

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

Cape Cod Commission

Planning, Community Development, and Technical Services

- The Commission continued to support the work of the Falmouth Planning Board and the Local Comprehensive Planning Committee on the town's Local Comprehensive Plan update.
- The Commission committed \$40,000 in District Local Technical Assistance funds to the Mashpee/Falmouth EDIC business plan project.
- The HOME Consortium made one down payment/closing cost loan totaling \$10,000 to a low-income first-time homebuyer in Falmouth.
- The HOME Consortium made a conditional commitment and then closed on a \$150,000 HOME loan to Falmouth Housing Corporation for the new construction of 39 affordable rental units for households age 55 and over and for non-elderly individuals with disabilities at its Veterans Park/Schoolhouse Green development.
- The Commission conducted 24 automatic traffic-recorder counts on road segments in Falmouth.
- With data collected by staff members aided by an AmeriCorps Cape Cod member, the Commission identified the location of private wells in Falmouth 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 provided mapping and geographic data analysis for the Falmouth Inner Harbor, Quissett, Rands Fiddler, Waquoit Bay East, and Wild Harbor watersheds analyses for the Massachusetts Estuaries Project and began the watershed analysis for Waquoit Bay West.
- The Commission organized a forum as part of its "Watershed Tour," to build public awareness and support for watershed-based wastewater planning in the Waquoit Bay East watershed (Falmouth, Mashpee, and Sandwich). 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 water education festivals for students in Falmouth.

Regulatory Activities

DRI Mitigation Funds in Fiscal Year 2011

- The Commission provided \$128,269 in mitigation funds for the town's Worcester Court/Jones Road and Davisville Road/Route 28 intersections improvement project.

DRI Decisions in Fiscal Year 2011 (in chronological order)

- Falmouth Youth Hockey Ice Arena – The Commission approved a Limited DRI Hardship Exemption with conditions for the proposed redevelopment of an existing 6.9-acre vacant commercial site to construct a new 56,962-sq.ft. ice arena for public use on 1/6/11.
- WHOI Quissett Campus/LOSOS Building – The Commission approved a Limited DRI Hardship Exemption with conditions for the proposed construction of a 26,600-sq.ft. building for the Laboratory of Ocean Sensors and Observing Systems at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution on 3/17/11.

Other DRIs

- Raymond Park Industrial Subdivision/Falmouth EDIC – The Commission issued a waiver certificate on 2/28/11 relative to the 8/21/08 Hardship Exemption decision.

DRI Minor Modifications

- Raymond Park Industrial Subdivision/Falmouth EDIC – The Commission approved a minor modification to recombine lots on 9/27/10.
- WHOI Quissett Campus/LOSOS Building – The Commission approved a minor modification to adjust the projection of water use data based on a smaller building on 5/11/11.
- Falmouth Youth Hockey Ice Arena – The Commission approved a minor modification to allow the addition of solar arrays to the roof and in the parking areas on 5/26/11.

Other Regulatory Assistance

- The Commission submitted a comment letter to the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) Office on (1) the Environmental Impact Report for the Thomas B. Landers Parking Facility (9/22/10), and (2) a new Massachusetts Military Reservation Training Program (4/22/11).

Cape Cod Cooperative Extension

- The Falmouth Beach Department received two Barnstable County Land Management grants totally \$4,400.00 for dune protection work at Wood Neck Beach and for construction of a Handicapped Ramp at Old Silver Beach. The Falmouth Conservation Department received an \$812.00 grant for Conservation Land Signage: Improving Public Access & Awareness.
- The Falmouth Tree department received six low maintenance shade trees from the Barnstable Shade Tree Nursery. The nursery was developed to be a source of low maintenance tree and shrubs at below wholesale prices to municipalities throughout Barnstable County.

- Cape Cooperative Extension, Woods Hole Sea Grant, and NOAA co-sponsored a workshop entitled: *Improving Climate Literacy in the North Atlantic* on 8/12/2010 in the Town of Falmouth, which was attended by 44 individuals.
- The Coastal Processes Specialist presented a talk entitled: *Sea Level Rise: The Basics & Local Impacts* on 8/31/2010 in the Town of Falmouth, which was attended by 55 individuals (mostly tourists).
- Cape Cooperative Extension, Woods Hole Sea Grant, and MassCZM co-sponsored a workshop entitled: *Coastal Floodplains – Mapping and Management* on 5/5/2011 in the Town of Falmouth, which was attended by 40 individuals (mostly town officials).
- 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).
- One hundred eleven participants of all ages visited the Coastal Explorer one day in August at the West Falmouth Public Library.
- One hundred thirty-four youth visited the Coastal Explorer one day in August at the Gus Cauty Community Center.
- Three-hundred students in grade 5 at Morse Pond School participated in 6 sessions of “Whale in the Classroom” during 2 days in February. Participating teachers received the *Whale in the Classroom Curriculum Guide*.
- Two hundred ninety-four students in grades K-4 at East Falmouth Elementary participated in 15 marine science classes offered through the Coastal Explorer vehicle in April. Teachers were provided with the *Coastal Explorer Curriculum Guide*.
- The 4-H Babysitting Course is offered regularly at the Falmouth Public Library. The courses are always full and designed to help youth make decisions about their personal safety and become responsible babysitters. Over 75 youth were certified through these courses.
- The West Falmouth Library also hosted a Babysitting Course for 12 children and also hosted a 4-H Looking Good/ Feeling Good Program for teens. They also held a new program the 4-H financial
- A 4-H Food and Fitness Fair was held at E. Falmouth Elementary School to celebrate the 4th “H” Health! The theme was “Healthy Kids” and started with nutrition information from the moment kids get up until they go to sleep. Each of the nearly 650 youth learned about healthy food choices, food safety, and fast food choices and each received a certificate of participation. These activities were incorporated during the traditional Field Day to achieve a well-rounded health & fitness program.
- The Annual “Harvest Festival” is held at the Barnstable County Fairgrounds in October. In addition to being a showcase for 4-H member projects, the Festival provides an opportunity for youth to engage in community service projects and fundraising. Nearly 70 members and volunteers were active during a pre-Festival workdays and the actual event. 4-H programming reaches an estimated 2,500 Cape residents and visitors.

- There are three 4-H clubs in the town of Falmouth. Their activities range from horse related subjects to community service and teens that participate in organizing and directing activities at the Barnstable County Fair. One club services many special needs children with a therapeutic riding program and Special Olympics.
- The Barnstable County Fairgrounds in Falmouth is a site regularly used for 4-H Horse Advisory meetings, 4-H Advisory Council meetings and other Planning Committees.
- 4-H volunteers participate in safe food-handling workshop and other management workshops at the Barnstable County Fairgrounds in preparation for the annual Barnstable County Fair and Harvest Festival.
- The 4-H Junior Fair Board/Teen Club consists of 12 teen members from around the Cape who meet year-round at the Barnstable County Fairgrounds and volunteer to help during the annual fair in July. These volunteers commit youthful energy and enthusiasm before, during, and after the fair in capacities ranging from clean-up crews, kitchen staff, youth exhibit representative, office runners and administrative assistants. They learn leadership skills and behind the scene planning to help implement the set up and running of the Youth Building for 9 days.
- The Barnstable County Fair is an excellent opportunity for the 4-H program to recruit volunteers and members, as well as conduct outreach with other organizations. The 4-H Advisory Council operates the 4-H Kitchen for 11 days before, during and after the fair, serving homemade foods to fair volunteers, workers and visitors. Over 150 youth and adult 4-H'ers staff the 4-H Kitchen and Youth Exhibit Building. The net proceeds of this effort constitute the primary budget of the Advisory Council, some of which is used for camperships and scholarships for deserving 4-H members.
- A 4-H Educator serves as one of the chairs of the Barnstable County Council for Children, Youth & Families, a group that works hard to identify, elevate and search for solutions to community issues involving children, youth and families. The group applied for and received (for the 4th consecutive time) the 2010 100 Best Communities for Young People in America for the work that they are doing on Cape Cod. In February, we hosted a workshop at Falmouth High School on raising strong boys and girls, with a strong, positive focus on youth development. 75 local educators and parents attended this.
- Falmouth received 200,000 2-3mm hard clam (quahog) seed through the Barnstable County Municipal Shellfish Propagation Program. Value of this seed at time of dispersal was \$1,600.00.
- Falmouth received 200 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 \$2,300.00.
- Falmouth took advantage of the bid price established by the County and purchased another 1.125M quahog seed.

- Falmouth was chosen to be part of a bay scallop restoration research experiment using underwater fencing to protect juvenile scallops.
- A researcher in Woods Hole received \$2,708.00 SEMAC mini-grant to produce disease-resistant oyster strains to help promote sustainable aquaculture. This experiment will proceed with collaboration from Marine Program staff.
- Marine staff provided technical and logistical support for scientific research within Falmouth by WHOI and MBL.
- 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 Falmouth in 2010 provided the following data: Falmouth residents represented 505 cars and 1,168 households in four regional Upper Cape HHW collections. A total of 5,240 gallons / 24,895 pounds of hazardous waste was collected at the Falmouth HHW collection. Year round residents comprised 87% of participants, 34% 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 Falmouth in 2010: 38 fever thermometers, 1 lab thermometers, 71 thermostats, 4 electric switches, and 5.0 pounds of elemental mercury.
- A total of 688 road and marine flares were collected in the Town of Falmouth by Cape Cod Cooperative Extension in 2010.
- Falmouth does not participate in the sharps container distribution and collection program.
- Five healthy cooking demonstrations and displays have reached a total of 116 clients and volunteers at the Falmouth Service Center. Demonstrations and displays provide recipes and healthy cooking methods to low income families as part of the Family Nutrition Program.
- Five separate workshops for young parents were conducted at Carriage House reaching a total of 27 participants. Workshops focused on addressing nutrition questions and utilizing foods found at the food pantry. Additional topics included healthy fast food, soups and stews, one pan skillet dinners, and healthy snacks for children.
- Eighteen parents of preschoolers at Mullen Hall Elementary School attended “Bite or Fight: Don’t make food a Battle.” The parent program focused on tactics for enticing choosy eaters to eat more healthfully.
- “Rainbow on Your Plate” a series of two nutrition lessons has reached 39 Head Start preschool aged children and classroom teachers in two separate classrooms. 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 four separate 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.
- The Nutrition Education Program was included as part of the County Commissioners' tour focusing on work being done as part of the food pantry project at the Falmouth Service Center.
- Six issues out of the year-long series of *Pumpkin Post & Banana Beat* newsletters have been distributed in collaboration with Falmouth elementary schools to 391 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 part-time nutrition educator has been contracted through the Family Nutrition Program (FNP) to teach elementary students in an after-school program entitled Kids in the Kitchen. A total of 30 children in grades 1 through 4 have participated in three series of 6 lessons each held at Cape Cod Child Development's School-Age Program in Falmouth. The lessons are aimed at improving food choices, incorporating physical activity, and increasing awareness of safe food handling practices.
- As part of the Family Nutrition Program, five Healthy Holidays sessions were conducted for a total of 39 children in the Cape Cod Child Development's School-Age programs in Falmouth. The drop-in sessions promoted winter fitness ideas and giving gifts of healthful holiday foods.
- Four soil test clinics were conducted in the Town of Falmouth.
- Thirty members of the Falmouth Garden Club were given a tour of the Demonstration garden at the Fairgrounds.
- Master Gardeners staffed an information booth at Highfield Hall summer festival.
- Thirty-five people attended an eight-week 'Backyard Horticulture' school presented by the Master Gardeners at the Barnstable County Fairgrounds.
- One hundred thirty six residents received technical information from the Plant Clinic via phone call, office visit, fact sheet, or soil test.
- 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...replenishment upon request.

Children's Cove

- Conducted 13 SAIN (Sexual Abuse Intervention Network) interviews.

- Provided counseling sessions to 27 child victim and their family members with referrals to community providers for long term treatment.
- Conducted 5 medical examinations for children at Children's Cove.

Fire & Rescue Training Academy

- Confine Space Training
- 27 Firefighters

27 Students, \$1,350.00 Dollar Value, 13.5 Day value, 120 Hour value

Department of Health & Environment

- Secured home betterment loans for the correction of 24 septic systems within the town (\$243,494 in projects).
- Responded to 38 residential and commercial referrals for IAQ, hazardous material issues, or Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) assistance (31 residential/commercial IAQ/housing, 7 commercial/industrial hazardous materials, 1 Residential Hazardous Material).
- Conducted four Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) assessments as part of the on-going construction of new high school, and conducted four middle/elementary school and administration building for the purpose of water leaks, union grievance and employee health. Approximate savings to town \$10,000.
- Conducted annual review of and educational training to High School Science staff for Chemical Spill/purchasing plans. Provided Haz Com and Right-to-Know (RTK) training as well as Blood borne Pathogen and Personal Protection Equipment, approximate savings to town \$2500.
- Coordinated County and Cape Cod Medical Reserve Corps nurse and volunteer staff scheduling for regional adult immunization clinic; 149 adult immunizations (shingles, Td, Tdap, MMR, varicella, Hepatitis A, Hepatitis B, pneumonia) given to Falmouth 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. Twenty six active tanks tracked and tested; have overseen removal of 42 tanks in conformance with Board of Health regulations.
- Provided technical information on Title 5 and innovative/alternative wastewater treatment at public event for town officials.
- Provided service picking up drinking water samples for delivery to Barnstable County water quality laboratory on a weekly basis.
- Falmouth League of Women Voters Display on CCMRC
- Falmouth Interfaith Council Presentation on Winter Emergency Planning-8 participants.
- Secured a grant for the collection and laboratory analyses of marine beach samples. Sampling of marine water was conducted weekly at 21 sites; Megansett (2 locations), Bike Path Beach, Bristol (2 locations) Chapaquoit Beach, Falmouth

- Heights (2 locations), Menauhant (2 locations), Mill Road, Old Silver (3 locations), Stoney Beach (MBL), Surf Drive (3 locations), Wood Neck Beach, and Wood Neck River. The Falmouth Board of Health was 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 three sites; Ashumet Pond, Coonamessett Pond, and Grew's Pond. Samples were processed for detection of fresh water indicator bacteria *E. coli*. The Falmouth Board of Health was notified immediately of bacterial exceedences and retesting was conducted daily until bacteria levels were found to be within acceptable limits
 - Created ClinicACE, an internet-based immunization clinic preregistration system and successfully pre-registered 122 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 176 innovative/alternative wastewater treatment units.
 - Sent/received 35 correspondences involving 19 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 119 systems for which they are responsible for reporting to the database.
 - Landfill sampled quarterly for a total of 52 wells/year and approximately 180 person hours (this total does not include lab work) Quarterly soil gas monitoring is also performed for the Town of Falmouth resulting in an additional 55 hours.
 - Conducted 90 inspections (food service/pools) in support of the Town Health Department during the seasonal influx of tourists. In addition the inspector assigned to the Barnstable County Fair performed more than 70 inspections and monitoring of dozens of mobile food units. Additionally, our inspector aided in communication, distribution of information and inspections following a boil water order in the town.
 - Biometric Screening, Falmouth Town Hall, 40 attendees
 - Biometric Screening, Gus Cauty Recreation Center, 14 attendees
 - Tick and Lyme Program, Waquoit Bay Group, 14 attendees
 - Tick and Lyme Program, Mullen Hall School, 100 attendees
 - Employee Benefits Fair, with Blood Pressure and Cholesterol/Glucose screenings, 35 attendees.
 - Two inspections of every tobacco retailer and two tobacco compliance checks of each tobacco retailer were conducted. Smoke-Free schools signage was distributed. Consulted with MV Steamship Authority regarding smoke-free buffer zones near boarding areas of ferries. Educational forum provided for Falmouth Prevention Partnership. Collaborated with Cape and Islands Gay and Straight Youth Alliance tobacco advertising survey that the group conducted in Falmouth.
 - Laboratory services saved town over \$15,400 in analytical fees.

Department of Human Services

- Socio-demographic data summary seeking associations with increase in deaths by suicide in that town (and other local organizations). (Nov. 2011)
- Town of Falmouth (and other local organizations): Published case study report on the collaborative response of state, county and local government – and other local organizations – to the increase in deaths by suicide in the Town of Falmouth.
- Mass 2-1-1 outreach to Falmouth COA
- Coordinated suicide postvention activities in the Town of Falmouth (Oct –June 2011)
- Co-hosted a suicide prevention forum in Falmouth (October 2010)
- Co-hosted Men’s Night Forum on Depression and Suicide Prevention (April 2011)
- Granted Falmouth Service Center \$2,000 to use to assist town residents in paying for co-pays associated with accessing mental health services, part of the suicide postvention strategy.
- Town of Falmouth Director of Human Services is a representative on the Health and Human Services Advisory Council
- HRC: There has been 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. Falmouth High School has been a participant in this HRA for five years, and participated in this year just completed. In addition, Falmouth Academy has participated.

Resource Development Office/AmeriCorps Cape Cod

- W.E.T. Festival, North Falmouth Elementary
Members taught students about the importance of water conservation using hands on activities.
- Falmouth Service Center Garden
Members participated in fall and spring cleanups of the community garden, doing tasks including weeding, transplanting, tilling soil, and repairing structures.
- Cranberry Harvest Festival
Members taught children a “Bog in a Cup” lesson during the community event.
- Ashumet Holly Invasive Removal
Members assisted with the land management plan at Mass Audubon’s Ashumet Holly Sanctuary.
- Peterson Farm Invasive Removal
Members served with the 300 Committee to remove invasives at Peterson Farm.
- Menahaunt Beach Invasive Removal
Members served with the Falmouth Beach Department to remove invasives on a

Town property off Menahaunt Beach.

- Beebe Woods Educational Walk
Members took students from Morse Pond School on walks through the Beebe Woods conservation area, and taught them about topics including geology and topography.