

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

CAPE COD COMMISSION

Planning, Community Development, and Technical Services

- The Commission coordinated work by Boston University graduate students from September through December 2010 to inventory cultural landscapes, conduct public workshops, and compile a final report with maps for the Town of Chatham.
- The Commission provided technical assistance on historic review procedures to the Chatham Historical Commission (November 2010), and moderated a Chatham Historical Commission-sponsored forum on Chatham archaeology (May 2011).
- The Commission assisted the Pleasant Bay Alliance in developing a coastal atlas for Pleasant Bay.
- The Commission provided \$10,837 in District Local Technical Assistance funds to help conduct visioning work (initiated in Fiscal Year 2010; completed in Fiscal Year 2011) to develop and coordinate land use planning and roadway improvements for the Route 28 corridor in West Chatham.
- The Commission conducted 21 automatic traffic-recorder counts on road segments and four turning-movement counts at intersections in Chatham.
- The Commission provided transportation-related technical assistance for the development of the Monomoy Access Plan.
- The Commission provided information for consideration about the replacement of the Mitchell River Bridge.
- The Commission continued to support the town's work on its Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan, Adaptive Management Plan, and related activities.
- With data collected by staff members aided by an AmeriCorps Cape Cod member, the Commission identified the location of private wells in Chatham to ensure the protection of private water supply wells from herbicide spraying adjacent to NSTAR utility rights-of-way (ROWS).
- The Commission conducted water education festivals for students in Chatham schools.

Regulatory Activities

DRI Decisions in Fiscal Year 2011

- Commerce Park Cellular Tower Expansion – The Commission approved the proposed height increase (from 80 to 115 feet) for an existing unipole tower and expansion of the compound area within an industrial park as a Hardship Exemption with conditions on 12/16/10.

DRI Reviews Ongoing at Year End

- Dupont Residence – the proposed substantial alteration of a single-family dwelling listed as a contributing structure in a National Register Historic District.

Other Regulatory Assistance

- The Commission submitted comment letters to the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) Office on the Environmental Notification Forms for (1) Cranberry Lane Culvert and Marsh Restoration (8/26/10); (2) Glass Shorefront Protection (10/7/10); and (3) Old Salt Works Bank Stabilization (10/25/10).

Cape Cod Cooperative Extension

- 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. 4 site visits occurred in the town of Chatham.
- 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.
- The Conservation Department received a \$15,950.00 grant to implement the Town of Chatham Wildfire Protection and Preparedness plan for the Goose Pond Conservation area. The grant allowed the town to widen and improve fire roads, develop a turn around area, to install a barrier gate and to thin and remove pitch pines.
- The Conservation Department received a \$3,899.00 Barnstable County Land Management grant for conservation land improvements and invasive species removal.
- Fifty-five students in grade 6 at Chatham Middle School participated in one session of “Whale in the Classroom” during February. Participating teachers were provided with the *Coastal Explorer Curriculum Guide*.

- Two hundred eighty-seven students in grades K-4 at Chatham Elementary participated in 17 marine science classes offered through the Coastal Explorer vehicle in May. Teachers were provided with the *Coastal Explorer Curriculum Guide*.
- 4-H Babysitting Courses are held annually at the Monomoy Community Center as well as other enrichment programs that their staff requests. The children enrolled in that program also participated in the 4-H Food Drive.
- The Town of Chatham received 300,000 2-3 mm hard clam (quahog) seed in FY 2011 through the Barnstable County Shellfish Propagation Program. Value of this seed at the time of dispersal was \$2,400.00.
- One aquaculturist was chosen and funded at \$1,000.00 to be part of the 2011 SEMAC Research Farm Network which focused on a comparison of triploid (seedless) oysters and conventionally grown diploid oysters.
- One shellfish grower received \$2,000.00 through a SEMAC mini-grant for experimental nursery and grow-out modification of razor clam culture.
- Marine staff responded to concerns about shellfish diseases, red-tide and provided information and technical assistance.
- Technical assistance and educational programs were also provided to town personnel, aquaculturists, and local citizens.
- Household hazardous waste collections conducted for Chatham in 2010 provided the following data: Chatham residents represented 152 cars and 185 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 53% of participants, 30% of participants were participating for the first time in the collection, and 11% 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 Chatham in 2010: 32 fever thermometers, 8 lab thermometers, 172 thermostats, 0 electric switches, 1 float switches, 1.0 pounds of elemental mercury, and 0 blood pressure gauges.
- A total of 756 road and marine flares were collected in the Town of Chatham by Cape Cod Cooperative Extension in 2010.
- A total of 194 sharps containers were paid for and provided by Cape Cod Cooperative Extension to the Town of Chatham 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.
- Food Handling is a Risky Business, a workshop for foodservice employees and volunteers, was held for 14 participants in collaboration with the Town of Chatham Board of Health.
- Six issues out of the year-long series of Pumpkin Post & Banana Beat newsletters have been distributed in collaboration with Chatham elementary schools to 55 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.

- Twenty four residents received technical information from the Plant Clinic via phone call, office visit, fact sheet, or soil test.
- A Master Garden volunteer assisted in developing a community garden in the Town of Chatham.
- Master Gardener volunteers participate in the weekly Chatham Farmers Market.
- 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.

Children’s Cove

- Conducted 2 SAIN (Sexual Abuse Intervention Network) interviews.

Fire Training Academy

- Confined Space Rescue
 - 4 Firefighters
- Firefighter I/II
 - 1 Firefighter
- Live Burn
 - 17 Firefighters

22 Students, \$4,150.00 Dollar Value, 46 Day Value, 402 Hour Value

Department of Health & Environment

- Responded to 32 residential and commercial referrals for Indoor Air Quality (IAQ), hazmat issues, or EHS assistance (25 residential/commercial IAQ/housing, 4 commercial/industrial hazardous materials, 3 residential hazardous materials).
- Conducted three educational talks on mold and housing for condominium complex-savings \$1500.
- Assisted four real estate agencies in educational assistance for residential and commercial mold health issues – approximate savings \$1500 plus avoidance of litigation fees for tenant actions.
- Chatham Board of Health Presentation on “Lessons Learned from H1N1”
- Chatham’s Harding Beach with the Safe Sun Project-over 100 adults and adolescents participated
- Conducted Sun Safety training to 23 lifeguards, parking lot attendances and Beach department personnel.
- Presentation to Chatham residents on Emergency Preparedness-12 participants
- Chatham Seasonal Flu nurse participation.
- Coordinated County and Cape Cod Medical Reserve Corps nurse and volunteer staff scheduling for regional adult immunization clinic; 61 adult immunizations

- (shingles, Td, Tdap, MMR, varicella, Hepatitis A, Hepatitis B, pneumonia) given to Chatham 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 performed tank testing. Two active tanks are tracked and tested; have overseen removal of 20 tanks in conformance with Board of Health regulations.
 - BCREPC provided two mobile message boards for one community event in the Town of Chatham.
 - Assisted the Town of Chatham by achieving Tier 2 Hazardous Chemical Emergency Reporting compliance for 13 facilities.
 - Provided the town's Fire Department with Computer Aided Management of Emergency Operations (CAMEO) training and data reports for their CAMEO (Computer Aided Management of Emergency Operations).
 - Made training and guidance available for the 13 Tier 2 Hazardous Chemical Reporting businesses/facilities in the town.
 - Created ClinicACE, an internet-based immunization clinic preregistration system and successfully pre-registered 47 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 133 innovative/alternative wastewater treatment units
 - Sent/received 25 correspondences involving 15 innovative/alternative wastewater treatment systems.
 - Resolved four O&M contract non-compliance issues
 - Continued Carmody Innovative/Alternative(I/A) Septic System Database User Fee collection, invoicing I/A operators for 112 systems for which they are responsible for reporting to the database.
 - 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.
 - Coordinated the organization, documentation and delivery of 2 flu supply "go kits" for the town health department
 - Regular landfill monitoring and DPW/Highway Dept. wells sampled semi-annually for a total of 32 wells/year and approximately 96 person hours (this total does not include lab work)
 - Conducted 45 inspections (food service/pools) in support of the Town Health Department during the seasonal influx of tourists.
 - Assistant Sanitarian spent time assisting with outreach for the Town of Chatham recycling program. This does not include other duties performed for the town including Title V follow up, drafting and distributing emergency planning information to businesses, housing, hazardous materials, computer work/data entry.
 - Biometric Screening, Chatham Town Hall, 25 attendees

- Two inspections of every tobacco retailer and two tobacco compliance checks of each tobacco retailer were conducted. Met with Chatham Housing Authority to discuss second hand smoke issues.
- Secured home betterment loans for the correction of septic system within the town (\$13,030 project).
- Laboratory services saved town over \$3,200 in analytical fees.

Department of Human Services

- HRC: There is an active town representative on the HRC Town Representation Council – serving as a liaison between the town and the HRC, supporting the County’s human rights and discrimination policy, and advising the HRC about issues particular to the town.
- HRC: Human Rights Academy. Chatham High School has been a participant in this HRA for five years, and participated in this year just completed. Because of the pending link to Harwich, HRA groups from both high schools this past year engaged in some common activities at the HRA.

Resource Development Office/AmeriCorps Cape Cod

- W.E.T. Festival, Chatham Elementary
Members taught students about the importance of water conservation using hands on activities.
- Chatham Recycles Book and Media Swap
Members helped to staff a Chatham Recycles event where community members could drop off unwanted books and media and take any items others had left.
- Chatham Recycles Fest 2011
Members assisted with a town wide recycling effort to raise awareness of recycling efforts in the town.
- Tern Island Habitat Restoration
Members removed beach grass in several areas to create habitat for local Terns. The grass was later replanted in dune stabilization efforts.
- Sylvan Gardens Restoration
Members helped to remove invasive plants and build on existing property trails.
- Chatham Aquaculture
Members raked and broadcast oysters, dug and broadcasted quahogs and cleaned cages.
- Chatham Recycles Drop & Swap
Members helped with various recycling activities and educated the public on recycling efforts.
- Captain George Harding Cleanup
Members cleared invasive plants and picked up garbage on the property.
- Goose Pond Fire Mitigation
Members thinned and chipped trees along a stretch of trail to meet wildfire mitigation requirements.
- Forest Beach Restoration
Members removed invasive love grass and bittersweet and seeded the property with native grasses.

- **Ryder Cove Restoration**
Members worked to remove invasive plant material and clear a trail.
- **Horseshoe Crab Tagging**
Members assisted Monomoy staff with the seasonal horseshoe crab tagging.
- **Green Ribbon Puppet Show**
Members performed a recycling puppet show for students at Chatham Elementary