project, valued at \$5,175.at the time of dispersal.
- For the seventh consecutive year long term shellfish habitat assessment continued at a site in Brewster. This quantitative assessment has future use when considering dock or dredging projects, can optimize shellfish restoration efforts, assist with shellfishery management decision making and help the shellfish farmers maximize their yields.
- Marine staff initiated a project to study the ability off shellfish to clear local waters through their feeding activities in a Brewster tidal creek. This information is becoming of greater interest as towns look at ways to remediate some of the nutrient loading to estuaries.
- Cape Cod Bay in Brewster was assessed and monitored as one of the potential sites for eelgrass restoration.
- Marine staff responded to concerns about shellfish diseases, red-tide and provided information and technical assistance to town personnel, aquaculturists, and local citizens.
- Household hazardous waste collections conducted with Brewster in 2010 provided the following data: Brewster residents represented 283 cars and 356 households in six regional Lower Cape HHW collections. A total of 7,652 gallons / 64,460 pounds of hazardous waste was collected at the six regional HHW collections. Year round residents comprised 86% of participants, 37% of

- participants were participating for the first time in the collection, and 16% of participants brought waste that was left in their home when they bought it.
- The Cape Cod Cooperative Extension mercury collection program collected the following items in the Town of Brewster in 2010: 7 fever thermometers, 12 thermostats, 0 electric switches, and 1.1 pounds of elemental mercury.
  - A total of 67 road and marine flares were collected in the Town of Brewster by Cape Cod Cooperative Extension in 2010.
  - A total of 218 sharps containers were paid for and provided by Cape Cod Cooperative Extension to the Town of Brewster in 2010 for distribution to the general public. The disposal cost for all full sharps containers returned to the town was paid for by Barnstable County / Cape Cod Cooperative Extension.
  - “Rainbow on Your Plate” a series of two nutrition lessons has reached 19 Head Start preschool aged children and classroom teachers. Emphasizing consumption of fruits and vegetables, these lessons also provide opportunities for physical activity and tasting new foods. Classroom materials and take-home folders are provided to reinforce the nutrition messages both in the classroom and at home.
  - Nutrition educator participated in Biometric Screenings offered by the Cape Cod Municipal Health Group. Nutrition education through a display, one-on-one conversations, educational materials, and food demonstrations was made available in conjunction with health screenings.
  - Six issues out of the year-long series of *Pumpkin Post & Banana Beat* newsletters have been distributed in collaboration with Brewster elementary schools to 135 families with children in kindergarten. The Pumpkin Post series is an educational newsletter including recipes and regular columns on child feeding challenges, seasonal foods, physical activity, and menu ideas. The series of six newsletters focus on themes about breakfast, fitness, fruits and vegetables, healthy lunches, goal setting and holiday eating.
  - One soil test clinic was held in the Town of Brewster.
  - Master Gardeners made four presentations to civic groups in the Town of Brewster.
  - One hundred twelve residents received technical information from the Plant Clinic via phone call, office visit, fact sheet, or soil test.
  - Deer tick educational materials for distribution included wallet cards and rack cards. These materials contain key information on tick identification, life cycle and prevention tips for tick bites and lowering the risk of tick-borne illnesses such as Lyme. Distribution points included Town Halls including all Department of Health Offices, Chambers of Commerce, Public Libraries and golf courses. Golf courses were offered signs to post to alert people about tick habitat and precautions. Each distribution point was visited between May and June as the highest risk period for Lyme disease approached (June – August). In general, each location received between 50 and 200 each of rack and wallet cards.
  - A presentation was made at a Brewster Board of Health meeting on current Lyme research and education effort.

### **Children's Cove**

- Conducted 1 SAIN (Sexual Abuse Intervention Network) interview.
- Provided counseling sessions to 7 child victims and their family members with referrals to community providers for long term treatment.
- Conducted 0 medical examinations for children at Children's Cove.

### **Fire & Rescue Training Academy**

- Basic Fire Suppression
  - 10 Firefighters
- Firefighter I/II
  - 8 Firefighters
- ICS 100
  - 22 Students
- ICS 300
  - 1 Student
- ICS 400
  - 1 Student
- Live Burn
  - 13 Firefighters
- NIMS 700
  - 22 Students

77 Students, \$23,850.00 Dollar Value, 274.5 Day Value, 2,420 Hour Value

### **Department of Health & Environment**

- Biometric Screening, Brewster Town Hall, 25 attendees
- Tick and Lyme Program, Laurel School, 85 attendees
- Brewster Police Dept., Hepatitis B shot administration
- Secured a grant for laboratory analyses of marine beach samples. Sample analysis of marine water was conducted weekly at six sites; Breakwater Beach, Crosby Landing, Ellis Landing, Paine's Creek, Mants Beach, and Saints Landing. Monthly analysis of marine water was conducted at two sites; Linnell Landing and Point of Rocks beaches. The Brewster Board of Health and Department of Natural Resources were notified immediately of bacterial exceedences and retesting was conducted daily until bacteria levels were found to be within acceptable limits.
- Sampling of fresh water was conducted weekly at five sites; Long Pond, Seymour Pond, Sheep Pond, Slough pond, and Upper Mill Pond. Samples were processed for detection of fresh water indicator bacteria *E. coli*. The Brewster Board of Health and Department of Natural Resources were notified immediately of bacterial exceedences and retesting was conducted daily until bacteria levels were found to be within acceptable limits.

- Designed and commissioned the production of aluminum signs to meet new regulatory requirements mandated in 2010. Signs were purchased by the town of Brewster for posting at all beaches.
- Performed permitting of all semi-public beaches.
- Responded to 27 residential and commercial referrals for Indoor Air Quality (IAQ), hazardous material issues, or Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) assistance (19 residential/commercial IAQ/housing, 4 commercial/industrial hazardous materials, 3 residential hazardous materials).
- Conducted extensive methane study at the Landfill DPW offices due to faulty alarming system resulting in erroneous emergency responses. Researched testing and alarm system and recommended amendments to their existing system correcting the false alarm scenarios.
- Provided EHS consultation services for town hall asbestos removal project. Provided technical assistance and employee training. Savings to Town approximately \$1500.
- Provided technical assistance for town hall lead paint removal project. Conducted primary assessment and provided technical/compliance assistance. Savings to town approximately \$ 2500.
- BCREPC provided two mobile message boards for three community events in the Town of Brewster.
- Coordinated County and Cape Cod Medical Reserve Corps nurse and volunteer staff scheduling for town's influenza immunization clinics
- Coordinated County and Cape Cod Medical Reserve Corps nurse and volunteer staff scheduling for regional adult immunization clinic; 65 adult immunizations (shingles, Td, Tdap, MMR, varicella, Hepatitis A, Hepatitis B, pneumonia) given to Brewster residents at no charge. Acted as an evaluator for the HSEEP compliant public health preparedness drill conducted at this clinic.
- Managed underground storage tank (UST) program which tracks testing and removal of tanks; also perform tank testing. Three active tanks are tracked and tested; have overseen removal of 23 tanks in conformance with Board of Health regulations
- Provided technical information on Title 5 and innovative/alternative wastewater treatment through working sessions with Board of Health
- Emergency Dispensing Site Drill with Seasonal Flu Clinic.
- Brewster School Seasonal Flu Clinic.
- Two inspections of every tobacco retailer and two tobacco compliance checks of each tobacco retailer were conducted.
- Participated in their annual Public Safety Day by hosting a table with CCMRC information and Rabies educational material.
- Landfill sampled semi-annually for a total of 36 wells/year and approximately 80 person hours (this total does not include lab work).
- Conducted approximately 80 inspections (food service/pools) for the Town Health Department during the seasonal influx of tourists. This does not include other duties performed for the town possibly including housing and hazardous materials inspections.

- Secured home betterment loans for the correction of 16 septic systems within the town (\$157,029 in projects).
- Created Clinic ACE, an internet-based immunization clinic preregistration system and successfully pre-registered nearly 200 immunizations. Necessary immunization documents were printed by each registrant following completion of the registration process, saving the town valuable time on the day of the clinic.
- Compliance management of 42 innovative/alternative wastewater treatment units.
- Sent/received 31 correspondences involving 14 innovative/alternative wastewater treatment systems.
- Resolved two O&M contract non-compliance issues.
- Continued Carmody Innovative/Alternative(I/A) Septic System Database User Fee collection, invoicing I/A operators for 19 systems for which they are responsible for reporting to the database.
- Laboratory services saved town over \$5,700 in analytical fees.
- Assisted the Town of Brewster by achieving Tier 2 Hazardous Chemical Emergency Reporting compliance for four facilities.
- Provided the town's Fire Department with these four Hazardous Tier 2 reports for their CAMEO (Computer Aided Management of Emergency Operations) databases.
- Made EPCRA compliance training and guidance available for the 4 Tier 2 Hazardous Chemical Reporting facilities in the town.
- Assisted town Health Department staff in meeting the deliverables of the CDC/MDPH Health Agents Coalition grant, as well as state mandates in public health emergency planning.
- Assisted the town Health Department as an evaluator of the Town Of Brewster influenza vaccination clinic for 250 residents.
- Coordinated the organization, documentation and delivery of 3 flu supply "go kits" for the town health department.
- Conducted safety trainings for 23 DPW, Highway, Water and Transfer Station staff on Right to Know, Sun Safety and Tick and Lyme Disease.

#### **Resource Development Office/AmeriCorps Cape Cod**

- Punkhorn Wildfire Management  
Members thinned out standing trees, removed fallen trees and chipped debris to reduce wildfire risk.
- Hawk's Nest Farm Restoration  
Members removed and chipped trees and invasive plants and removed debris from the property.
- Herring Run Clearing  
Members removed overhanging branches and debris from the herring run.
- Paine's Creek Sandbag Restoration  
Members assisted with sandbagging to hold back storm erosion at Paine's Creek Beach.
- Beach Cleanup  
Members worked with volunteers to do a general beach cleanup for Brewster.

- Nickerson Park Fire Fuel Reduction  
Members removed and chipped downed trees to reduce the threat of a wildfire.
- Spring Oyster Cull  
Members assisted the DNR with the spring oyster cull.
- Wing's Island Restoration  
Member's removed debris and downed trees from the Wing's Island property.
- APCC Salt Marsh Monitoring  
Members helped collect data and specimens from the salt marsh.
- Quivett Marsh Restoration  
Members assisted with clearing the vista and trail at Quivett Marsh.
- Paine's Creek Restoration  
Members installed erosion fencing to protect the site.
- Dream Day Camp Trail Maintenance  
Members assisted with removing dead trees and clearing the trails at the camp.