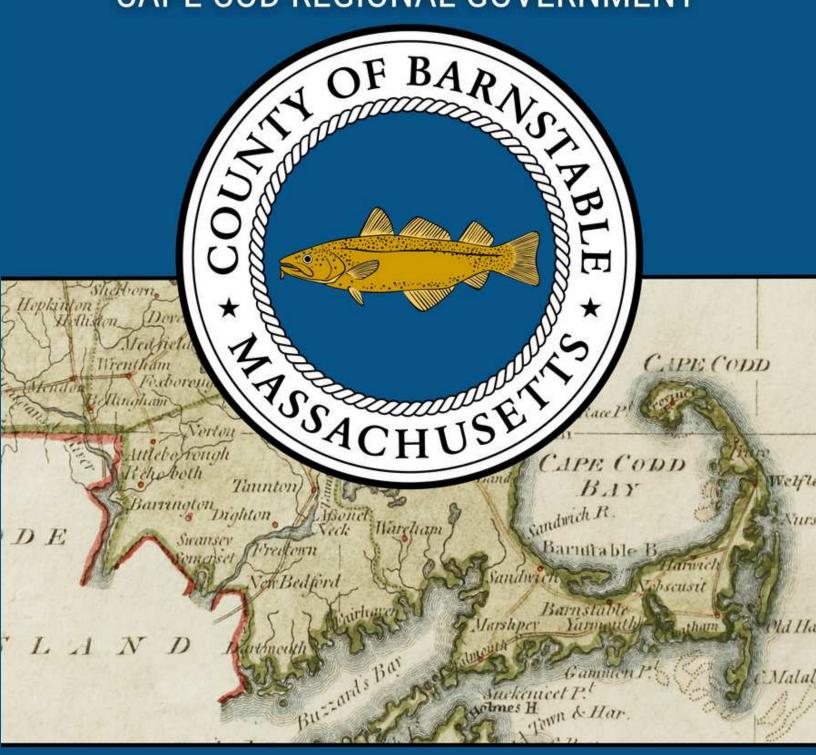
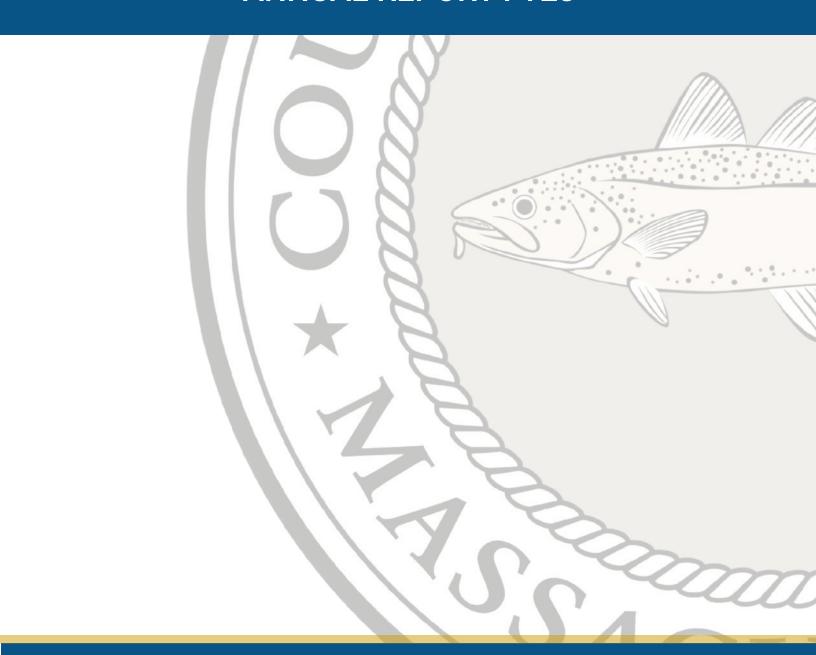
BARNSTABLE COUNTY CAPE COD REGIONAL GOVERNMENT



ANNUAL REPORT FY23

BARNSTABLE COUNTY CAPE COD REGIONAL GOVERNMENT

ANNUAL REPORT FY23

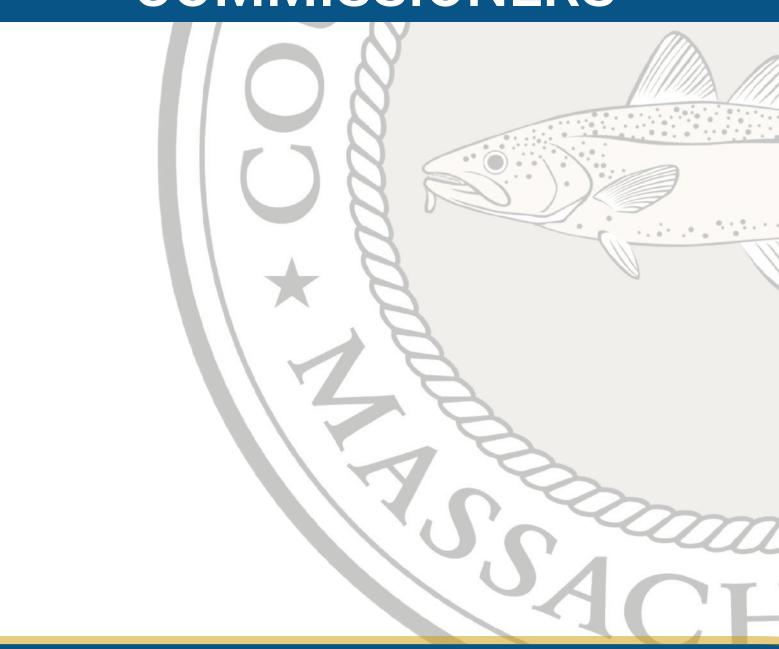


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Report of the Barnstable County BOARD OF REGIONAL COMMISSIONERS





"We the people of Barnstable County, in order to gain for ourselves and for our communities, all of the rights, powers, privileges, duties, and obligations which may now or in the future be derived from a regional government providing extensive services to its region known as Barnstable County and being fiscally sound, do reestablish for ourselves and for our communities the means and the structure to deal with regional issues which transcend the existing boundaries of municipal governments."

- Barnstable County Home Rule Charter November 8, 1988

"Very briefly, it (this Charter) describes a form of regional government very much like town government in that it has a group legislative body made up of one person from each town that will act as a legislature to make the laws, like town meeting. It has an executive branch made up of three commissioners who will carry out the laws like the selectmen. There is a financial board whose function is advisory in the same manner as the town finance committee.We have what we regard as the Cape Cod solution." - Barnstable County Charter Commission June 9, 1988.

A Message from the Board of Regional Commissioners

Reflecting on Fiscal Year 2023

Dear Residents of Barnstable County,

The Barnstable County Charter was overwhelmingly approved by the voters in 1988 because the people of Cape Cod recognized the vital importance of addressing the challenges facing Cape Cod in a collaborative and regional manner. Today, county government provides a unique array of programs and services that not only address regional issues but deliver services on a regional basis in an efficient and cost-effective manner.

In Fiscal Year 2023, Barnstable County, went beyond its regular responsibilities of providing programs and services. The County successfully distributed \$41.3 million we received from the federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) for several critical initiatives. The allocation of ARPA funds by Barnstable County has been instrumental in addressing a wide array of critical regional needs that underscore our deep commitment to serving the people of Cape Cod.

A significant portion of the ARPA funds, amounting to \$11.4 million, was dedicated to tackling the challenges of homelessness and housing instability. This commitment was distributed across various projects, with \$3 million focused on enhancing homeless services, \$6.9 million directed towards the advancement of affordable housing projects, and \$1.5 million allocated for the improvement of workforce housing solutions. The funding was made available to a diverse range of applicants, including nonprofits, for-profit organizations and municipalities.

Moreover, the county allocated a substantial \$10 million to all 15 towns across the region. These funds have played a pivotal role in supporting specific local projects aimed at protecting and preserving Cape Cod's vital water ecosystems, further reflecting our commitment to the well-being of our communities and the environment.

We specifically earmarked \$12.8 million for a variety of important county projects, including new equipment to improve water quality and protect public health, emergency management enhancements, service upgrades, and significant capital investments in our popular County Dredge program.

In a strategic effort to support the post-COVID recovery, the county also set aside \$5 million for grants for a variety of community based non-profits that faced significant challenges in providing services during the Covid-19 crisis. These funds were distributed through a competitive process, and allowed local entities to tailor their economic recovery strategies to their specific needs.

This past year, the Cape Cod Freshwater Initiative, led by the Cape Cod Commission, received \$2,493,028 in funding, endorsed by the Barnstable County Assembly of Delegates. This science-based project is a significant step towards safeguarding and rejuvenating the region's ponds and lakes. It incorporates satellite imagery, water quality data, and GIS in its assessment, bringing together local and regional stakeholders in a unified conservation effort.

As the Commonwealth updates its septic system regulations, the county continues to see significant state support in the work of our Alternative Septic System Test Center, the expansion of the Septic System Loan Fund into a brand new "Aquifund" and new and innovative approaches to remediate water pollution.

Also, we took long overdue steps toward expanding broadband and promoting digital equity. The Cape Cod Commission, in collaboration with the Massachusetts Broadband Institute's Municipal Digital Equity Planning Program, initiated a comprehensive regional broadband assessment in Fiscal Year 24. This initiative is focused on identifying service gaps, identified measures to boost reliable internet access, and enhancing digital literacy, demonstrating our commitment to closing the digital divide on Cape Cod. The assessment will position the county and local towns to secure additional federal and state funds to expand our broadband infrastructure.

Working for the people of Barnstable County is a team effort. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our dedicated county employees and volunteers who worked tirelessly during Fiscal Year 2023 to support the residents of Barnstable County. Our dedication to your well- being and the vitality of Cape Cod remains steadfast.

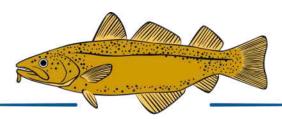
Sincerely,

Mad 11 Frut

Chair, Barnstable County Board of Regional Commissioners







BARNSTABLE COUNTY

CAPE COD REGIONAL GOVERNMENT -

P.O. Box 427 3195 Main Street, Route 6A Barnstable, MA 02630 508-375-6648 | Fax: 508-362-4136

www.capecod.gov/commissioners

BOARD OF REGIONAL COMMISSIONERS

REPORT OF THE BARNSTABLE COUNTY BOARD OF REGIONAL COMMISSIONERS

For the Period July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023

County Commissioner Mark Forest, Chair: mark.forest@capecod.gov County Clerk Robin Young: (508) 375-0000 | robin.young@capecod.gov

About the Board of Regional Commissioners

The Board of Regional Commissioners is the County's executive branch. There are three commissioners elected county-wide for four-year terms. Commissioners are responsible for the direction of county departments, care of county property and finances, and appointing a county administrator to manage day-to-day operations of the County and its departments.

County Commissioners during FY23

Mark Forest, Chair (as of January 1, 2023) Ronald Bergstrom, Vice-Chair Sheila Lyons (Chair until January 1, 2023)

Responsibilities of the Board of Regional Commissioners

- Oversight of all County agencies
- Preparation of annual budget
- · Care of County property
- · Supervision of revenue collection and fund disbursement
- Reporting on the financial and administrative condition of the County

- · Proposal of measures for Assembly action
- Power to veto ordinances
- Appointment and removal of County Administrator and all County Employees

Administration

Elizabeth Albert, County Administrator 508-375-6626 | balbert@capecod.gov

Leslie Dominguez-Santos, Human Rights Coordinator 508-375-6611 | leslie.dominguez-santos@capecod.gov

Vaira Harik, Assistant County Administrator 508-375-6629 | vharik@capecod.gov

Kara Hughes, ARPA Manager 508-375-6598 | kara.hughes@capecod.gov

Justyna Marczak, Human Resources Director 508-375-6646 | jmarczak@capecod.gov

Paul Ruszala, Assets and Infrastructures Manager 508-419-2860 | paul.ruszala@capecod.gov

Sonja Sheasley, Communications Coordinator 508-375-6896 | sonja.sheasley@capecod.gov

Emily Stephens, Human Rights Administrative Assistant 774-224-0137 | emily.stephens@capecod.gov

Robin Young, Executive Assistant 774-223-7253 | robin.young@capecod.gov

Report of Salaries of Elected County Officers FY23

County Commissioners	\$14,178.60/annually
Registrar of Deeds	\$174,532.07/annually
Assembly of Delegates	\$1,000.00/annually

Department Leadership FY23

Cape Cod Center for Public Safety Training

Martin Greene, Program Director Jeff Holmes, Lead Instructor

Children's Cove: Cape Cod & the Islands Child Advocacy Center

Stacy Gallagher, Director of Children's Cove Beth Mitchell, Deputy Director of Children's Cove

Cape Cod Cooperative Extension

Michael Maguire, Director of Cooperative Extension Shannon Hulst, Deputy Director of Cooperative Extension

County Clerk

Robin Young

Department of Health & Environment

Sean O'Brien, Director of Health and Environment Erika Woods, Deputy Director of Health and Environment

Department of Human Services

Joseph Pacheco, Director of Human Services Mandi Speakman, Deputy Director of Human Services

Dredge Program

Kenneth Cirillo, Dredge Director

Facilities

Donald Reynolds, Director of Facilities

Finance Department

Carol Coppola, Director of Finance/Treasurer Deborah Childs, County Accountant

Information Technology Department

William Traverse, Director of Information Technology Chris Burt, Deputy Director of Information Technology

Registry of Deeds

John F. Meade, Registrar David B. Murphy, Assistant Registrar of Deeds

Cape Cod Commission

Harold Mitchell, Chairman Kristy Senatori, Executive Director Erin Perry, Deputy Director

General Counsel FY23

KP Law

Report of Fiscal Year 2023

The Barnstable County's 124th Annual Report for FY23 provides a comprehensive overview of the County's activities across departments and its financial status as of June 30, 2023.

In accordance with Section 26 of Chapter 35 of the General Laws, the Barnstable County Board of Regional Commissioners submits this report, reflecting their meetings convened on Wednesdays and as necessary to fulfill their responsibilities.

For the fiscal year 2023 revenue, the County tax was increased by 2% as permitted under Massachusetts General Laws.

All taxes due from the fifteen towns within the county are upto-date.

Budget Approval for FY24

In February 2023, the Barnstable County Commissioners approved a proposed \$22.5 million operating budget for the fiscal year 2024, representing a 4.5% increase over the current fiscal year. The budget included a 3% cost-of-living increase for employees, emergency reserves, and salary adjustments.

Barnstable County's Strategic Allocation of \$41.4 Million in ARPA Funds

During Fiscal Year 23, Barnstable County received a significant infusion of \$41.4 million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds from the U.S. Treasury. These funds were specifically designated to provide essential financial support to communities dealing with the myriad challenges stemming

from the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The ARPA program, initiated by the federal government, aimed to alleviate the economic and public health impacts of the pandemic, making these funds a vital resource for local governments like Barnstable County.

Utilization of ARPA Funds for Pandemic Recovery

To ensure that these funds are effectively utilized within the specified timeframe and in accordance with U.S. Treasury guidelines, the Barnstable County Board of Commissioners embarked on a strategic allocation process. A key consideration was the stipulation that ARPA funds must be obligated by December 31, 2024, and expended by December 31, 2026, underlining the importance of prudent planning and execution.

ARPA Advisory Committee

To facilitate the equitable and judicious allocation of these funds, Barnstable County established an ARPA Advisory Committee, consisting of local leaders representing a cross-section of Cape Cod's civic and business community. This committee played an instrumental role in advising and shaping the distribution of ARPA funds. The members of this committee, chaired by Paul Niedzwiecki (Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce), included Dorothy Savarese (Cape Cod Five), Dan Wolf (Cape Air), Lisa Guyon (We Can), Sean Gonsalves (Institute for Local Self-Reliance), Wendy Northcross (JFK Hyannis Museum Foundation), Karen Gardner (Community Health Center of Cape Cod), and Kristin O'Malley (Cape Cod Foundation). Their collective expertise and regional insights were instrumental in making informed recommendations for the allocation of ARPA funds.

Addressing Housing and Homelessness Challenges

Under the guidance of the ARPA Advisory Committee, the Barnstable County Regional Board of Commissioners approved an array of strategic allocations. One significant allocation, made on February 22, 2023, saw \$11.4 million in ARPA funds directed towards addressing pressing housing and homelessness challenges in the region. This allocation encompassed \$3 million dedicated to homeless sheltering and medical respite, \$6.9 million allocated for ongoing affordable housing projects, and \$1.5 million earmarked for innovative public-private partnerships aimed at bolstering workforce housing and supporting seasonal workers. Eligible applicants for this funding included non-profit organizations, private/for-profit entities, and municipalities, with proposals solicited through a transparent Request for Proposal (RFP) process administered by Barnstable County.

Economic Recovery: \$5 Million in Grant Allocations

In August 2022, Barnstable County allocated \$5 million in grants to support economic recovery efforts following the COVID-19 pandemic. These grants were aimed at assisting local government units, non-profit organizations, and private/for-profit entities. The response from Cape Cod organizations was remarkable, with 122 Letters of Intent (LOIs) submitted, totaling over \$40 million in requested funds. After thorough evaluation, 20 projects were selected to receive funding in May 2023, covering a diverse range of areas, including healthcare, food support, and educational programs.

On May 31, 2023, the Barnstable County Board of Regional Commissioners, along with members of the Assembly of Delegates and representatives from U.S. Congressman Bill Keating, Senator Edward Markey, and Senator Elizabeth Warren's offices, convened to award the \$5 million in ARPA grants to these 20 deserving organizations across Cape Cod.

Investing in Barnstable County Programs

Further underscoring the commitment to addressing critical regional needs, Barnstable County approved an additional \$12.8 million in ARPA funding on February 2, 2023. These funds were directed towards regional projects encompassing critical areas such as water quality enhancement, affordable housing initiatives, public health post-COVID, emergency management enhancements, and upgrades to County services. This approval followed an exhaustive review process, with various committees and public input contributing to the decision-making.

Ensuring Water Quality and Environmental Protection

Lastly, an allocation of \$10 million in Barnstable County ARPA grants was distributed to the 15 towns on Cape Cod on April 27, 2022. This funding allocation primarily focused on addressing water quality-related issues, reflecting the region's commitment to safeguarding its natural environment and public health.

Selected Initiatives in FY23

Arts Foundation Designation: In March 2023, the Commissioners officially designated the Arts Foundation of Cape Cod (AFCC) as the region's arts agency, allowing AFCC to seek federal funding for larger-scale arts projects.

AquiFund Launch: The County launched the AquiFund program in March 2023, offering affordable loans for septic system upgrades and sewer connections.

- -0% for eligible year-round homeowners in nitrogen-sensitive watersheds with income below \$100,500.
- -2% for eligible year-round homeowners in nitrogen-sensitive watersheds with income below \$150,500.
- --4% for all other new projects.

Cape Cod Freshwater Initiative: Led by the Cape Cod Commission, this initiative was funded by the County to revitalize regional ponds and lakes using satellite imagery and water quality data.

Addressing PFAS Contamination: Barnstable County's Proactive Measures During FY23

Barnstable County continued with the remediation program for the former Barnstable County Fire and Rescue Training Academy (FTA), which was contaminated with chemicals referred to as PFAS or polyfluoroalkyl substances. The PFAS contamination at the site and portions of surrounding property is a result of the use of firefighting foams at the FTA from the 1970s to 2009. Unknown to all, PFAS in the foams were contaminating the soil, the groundwater beneath and downgradient of the facility, and Flintrock Pond directly to the west of the FTA. The PFAS release is regulated by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) under the Massachusetts Contingency Plan, the environmental regulations that govern the assessment and cleanup of uncontrolled releases of oil or hazardous materials.

The PFAS Release and the FTA Site were assigned Release Tracking Number (RTN) 4-0026179 by MassDEP in 2016. All documents regarding the FTA Site submitted to MassDEP are available on the MassDEP Searchable Sites Database. They are listed in the database by RTN 4-0026179. Relevant documents and reporting to date are also available at https://www.capecod.gov/pfas-mitigation/. The documents describe the extensive explorations and testing that have been performed at the Site and surrounding areas and detail the remediation and mitigation efforts to date.

There are numerous phases of work to assess and remediate PFAS contamination under the MassDEP regulations. The Phase I Initial Site Investigation (ISI) was completed in 2018. Major mitigation work has been and continues to be conducted as part of the Immediate Response Actions (IRA). The work includes pumping and treating contaminated groundwater, demolition of the fire training structures, removal of highly contaminated soil from the FTA site, capping of the entire facility, and groundwater monitoring and testing as re-

quired. The work performed is not limited to the former FTA facility, where the regulations require that the full extent of the contamination plume be assessed, delineated, mitigated and associated risks be identified and managed.

The Phase II Comprehensive Site Assessment (CSA) of the MCP process is currently underway. Phase II CSA will assess how far and where the PFAS contamination has traveled with the groundwater and how it has impacted the adjacent pond and other water bodies in the area. Most importantly, Phase II will evaluate the potential risks to human health and the environment from the FTA-related PFAS at the Site.

Notable MCP items accomplished for 2023 include continued operation and maintenance of the onsite groundwater recovery and treatment system; quarterly and annual sampling, groundwater monitoring and well installation on Massachusetts Fisheries and Wildlife and Town of Barnstable properties; initial groundwater modelling to determine the extent of plume both vertically and horizontally in the aquifer, Flintrock Pond and Mary Dunn Pond assessments, groundwater screening within proximity to the Hyannis Airport and east of Mary Dunn Pond; public information plan meetings and notifications; and preliminary design efforts for groundwater treatment system expansion.

FY23 Report from Human Resources

During the fiscal year FY23, Barnstable County's Human Resources department successfully onboarded 33 new employees, adding to the existing workforce, which remained steady at 306 throughout the year.

FY23 Report from the Communications Team

In Fiscal Year 2023, Barnstable County's Communications team achieved significant milestones, enhancing outreach, improving community engagement, and advancing organizational goals.

Professional Training

To boost our team's capabilities, we invested in Social Media and SEO training from Pierce Cote and TOMO360. Our staff also underwent spokesperson training for effective media interactions.

Domain Name Transition

In FY23, with IT support, we successfully transitioned to capecod.gov, aligning our online presence with our brand identity.

National County Government Month

During April 2023's National County Government Month, we highlighted our commitment to preserving Cape Cod's water through a dedicated webpage on www.capecod.gov. An Art Contest for students showcased community talent.

Website Analytics

Our website, www.capecod.gov, had 133,770 active users from July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023, underlining our robust online presence.

Digital Reach

Facebook remained our primary platform with 24.5K followers across 12 County departments. We used Constant Contact for email campaigns, reaching 47,000 Cape Cod residents with updates on ARPA funding, National County Government Month, and planned for regular email campaigns in FY24.

These FY23 achievements reflect our commitment to transparent and effective communication within Barnstable County, serving the needs of our community.

CELEBRATE NATIONAL COUNTY GOVERNMENT MONTH



(Shown above) The poster National County Government Month with the theme "Barnstable County Protects Cape Cod's Water" features a vibrant design that showcases the county's dedication to preserving its water resources.



County Property

3195 Main Street Barnstable, MA 02630 17.88+/- acres

Superior Court
Deeds and Probate Courts
First District Court
Former House of Corrections Building
Water Testing Laboratory
Former Sheriff's House
Recycling Garage

3675 Main Street Barnstable, MA 98 +/- acres Former Sheriff's Farm

Barnstable, MA 6.61 +/- acres Children's Cove building

155 South Flint Rock Road Hyannis, MA 6.08 +/- acres Former Fire Training Academy 237 Rock Harbor Road
Orleans, MA
5.03 +/- acres
Second District Courthouse

870 County Road Bourne, MA 65 +/- acres Conservation land 870 County Road
Bourne, MA
5.3 +/- acres
Two single-family homes (one vacant)

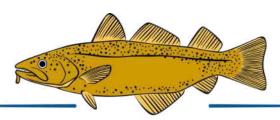
875 County Road Bourne, MA 5.44 +/- acres AmeriCorps housing

0 Phinney's Lane Barnstable, MA 5.03 +/- acres Vacant land

Report of the Barnstable County

ASSEMBLY OF DELEGATES





BARNSTABLE COUNTY

CAPE COD REGIONAL GOVERNMENT -

P.O. Box 427 3195 Main Street, Route 6A Barnstable, MA 02630 www.capecod.gov/assembly

ASSEMBLY OF DELEGATES

REPORT OF THE BARNSTABLE COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF DELEGATES

For the Period July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023

Assembly Delegate Patrick Princi, Speaker : pprinci@capecod.gov
Assembly Clerk Owen Fletcher: (508) 375-6761 | owen.fletcher@capecod.gov

Overview

The Assembly of Delegates is the legislative branch of Cape Cod Regional Government (also known as Barnstable County government) and provides for the individual voices of towns in Barnstable County. Fifteen Delegates make up the Assembly's membership. One Delegate is elected by each Barnstable County town in non-partisan elections for two-year terms of office. Assembly Delegates' votes are weighted by the percentage of the county's population that resides in that Delegate's town, based upon the 2020 United States Decennial Census.

Legislative Powers of the Assembly

The Barnstable County Home Rule Charter vests the legislative powers of county government in the Assembly of Delegates. Those legislative powers are largely exercised through ordinances and resolutions which may be introduced by Delegates, the Board of Regional Commissioners (the County Commissioners), or by citizen initiative petitions. Either the full Assembly or Assembly Speaker may refer these measures or other items of business to standing committees for study, review, discussion, report, and recommendations for action by the Assembly after public hearings. Delegates are appointed by the Speaker to serve on these standing

committees and may also be appointed as liaisons or to serve on other ad-hoc or special committees.

Assembly Standing Committees

The Assembly currently has the following standing committees: 1) the Finance Committee addresses all matters relating to the Assembly of Delegates Budget, County fiscal policies and procedures, including appropriations, budgeting, borrowing, finances, funds, revenues from fees, taxes and other sources, and inter-governmental fiscal policies and procedures; 2) the Economic Affairs Committee addresses economic development in Barnstable County; 3) the Health and Human Services Committee addresses County activities relating to public health, social services and housing; 4) the Natural Resources Committee addresses County activities relating to environmental matters; 5) the Public Services Committee addresses all matters relating to public services; 6) the Telecommunications and Energy Committee informs the Assembly on matters as they relate to public utilities, telecommunications, and energy related matters; 7) the Governmental Regulations Committee consists of the chairs of the standing committees and the Speaker, to address all matters relating to the Regional Policy Plan; and 8) the Budget Review Committee consisting of all members of the Assembly, to meet any time the Finance Committee

determines a review of the budget is warranted.

County Budget

The Assembly of Delegates appropriates County funds including the annual operating and capital budgets. The process typically takes place between February and May. The Board of Regional Commissioners, as the executive branch of County government, submits a proposed budget to the Assembly. The Assembly's Standing Committee on Finance, with other Assembly standing committees, reviews the budget proposed by the County Commissioners and provides recommendations to the full Assembly through written reports. The budgets are then adopted by the full Assembly.

Assembly Meetings

The Assembly of Delegates typically holds regular hybrid meetings on the first and third Wednesday of each month at 4:00 p.m. at the Mary Pat Flynn Conference Center, located at the Barnstable County Complex, 3195 Main Street, Barnstable and using the Microsoft TEAMS platform for virtual participation. However, due to changes in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Assembly also held fully remote meetings for standing committees and on occasion the full Assembly in Fiscal Year 2023 in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws. Hybrid Assembly meetings are expected to continue into 2024. The physical location of the Office of the Clerk for the Assembly of Delegates is currently located at the Old Sherriff's House at the County Complex located at 3195 Main Street in Barnstable Village.

Assembly Meetings routinely include an update on Executive Branch activities from the Barnstable County Board of Regional Commissioners and the County Administrator. Assembly Delegates received updates on a variety of topics including:

- · Cape Cod Commercial Fishermen's Alliance;
- COVID-19, Per-and Polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) cleanup at former County fire training site;
- · Cape Cod Commission regional priority initiatives;
- · Municipal solid waste management;
- County's AquiFund;
- · White shark movements and behavior in Cape Cod waters;
- · American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA);
- · · 2021 Cape Cod Pond and Lake Atlas;
- · Groundwater Guardian Program;
- Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) proposed Title 5 and Watershed Permitting regulations as well as the 2022 Massachusetts Economic

Development Bill

- County Broadband Internet & Cellular Network Assessment and update on Broadband funding
- Legislative Update on American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding from Massachusetts State Senator Julian Cyr and State Senator Susan Moran
- Cape Cod Commission 2022 Year in Review
- Dredge Program Rates Review Update
- Cape Cod Canal Bridges Program
- Clean-up of Per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) at the former fire training site
- EPA Draft Report Machine Gun Range on the Upper Cape Water Supply Reserve
- Household Hazardous Waste Program & Groundwater Protection Update
- Diversity Awareness: Recognizing Your Blind Spots
- County Human Rights Advisory Commission
- · County Unreserved Fund Balance Draft Plan
- County Fiscal Year 2022 Independent Financial Audit;
- Children's Behavioral Health Initiative of the County Human Services Department – Barbara Domenic, Consultant, Barnstable County Department of Human Services

Delegates passed resolutions regarding the use of videoconference technology at Assembly meetings, supporting a proposed Home Rule Petition by the Town of Orleans on the application of fertilizers, opposing Eversource Energy's Proposed Herbicide Use in Barnstable County, rand revising Assembly procedures for budget review as well as reorganization meetings.

The Assembly authorized a letter opposing Holtec Decommissioning International's plan to discharge radioactive water from the decommissioned Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station into Cape Cod Bay.



Fiscal Year 2023 Town Representation on the Assembly

Town	Weighted Vote*	Delegate
Barnstable	21.36%	Patrick Princi, Speaker
Bourne	8.93%	George Slade
Brewster	4.51%	Mary Chaffee (Deputy Speaker through 1/4/23)
Chatham	2.88%	Randi Potash (Deputy Speaker elected 1/4/23)
Dennis	6.41%	John Ohman (Dean)
Eastham	2.51%	J. Terence Gallagher
Falmouth	14.20%	Daniel Gessen
Harwich	5.87%	Elizabeth Harder
Mashpee	6.58%	Thomas O'Hara (through 1/4/23) Michaela Wyman-Columbo (sworn in 1/4/23)
Orleans	2.75%	David Dunford (resigned 7/4/22) Jon R. Fuller (sworn in 8/17/22)
Provincetown	1.60%	Brian O'Malley
Sandwich	8.85%	James Killion
Truro	1.07%	Sallie Tighe
Wellfleet	1.56%	Lilli-Ann Green
Yarmouth	10.93%	Susan Warner

^{*}The percentages listed above have been rounded to the nearest hundreth. Exact numbers are used for calculations.

Legislative Action: The Assembly adopted these Ordinances during fiscal year 2023

Resolution	Action	Approved
Ord-2022-14	Authorize the Board of Commissioners to amend the lease agreement between the County of Barnstable and the Commissioner of the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance on behalf of the Trial Court of the Commonwealth.	7/13/2022
Ord-2022-15	To authorize the Board of Commissioners to approve operating budget transfers in the amount of \$39,400.00 for salaries, fringe benefits and supplies in accordance with Cape Cod regional government Home Rule Charter, Section 2 – 8, item (d) (iii).	7/27/2022
Ord-2022-16	To transfer to a special revenue fund by making supplemental appropriations fiscal year two thousand twenty-three in the amount of \$2,500,000 to fund the Regional Freshwater Initiative Program.	7/20/2022
Ord-2022-17	To allocate the amount \$932,576 from funds received by Barnstable County under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) to be expended for the Regional Housing Strategy Project.	8/10/2022
Ord-2022-18	To allocate the amount of \$5,000,000 from funds received by Barnstable County under ARPA to be expended on grants for small and medium-sized projects.	8/10/2022
Ord-2022-19	To transfer to a special revenue fund by making supplemental appropriations fiscal year t wo thousand twenty-three in the amount of \$2,500,000 to fund the Regional Freshwater I nitiative Program (identical to Ordinance 22-16).	8/24/2022
Ord-2022-20	Amending Ordinance 22-07 allocating \$10 million for distributions to towns from funds received by Barnstable County under ARPA.	9/21/2022
Ord-2022-21	Authorizing the County Board of Regional Commissioners to execute a lease agreement with the Commissioner of the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance on behalf of the Office of the Cape & Islands District Attorney.	10/26/2022
Ord-2022-22	Repealing Ordinance 16-03, Establishing the timeline for the Assembly of Delegates' review and vote on the County Commissioners' proposed fiscal budgets for all Fiscal Years commencing with Fiscal Year 2017 and all subsequent years unless amended by Ordinance; and fixing a time within which the Board of Regional Commissioners shall submit to the Assembly of Delegates its proposed operating budget for the ensuing fiscal year.	11/21/2022
Ord-2022-23	Transferring funds for the fiscal year two-thousand and twenty-three, to the Capital Stabilization Fund, Emergency Stabilization Fund, and General Stabilization Fund, as established in Ordinance No. 20-16, 20-17, and 20-18 by making transfers from the Unreserved Fund Balance for fiscal year two-thousand and twenty-three, in the amount of \$2,343,854.00.	11/21/2022

Legislative Action: The Assembly adopted these Ordinances during fiscal year 2023

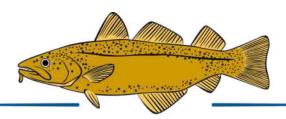
Resolution	Action	Approved
Ord-2023-01	To revise and amend the Barnstable County Home Rule Charter in accordance with the third paragraph of Section 9-1 of the Barnstable County Home Rule Charter by amending the Charter to include a Recall provision for the removal from office of a member of the Board of Regional Commissioners. This Proposed Ordinance authorizes the filing of a Petition to the General Court for Special Legislation filed by the Assembly of Delegates with the Approval of the Board of Regional Commissioners.	Disapproved
Ord-2023-02	To transfer funds to the Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Liability Trust Fund of Barnstable County by making transfers from the Unreserved Fund Balance in the amount of \$8,475,715.	2/1/2023
Ord-2023-03	Allocating an amount not to exceed \$ 12,800,000 to County projects recommended by the Barnstable County American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Advisory Committee and approved by the County Board of Regional Commissioners.	2/1/2023
Ord-2023-04	To add to the County's Dredge operating budget for Fiscal Year 2023, as enacted in Ordinance No. 22-10 in the amount of \$2,140,283 by making supplemental appropriations in the amount of \$650,000 for County Dredge Services.	2/22/2023
Ord-2023-05	Allocating \$11,400,000 of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds received by the County for the housing sector.	2/22/2023
Ord-2023-06	Fiscal Year 2024 Capital Budget.	2/22/2023
Ord-2023-07	Fiscal Year 2024 County Operating Budget.	5/10/2023
Ord-2023-08	FY24 Cape Cod Commission Operating Budget	4/12/2023
Ord-2023-09	Fiscal Year 2024 Dredge Enterprise Fund Operating Budget.	Rejected
Ord-2023-10	Rescinding amounts authorized and unissued in the Capital Projects Funds as originally appropriated in various fiscal years.	3/15/2023

The Assembly adopted these resolutions during fiscal year 2023:

Resolution	Action	Approved
Res-2022-02	Supporting a proposed Home Rule Petition by the Town of Orleans on the application of fertilizers.	9/21/2022
Res-2022-03	Opposing to Eversource Energy's Proposed Herbicide Use in Barnstable County.	11/2/2022
Res-2022-04	Amending Procedures to Review Proposed Budget Appropriations & supplements in the Assembly of Delegates Manual of Governance.	11/16/2022
Res-2022-05	Amending procedures for organization meetings of the Assembly of Delegates in the Manual of Governance.	12/21/2022
Res-2023-01	Calling upon Governor Maura Healy and the Cape's Federal and State legislative delegations to prioritize the urgent need for, and tremendous potential of, last-mile internet infrastructure on Cape Cod.	7/13/2022
Res-2023-02	Amending Manual of Governance and Procedures Section 20 on Committees.	7/27/2022
Res-2023-03	On the use of disposable (single-use) plastic bottles.	3/1/2023
Res-2023-04	Supporting Massachusetts Senate No. 861, An Act relative to year-round housing occupancy restriction.	8/10/2022
Res-2022-15	To allocate the amount of \$5,000,000 from funds received by Barnstable County under ARPA to be expended on grants for small and medium-sized projects.	8/10/2022

Report of AMERICORPS CAPE COD





BARNSTABLE COUNTY

AMERICORPS CAPE COD

3195 Main Street P.O. Box 427 Barnstable, MA 02630 774-314-2182

americorps@capecod.gov www.capecod.gov/AmeriCorps

REPORT OF THE BARNSTABLE COUNTY AMERICORPS CAPE COD

For the Period July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023

Katherine Garofoli, AmeriCorps Program Manager | katherine.garofoli@capecod.gov | 774-314-2182



Year 24 AmeriCorps Cape Cod members serving at Sustainable CAPE Children's Community Garden at the Truro Public Library.

Since 1999, Barnstable County's AmeriCorps Cape Cod program has engaged service-minded adults to fulfill a variety of environmental and disaster preparedness needs across Cape Cod. Each year we recruit, train, and host up to 24 national service members, who make an 11-month full-time volunteer commitment to Cape Cod. The program is dedicated to bringing in skilled young professionals to serve on capacity building projects for municipal governments and non-profit organizations across all 15 towns of the Cape. Our focus areas include natural resource management, disaster preparedness and response, environmental education, and volunteer engagement.

AmeriCorps Cape Cod is funded by Barnstable County and through a grant provided by AmeriCorps the Agency. Housing for Corps members and live-in program staff is provided by Barnstable County, the Cape Cod National Seashore, the Town of Barnstable, and the Chatham Conservation Foundation, Inc. AmeriCorps Cape Cod is managed and operated by the Barnstable County Commissioners' Office with support from the Massachusetts Service Alliance.

AmeriCorps Cape Cod Year 24 Staff

Katherine Garofoli - Program Manager
Phoebe Plank - Upper Cape Program Coordinator
Michael Andranovich - Outer Cape Program Coordinator
Robert "Bert" Skubal - Pocasset House Program Supervisor
Robert Zielinski - Chatham House Program Supervisor
Hunter Moore - Wellfleet House Program Supervisor

Year 24 AmeriCorps Cape Cod Members

Pocasset House

Avalon Hadley
Emma Grace Deily-Swearingen
Leonel "Leo" Lainez
William "Will" Longo
Chatham House
Caroline Lawrence
Doria "Dory" Gedraitis

Wellfleet House

Frederick "Fred" Stumbo Henry Torpey Lillian "Lily" Gooding

AmeriCorps Cape Cod, Year 24 | Community Impact, 1999 - 2023

Since 1999, AmeriCorps Cape Cod members have diligently addressed critical environmental and disaster preparedness In

the past 24 years, members have participated in the following activities:

Environmental Conservation Projects:

Completed 4,731 land- and water-based conservation projects.

Implemented and assisted in the development of over 2,553 environmental education activities to over 61,500 individuals.



AmeriCorps Cape Cod members clearing a herring run in Wellfleet, MA.

Disaster Preparedness and Response Activities:

Responded to 4 marine mammal stranding events in 2022-2023 affecting 17 marine mammals.

Assisted Barnstable County Regional Emergency Planning Committee staff with inventorying and organizing emergency shelter supplies across the Cape for over 60 hours in 2022-2023.

Taught 550 community disaster preparedness education classes (since 1999).

Participated in 28 disaster simulations (since 1999).



AmeriCorps Cape Cod members learning about prescribed burn techniques to assist the MA Department of Conservation and Recreation.

Community Events:

Organized and participated in annual events including: AmeriCorps Week, National Volunteer Week, County Day of Recognition for National Service, Arbor Day, Earth Day, Harwich "Tour de Trash", Cape Cod Canal Clean-Up, Barnstable County Hazardous Waste Collections, Scouts of America Emergency Preparedness Fair, Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service, Coast Sweep Beach Clean-Up, Project WET Festivals, Brewster Conservation Day, Dennis Conservation Celebration, Yarmouth Winter Carnival, and CARE Days.

Civic Engagement:

Engaged 14,955 community volunteers in over 49,500 hours of community service.

Delivered 313 presentations about AmeriCorps, national service, community service and/or civic engagement.

Building Community:

122 Corps members have stayed or returned to the Cape after graduation to live and work for a period of time.

43 alumni are currently living and working on the Cape; 15 are working for Barnstable County or a municipal department.

AmeriCorps Cape Cod members have served a total of 990,122 hours.



AmeriCorps Cape Cod members engaging volunteers at a beach clean-up at Woodneck Beach in Falmouth, MA.

Estimated Value of Service to the Cape Cod Community from September 1999 - July 2023 = \$26,265,027*

*Source: The Independent Sector sets the State and National Volunteer Rate each year. (\$39.19/hr. for 2022 in Massachusetts)

ACC Advisory Board

Each year, the AmeriCorps Cape Cod Advisory Board dedicates many hours to guide and support the program. The staff would like to extend its deepest thanks for the thoughtfulness and encouragement that the Advisory Board members provide to enhance our impact across Cape Cod.

2022-2023 Advisory Board Members

*Indicates AmeriCorps Cape Cod alumni and former staff

Kelly Barber- Barnstable Land Trust* Alex Bates- Orleans Conservation Trust*

Ryan Burch-Town of Brewster *

Nancy Church-Friends of Mashpee National Wildlife Refuge

Nina Coleman-Town of Barnstable

David Crary, Jr. (Chair) - Community Partner

Rachel Hutchinson*- Barnstable County Cape Cod

Cooperative Extension

Sheila Lyons - Barnstable County Commissioner

Heather McElroy - Cape Cod Commission

Connor O'Brien* - Harwich Conservation Trust

John Ohman - Barnstable County Assembly of Delegates -

Dennis

Brian Sharp - International Fund for Animal Welfare
Jessica Whritenour - (Vice Chair) - The 300 Committee Land
Trust *

Erik Boyer- (Alternate) - Wildlands Trust *
Lauren McKean- (Advisor) - Cape Cod National Seashore

AmeriCorps Cape Cod Year 24 | Year 24 Group Service Projects



AmeriCorps Cape Cod members filling spat bags with oysters.

Bourne

- Pumpkin Patch Event Support with Bourne Friends Food Pantry
- Feet for Flippers 5K Event Support with National Marine Life Center
- Trail Sign Installation, Kiosk Construction, and Trail Maintenance at the Town Forest with Town of Bourne Open Space Committee
- Bournedale Herring Run Clean-Up with Army Corps of Engineers
- Carter Beal Trail Maintenance with Town of Bourne Conservation Commission

- Scusset Beach Fire Road Clearing with MA Department of Conservation and Recreation
- Food Truck Festival Fundraiser 2023 Event Support with National Marine Life Center

Sandwich

- WETFest at Oak Ridge School with Barnstable County Cape Cod Cooperative Extension
- Shellfish Propagation at the Sandwich Boardwalk with Town of Sandwich Department of Natural Resources
- Trail Maintenance and Vegetation Management at Maple Swamp, Boyden Farm, and Cook's Farm Conservation Areas with Town of Sandwich Department of Natural Resources
- Shorebird Fencing Installation at Town Neck Beach with Sandwich Department of Natural Resources
- Oak Crest Cove Garden Revitalization with Sandwich Garden Club
- Household Hazardous Waste Collection with Barnstable County Cape Cod Cooperative Extension
- New Trail Cutting at Meiggs Backus Conservation Area with Town of Sandwich Department of Natural Resources
- Emergency Shelter Supply Inventory and Organization with Barnstable County Regional Emergency Planning Committee

Falmouth

- Trail Signage Installation and Maintenance at Beebe Woods with The 300 Committee Land Trust
- Ashumet Holly Spadefoot Toad Wetland Project with Mass Audubon
- Town Forest Trail Maintenance with Town of Falmouth Marine and Environmental Services
- Little Pond Shellfish Overwintering with Town of Falmouth Marine and Environmental Services
- Upper Coonamessett Bog Restoration with Town of Falmouth Conservation Commission
- Town of Falmouth Oyster Relay 2023 with Town of Falmouth Marine and Environmental Services

- Woodneck and Chappaquoit Beach Clean-Ups with CARE for the Cape and Islands
- Permaculture Food Forest Workshop with Resilient Roots
- Sugar Kelp Harvest Research with Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute
- Kiosk Installation and Trail Maintenance at the Moraine Trail with The 300 Committee Land Trust
- Barnstable Fairgrounds Garden Bed Installation with Barnstable County Cape Cod Cooperative Extension
- Prescribed Burn at Francis A. Crane Wildlife Management Area with MA Department of Conservation and Recreation

Mashpee

- WETFest at Quashnet School with Barnstable County Cape Cod Cooperative Extension
- Shorebird Fencing Installation at South Cape Beach State Park and Popponesset Beach with Mass Audubon Coastal Waterbird Program
- Shellfish Gear Removal from Mashpee River and Popponesset Bay with Town of Mashpee Department of Natural Resources
- Quashnet River Vegetation Management with Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve
- Will's Work Road Fire Road Clearing with MA Department of Conservation and Recreation

Barnstable

- Fuller Farm Planting and Maintenance with Barnstable Land Trust
- Bayview Farm Meadow Support and Pile Burning with Barnstable Land Trust
- WETFest at Barnstable Community Innovation School with Barnstable County Cape Cod Cooperative Extension
- WETFest at Barnstable United Elementary with Barnstable County Cape Cod Cooperative Extension
- Invasive Plant Clearing and Maintenance with Meetinghouse Farm

- Diamondback Terrapin Garden Preparation at the Margaret Wyman Turtle Sanctuary with Orenda Wildlife Land Trust
- Greening the Gateways Cities Tree Planting Program at Hyannis West Elementary School with Town of Barnstable
- Coombs Bog Invasives Removal with Barnstable Land Trust
- Sandy Neck Beach Park Vegetation Management with Town of Barnstable Department of Natural Resources
- Cape Cod Electric Vehicle Expo and Test Drive Event Support with Cape Cod Commission
- Tour de Barnstable Community Event Support with Catalyst Multisport
- Trail Blazing at the Bridge Creek Conservation Area with Barnstable Land Acquisition and Preservation Committee
- Canvassing for the Massachusetts PFAS and Your Health Study with Silent Spring Institute
- Bowles Field Conservation Project Maintenance with Barnstable Land Trust

Yarmouth

- Cape Cod Rail Trail Brush Clearing with MA Department of Conservation and Recreation
- Trail Maintenance at Dennis Pond Conservation Area with Town of Yarmouth Department of Natural Resources
- Household Hazardous Waste Collection with Barnstable County Cape Cod Cooperative Extension
- Upper Bass River Headquarters Restoration with Friends of Bass River

Dennis

- Herring Run Clearing at Scargo Lake and Sesuit Creek with Town of Dennis Department of Natural Resources
- Pond Street Blueberry Patch Pruning with Town of Dennis Department of Natural Resources
- Dennis Conservation Celebration Event Support with Town of Dennis and Dennis Conservation Land Trust
- Household Hazardous Waste Collection with Barnstable County Cape Cod Cooperative Extension

Harwich

- Eyes on Owls: Live Owl Show Event Support with Harwich Conservation Trust
- Family Pantry Garden Winterization and Spring Opening with The Family Pantry of Cape Cod
- Vegetation Management at White Cedar Woodlands and Cold Brook Preserve with Harwich Conservation Trust
- Thompson's Field Pile Burns and Land Management with Town of Harwich Conservation Department
- Herring Run Maintenance with Town of Harwich Department of Natural Resources
- Garden Club Fertilizer Fundraiser Event Support with Harwich Garden Club
- Harwich Tour de Trash Event Support with Town of Harwich and Harwich Conservation Trust
- Community Outreach at HCT's Walk 'n Wag with Harwich Conservation Trust
- CARE Day at the Cultural Arts Municipal Building with CARE for the Cape and Islands
- Tree Tag Installation and Maintenance at Island Pond Cemetery with Town of Harwich Cemetery Department
- Cornelius Pond Woodlands Retaining Wall Construction with Harwich Conservation Trust
- Split Rail Fence Installation and Management at Lothrop Cemetery with Town of Harwich Cemetery Department
- Community Gardens Upkeep at Thompson's Field with Town of Harwich Conservation Department

Brewster

- Grist Mill Herring Run Clearing and Shellfishing at Mant's Landing with Town of Brewster Department of Natural Resources
- Invasives Removal at the Eddy Bay Holly Grove and Dowling Property with Brewster Conservation Trust
- WETFest at The Laurel School with Barnstable County Cape Cod Cooperative Extension

- Pile Burn and Trail Management at Eddy Sisters Garden with Brewster Conservation Trust
- Beautify Brewster Community Event Support with Town of Brewster
- Nickerson State Park Campsite Maintenance with MA Department of Conservation and Recreation
- Summer Campground Clean-Up with Dream Day on Cape Cod
- Opening Camp Mitton for Summer Use with Crossroads Inc.
- No Bottom Pond Trail Maintenance with Brewster Conservation Trust
- Brewster Antiques Fair Set-up and Breakdown with Brewster Historical Society
- Brewster Conservation Day with Town of Brewster, Brewster Conservation Trust, and Brewster Ponds Coalition

Chatham

- Vegetation Management at Vanderbilt Property, Mill Pond Overlook, and the Devine House with Chatham Conservation Foundation
- Shellfish Propagation at Stage Harbor and Oyster Pond with Town of Chatham Department of Natural Resources
- WETFest at Monomoy Middle School with Barnstable County Cape Cod Cooperative Extension
- Velvet Grass Removal at the Nickerson Museum with Chatham Conservation Foundation
- Annual Book and Media Swap Event Support with Chatham Recycles
- Chatham Airfield Debris Clean-Up with Town of Chatham Department of Natural Resources

Orleans

- Boland Pond Education Trail Creation with Orleans Conservation Trust
- Kent's Point Hazard Tree Removal with Town of Orleans Conservation Department

- Black Locust Removal at Twinings Pond with Orleans Conservation Trust
- Meadow Bog Trail Reroute with Orleans Conservation Trust

Eastham

- WETFest at Eastham Elementary with Barnstable County Cape Cod Cooperative Extension
- Pitch Pine Removal at Sandy Meadow Open Space with Town of Eastham Department of Natural Resources
- Herring Run Clearing at Herring Pond with Town of Eastham Department of Natural Resources
- Outdoor Classroom Creation and Trail Maintenance with Town of Eastham and Eastham Elementary School
- Cape Cod Rail Trail Brush Clearing with MA Department of Conservation and Recreation
- Emergency Shelter Supply Inventory and Organization with Barnstable County Regional Emergency Planning Committee
- Vegetation Removal at Red Maple Swamp with Cape Cod National Seashore

Wellfleet

- Annual Fall and Spring Cemetery Clean-Ups with Town of Wellfleet Cemetery Commission
- Oysterfest 2022 Event Support with Wellfleet Shellfish Promotion and Tasting, Inc.
- Herring River Restoration Project with Cape Cod National Seashore
- Wellfleet Recycling Audit with Town of Wellfleet Department of Public Works
- Vegetation Management at Wellfleet Hollow State Campground with MA Department of Conservation and Recreation
- Spring and Fall Ponds Days with Cape Cod National Seashore
- Shellfish Propagation and Oyster Pitting/Unpitting with Town of Wellfleet Shellfish Department

- Herring Run Maintenance with Town of Wellfleet Department of Health and Conservation
- Trail Maintenance and Mowing with Town of Wellfleet and Wellfleet Conservation Trust

Truro

- Outer Cape Trash Tally with Center for Coastal Studies
- Salt Hay Collection and Garden Bed Improvements with Sustainable CAPE
- Truro Public Library Children's Areas Creation with Sustainable CAPE

Provincetown

- Repainting the U.S. Mural with Provincetown Schools
- Spring 2023 Oyster Relay with Town of Provincetown Shellfish Department
- Shorebird and Silt Fencing Installation with Cape Cod National Seashore
- Shed Installation and Terrace Garden Construction at Provincetown Schools with Sustainable CAPE

Year 24 Individual Placements

International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW)

Educating and Engaging IFAW Volunteers, Local Agencies and the Cape Cod Community in Marine Mammal Rescue and Response

Town of Sandwich Department of Natural Resources

Mill Creek Shellfish Propagation & Conservation Lands Management

Member: Emma Grace Deily-Swearingen

Barnstable County Cape Cod Cooperative Extension

Aquifer Education

Cape Cod Commission

Regional Freshwater Management Resource Development

Member: Avalon Hadley

Town of Mashpee Department of Natural Resources

Water Quality Restoration and Aquaculture in Mashpee Town Waters

Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve & Friends of Mashpee National Wildlife Refuge

Environmental Education and Outreach Development

Member: Leo Lainez

Barnstable Clean Water Coalition

Marstons Mills Streamflow Assessment and Cranberry Bog Restoration Project

Barnstable County Department of Health & Environment – Emergency Preparedness Division

Disaster Planning, Preparedness, and Outreach

Member: Will Longo

Massachusetts Department of Conservation & Recreation Bureau of Forest Fire Control District 1

Wildland Fire History for Barnstable, Dukes, and Nantucket Counties

Town of Falmouth Department of Marine & Environmental Services – Shellfish Division

Shellfish Program Volunteer Corps Management and Expansion

Member: Jodi Monroe

CARE for the Cape & Islands

Cape Cod Stewardship Collaborative-Building Capacity and Uniting the Network

Town of Harwich Cemetery & Conservation Departments

Promoting and Enhancing Natural Habitats in the Town of Harwich

Member: Dory Gedraitis

Orleans Conservation Trust

Boundary Marking and Land Stewardship in Orleans

Pleasant Bay Community Boating, Inc.

Estuary Stewardship and Citizen Science in Pleasant Bay

Member: Lily Gooding

Brewster Conservation Trust

Brewster Conservation Trust Land Stewardship and Volunteer Outreach

Harwich Conservation Trust

Advancing Conservation Land Stewardship in Harwich

Member: Caroline Lawrence

Cape Cod National Seashore Fire Management Office

Volunteer Coordinator for Fuel Reduction and Invasive Species

Mgmt. Projects

Town of Wellfleet Shellfish Department

Intertidal Stewardship in Wellfleet

Member: Henry Torpey

Center for Coastal Studies

Marine Fisheries Research in Cape Cod Coastal Communities

Town of Dennis Department of Natural Resources

Engaging Communities & Preserving Natural Resources in

Dennis

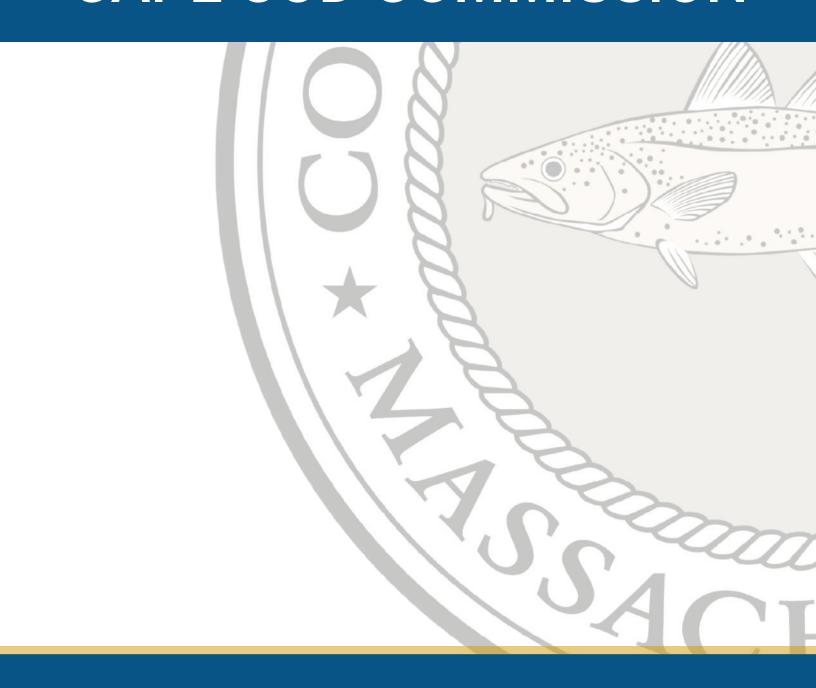
Member: Fred Stumbo



AmeriCorps Cape Cod members touring the Sandwich Fish Hatchery.

Report of the

CAPE COD COMMISSION





P.O. Box 226
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Barnstable, MA 02630
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frontdesk@capecodcommission.org
www.capecodcommission.org

REPORT OF THE CAPE COD COMMISSION

For the Period July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023

About the Cape Cod Commission

The Cape Cod Commission was created by an Act of the Massachusetts state legislature in 1990 and is charged with coordinating a balanced relationship between economic progress and environmental protection. "Keeping a special place special" describes the agency's mission to protect the region's unique qualities.

The 19-member appointed Cape Cod Commission board includes representatives from each of the 15 Cape Cod towns, a minority representative, a Native American representative, a Barnstable County Commissioner, and a Governor's appointee. The board is supported by approximately 35 professional staff and an executive director.

This report represents broad areas of the Commission's work and responsibilities, highlighting several specific projects and initiatives.

Fiscal Year 2023 Appointed Members

Officers

Chair: Harold "Woody" Mitchell, Sandwich

Vice Chair: Steven Mealy, Bourne

Secretary: Frederick Chirigotis, Barnstable

Members

Barnstable: Frederick Chirigotis

Bourne: Stephen Mealy Chatham: Tom Wilson Dennis: Richard Roy Eastham: Joy Brookshire

Falmouth: Robert Mascali (through May 2023, then vacant)

Harwich: Jacqueline Etsten Mashpee: Ernest Virgilio Orleans: Douglas Fromm Provincetown: Peter Okun Truro: Kevin Grunwald
Wellfleet: Richard Elkin
Yarmouth: Dennis Prebensen

County Commissioner: Ronald Bergstrom Minority Representative: John D. Harris

Native American Representative: David Weeden

Governor's Appointee: Michael Maxim (through January 2023,

then vacant)

Staff (as of June 30, 2023)

Kristy Senatori, Executive Director

508-744-1216 | ksenatori@capecodcommission.org

Erin Perry, Deputy Director

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Steven Tupper, Deputy Director

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Siobhan Hickey Cavacco, Administrative Assistant

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| siobhan.hickeycavacco@capecodcommission.org

Sarah Colvin, Communications Manager

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Evan Costa, Transportation Planner

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Gail Coyne, Senior Operations Advisor

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Patty Daley, Legal and Policy Specialist

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Phil (Jay) Detjens, Applications Manager

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Lisa Dillon, Commission Clerk

508-744-1209 | Idillon@capecodcommission.org

Danielle Donahue, Senior Special Projects Coordinator

508-744-1249 | danielle.donahue@capecodcommission.org

Helaine-Rose Goudreau, Special Projects Coordinator

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Martha Hevenor, Planner II

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Elisabeth Kellam, Community Design Planner

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Sarah Korjeff, Planner II (Historic Preservation Specialist)

508-744-1215 | skorjeff@capecodcommission.org

Kathleen Mason, Water Resources Analyst

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Maria McCauley, Finance and Administration Manager

508-744-1230 | mmccauley@capecodcommission.org

Heather McElroy, Natural Resources Program Manager

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Colleen Medeiros, Transportation Program Manager

508-744-1226 | colleen.medeiros@capecodcommission.org

Phillip Mele, Administrative Assistant

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Cory Murray, Community Development Planner

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David Nolan, Senior Transportation Planner

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Tara Nye Lewis, Water Resources Analyst

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Tim Pasakarnis, Water Resources Analyst

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Alexander Peterson, Regulatory Planner II

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Anne Reynolds, GIS Director

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Deb Ricotta, GIS Analyst

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Carolina Romero, Economist

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Chloe Schaefer, Chief Planner

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Joyia Smikle, Transportation Planner

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David Still II, Digital Communications Specialist

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Jordan Velozo, Chief Regulatory Officer

508-744-1253 | jordan.velozo@capecodcommission.org

Michele White, Special Projects Coordinator

508-744-1247 | michele.white@capecodcommission.org

Jessica Wielgus, Commission Counsel

508-744-1207 | jwielgus@capecodcommission.org

Departures

Emma Curran, GIS Analyst (December 2022)

Climate and Coastal Resiliency

Low-Lying Roads Project

Commission staff is working with all 15 towns to examine vulnerabilities in the roadway network and identify adaptation alternatives. With funding support from the U.S. Economic Development Administration and the Massachusetts Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) program, the Commission contracted with the Woods Hole Group to conduct a vulnerability assessment of roadway segments, bridges, and culverts due to flooding from the combined effects of sea level rise and storm surge. The project employs state of the art modeling and community engagement to identify and prioritize low lying roads to target for coastal resiliency action.

The project was initiated in September 2021 and will conclude in June 2024. The towns of Barnstable, Bourne, Brewster, Dennis, Eastham, Orleans, Sandwich, Wellfleet, Truro, and Yarmouth were the first towns to undergo the modeling and analysis and receive design solutions for two road segments. This phase of the project concluded in Spring 2023. Modeling and analysis for the remaining towns of Chatham, Falmouth, Mashpee, Harwich, and Provincetown is currently underway, and workshops were held in Spring 2023. Work under this second MVP Action grant will conclude in June 2024.

Learn more by visiting https://capecodcommission.org/llr/.

Regulatory Tools for Development in the Floodplain

Together with the Cape Cod Cooperative Extension, Woods Hole Sea Grant, UMass Boston's Urban Harbors Institute, Noble Wickersham & Heart LLP, and the towns of Chatham, Eastham, Provincetown, Truro, and Wellfleet, the Cape Cod

Commission is working to develop regulatory tools for development in the floodplain. The Commission received a \$148,534 Planning Assistance Grant from the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) in 2022 to develop tools to help communities regulate development within the floodplain and improve resiliency to climate change threats. This project aims to promote sustainable building practices and reduce the risk of flood damage, ensuring the long-term protection of Cape Cod's natural coastal resources while supporting its built and community systems.

The new regulatory tools will include complementary model wetlands and zoning regulations for coastal floodplains that will help communities regulate development in high-hazard areas – those that will become increasingly vulnerable to the threat of flooding from coastal storms and sea level rise. These model regulations may address unsecured structures in the floodplain, damage to seawalls and bulkheads, and planning for future conditions.

Climate Ambassador Program

The Climate Ambassador Program is an initiative to educate, engage, and empower young people on Cape Cod to work together to combat the impacts of climate change. Twenty-four students representing eleven school districts comprised the third cohort. Students met in a hybrid format from January to May 2023. In-person meetings, a first for the Program, offered tours of climate-friendly construction, including the new Frank and Maureen Wilkins Science and Engineering Center at Cape Cod Community College and the Cape Cod 5 headquarters in Hyannis. The Program includes information to help students better understand climate change, communicate about climate effectively, and learn about actions they can take individually and collectively to bring about change.



Local Climate Action Toolkit

The Commission developed a Local Climate Action Toolkit to guide the implementation of strategies and actions outlined in the 2021 Cape Cod Climate Action Plan and to support municipal climate planning and action. This toolkit provides information on specific actions municipalities can take to decrease local contributions to, and limit the effects of, climate change. The toolkit also provides important resources and context to support municipalities in prioritizing planning and implementation efforts.

The toolkit includes fact sheets created with contractor Eastern Research Group. The fact sheets include an overview of the strategy, anticipated benefits and costs, key findings, benefit cost analyses (where applicable), the current state of practice, a case study, steps or key considerations for successful implementation, and resources for further guidance.

The toolkit includes resources for strategies related to net zero building, municipal electric vehicles (EVs) and residential EV adoption, supporting coastal wetlands, and improving infrastructure resilience, among others.

Learn more and explore the toolkit by visiting www.capecodcommission.org/our-work/climate-action-toolkit-municipal.

Model Municipal Electric Vehicle Bylaw

The Commission developed a model municipal electric vehicle (EV) bylaw to serve as a resource for Cape Cod communities looking to incorporate consideration of EV charging infrastructure into local bylaws. It supports installing EV chargers, and/or infrastructure that facilitates future EV chargers, during site development or redevelop as a cost-effective way to expand the region's charging network. The bylaw defines three levels of recommended requirements and is intended to be flexible and customizable to a municipality's individual needs.

Learn more by visiting https://capecodcommission.org/our-work/model-municipal-electric-vehicle-bylaw.

Guidelines for Preserving and Protecting Historic Structures in the Floodplain

The Cape Cod Commission worked with the United States Army Corps of Engineers Silver Jackets team and several state and local partners to evaluate historic structures in flood areas and develop guidelines for historic protection and preservation. This project aims to reduce immediate and long-

term flood risk for our most historic and culturally prized structures by highlighting recommended strategies to combat the unique challenges of developing floodproofing measures consistent with historic resource protection. Site visits took place in the fall of 2022. The final report, to be compiled by the Army Corps, will detail floodproofing options suitable for specific building types and locations, as well as cost estimates for the work. The project is designed to aid the preservation of historic properties and serve as a resource for historic property owners on Cape Cod and in similar coastal communities.

Electric Vehicle Expo and Test Drive Event

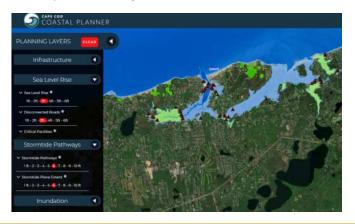
The Commission partnered with Recharge Massachusetts, the Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority, and the Cape Cod Climate Change Collaborative to host an electric vehicle expo and test drive event at the Hyannis Transportation Center in June 2023. Despite the cold and rainy weather, hundreds of citizens turned out to view an array of electric vehicles, take test drives and rides, learn about charging options, incentives, and more. The event was designed to raise awareness about electric vehicles and their role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Cape Cod Coastal Planner Upgrade

In February 2023, the Commission released an updated version of the Cape Cod Coastal Planner, an online decision-support tool that helps users understand the climate change hazards impacting Cape Cod's coastline and some of the adaptation strategies available to address them.

Upgrades include a new data layer showing the region's lowlying roadways, storm tide pathways data, and new strategies: managed relocation and retrofitting assets. Additionally, the tool's outputs have been upgraded to indicate the mileage of roadway and the number of historic structures impacted.

Explore the Cape Cod Coastal Planner at www.capecodcoast.org.



Natural and Water Resources

Cape Cod Freshwater Initiative

The Cape Cod Freshwater Initiative is a science-based, information-driven planning process to engage stakeholders and enable action to protect and restore Cape Cod's freshwater resources.

Cape Cod's ponds and lakes are dynamic natural systems that contribute to the region's identity. Ponds and lakes are fragile ecosystems whose health is increasingly threatened by human activities in and around them. Through this initiative, the Cape Cod Commission and its partners are completing an analysis of available monitoring data, assessing the overall health of Cape Cod's ponds and lakes, identifying regional trends in water quality, and evaluating the impact of these critical resources on the region's economy.



The \$2.5 million initiative is funded through county reserves, as approved by the Barnstable County Assembly of Delegates and Board of Regional Commissioners. The following work is underway:

Economic Analysis

The Cape Cod Commission contracted with Environmental Research Group to conduct an analysis to better understand the economic impact of Cape Cod's freshwater ponds, the economic impacts of degraded freshwater quality on Cape Cod's economy, and compare costs of improvement and potential benefits.

Cape Cod Regional Pond Monitoring Program

The Cape Cod Commission and the Association to Preserve Cape Cod developed and initiated the Cape Cod Regional Pond Monitoring Program, an effort to collect comprehensive data on our region's ponds. Beginning in April 2023, a team is conducting monthly monitoring of 50 representative ponds across the region. Monitoring will occur every month, seven months per year. Data collected will help Cape Cod commun-

ities better protect and manage ponds by providing information to characterize pond conditions and understand the effects of watershed development and other stressors on water quality.

Pond Profiles

The Commission created pond profiles for each Cape Cod town and the county. Profiles provide a snapshot of regional and town-by-town pond information, including freshwater pond characteristics, monitoring efforts, water quality impairments, surrounding land use and watershed details, along with related town actions and strategies and existing local pond organizations.

Stakeholder Engagement

Beginning in February 2023, Commission staff met with staff from each Cape Cod town to gain insight into local freshwater goals, priorities, and ongoing management efforts and discuss opportunities for the Freshwater Initiative to support local action.

Updated Pond Restoration Projects Viewer

Commission staff updated the interactive, map-based Pond Restoration Projects Viewer application to improve its functionality and modernize its look and feel. Municipalities provided updated information on various management strategies that viewers can explore by town or type. A click of the mouse brings up pond reports and related documents, information on implementation, partnerships, outcomes, and ways the strategy presented addressed specific problems.

Strategies database development

The Commission is consulting a team of technical advisors comprised of academics, consultants, government officials, and experts with experience in planning, regulating, researching, and implementing pond strategies on the Cape and beyond to ensure the database includes the best available information. When complete, the pond-specific strategies database will include a range of technologies, regulatory and voluntary options, and management approaches for protecting and restoring pond water quality.

Cape Cod and Islands Water Protection Fund

The Cape Cod and Islands Water Protection Fund (CCIWPF) was established by the Massachusetts Legislature in 2018 to help Cape Cod and Islands towns pay for necessary wastewater infrastructure and water quality remediation projects. Projects proposed by member communities and

listed on the Massachusetts Clean Water Intended Use Plan (IUP) for State Revolving Fund (SRF) loans are eligible for subsidies from the CCIWPF. The CCIWPF is a dedicated fund within the state's Clean Water Trust set up to solely benefit communities on Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard, and Nantucket. Its source of revenue is a 2.75% excise tax on traditional lodging and short-term rentals. The fund is administered by the existing Clean Water Trust and overseen by a management board comprised of representation from every member town from the region. Currently, the 15 Cape Cod communities are members of the fund. The Cape Cod Commission provides administrative and technical support to the management board.

On June 13, 2023, the CCIWPF Management Board voted to award \$41,972,700 in subsidies to water quality projects in six Cape Cod towns. Contingent commitments for 25% subsidies to fund qualified projects listed on the 2023 Clean Water State Revolving Fund Intended Use Plan were awarded to water quality and wastewater projects in the towns of Barnstable, Chatham, Harwich, Mashpee, Wellfleet, and Yarmouth. Projects receiving funds include pump station improvements and sewer extensions and expansions, construction of wastewater treatment facilities, and an innovative/alternative septic system program.

During the June 13 meeting, the Management Board recognized that Cape Cod communities have been doing the hard work to plan for and implement wastewater infrastructure which, combined with increased costs of construction, have put unanticipated pressure on the Fund. The Board committed to work with legislators and the state administration to secure additional funding necessary to continue providing subsidies for Cape Cod projects.

The Board also voted to commit up to \$325,000 for water quality monitoring in the region, acknowledging the important role ongoing monitoring plays in understanding the impact of investments in water quality and wastewater projects on coastal water bodies.

To date, the Cape Cod and Islands Water Protection Fund has awarded approximately \$140 million to Cape Cod communities to fund new water quality and wastewater projects and certain pre-existing wastewater debt.

A full list of awards can be found at: www.capecodcommission.org/our-work/cape-cod-and-islands-water-protection-fund.

Cape Cod and Islands Water Protection Fund Management Board members (as of June 30, 2023)

Mark Ells, Barnstable Town Manager
Mary Jane Mastrangelo, Bourne Select Board
Peter Lombardi, Brewster Town Administrator

Robert Duncanson, Chatham Director of Health & Natural Resources

Elizabeth Sullivan, Dennis Town Administrator **Jacqueline Beebe**, Eastham Town Administrator

Peter Johnson-Staub, Falmouth Assistant Town Manager

Don Howell, Harwich Select Board

Michaela Wyman-Colombo, Mashpee Select Board

Kevin Galligan, Orleans Select Board

Jim Vincent, Provincetown

Bud Dunham, Sandwich Town Manager

Darrin Tangeman, Truro Town Manager

Ryan Curley, Wellfleet Select Board

Mark Forest, Yarmouth Select Board

Adam Turner, Martha's Vineyard Commission Executive

Director (Non-Voting Ex-Officio Member)

Elizabeth Gibson, Nantucket Town Manager (Non-Voting Ex-Officio Member)

Kristy Senatori, Cape Cod Commission Executive Director (Non-Voting Ex-Officio Member)

Infrastructure and Community Development

Regional Housing Strategy

The Regional Housing Strategy aims to address housing supply, affordability, and availability issues by identifying appropriate areas for housing development and creating policies and strategies to further the plan's goals. The planning process will result in a strategy that includes actionable recommendations responsive to the needs and preferences of Cape Cod and tools and resources such as design guidelines and model bylaws that communities can immediately implement.

This work is funded through \$932,576 in American Rescue Plan Act funds, distributed and approved by the Barnstable County Assembly of Delegates and Board of Regional Commissioners.

Informing this work is an update and expansion of the 2017 Housing Market Needs Assessment, completed in December 2022. The update was requested by the towns of Sandwich, Chatham, Barnstable, and Brewster, on behalf of the region. It was funded through the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development's District Local Technical Assistance program administered by the Cape Cod Commission. The following work is underway:

Subregional Stakeholder Meetings

A robust, Cape-wide stakeholder process supports the development of the Regional Housing Strategy. The Commission convened a series of subregional stakeholder meetings in Spring 2023 to better define and understand

specific challenges and identify opportunities in the housing market. Members of the public, municipal representatives, employers, and others were engaged in these conversations, which will inform development of local and regional strategies that meet the needs of Cape Cod. Information gathered during these sessions will be used to draft recommendations for the Regional Housing Strategy. Meetings were held centrally in each of the Cape's four subregions.

Housing Profiles

The Commission's housing profiles for Barnstable County and each of its 15 towns include housing, demographic, economic and other contextual data to provide baseline information on challenges in the current housing landscape across the region.

Housing Preference Survey

To inform development of the Strategy, the Cape Cod Commission conducted a survey seeking responses from residents about their preferences for housing development and redevelopment. The online survey was distributed throughout the region in English, Portuguese, and Spanish. Survey questions addressed housing design, various housing types, appropriate locations for new housing development and redevelopment, and other housing development considerations.

Housing Typology

Using assessors' data, the region's residential properties were analyzed and categorized into 13 different housing types within three broader categories of single-family, multifamily, and other. Commission staff developed a data dashboard that explores patterns across the region and across times of home size, age, and type. The dashboard can be accessed here: https://datacapecod.org/pf/housing-typology/

Regional Housing Needs Assessment

In 2022 the Commission contracted with the Donahue Institute at UMass Amherst to update and expand the 2017 Regional Housing Market Analysis. This updated assessment identifies current and potential future gaps in the region's housing market for resident households (both owners and renters) within various sets of income cohorts and provides baseline demographic and economic information. It also provides population and housing supply and demand projections through 2050 and captures additional detail about housing needs, particularly as they relate to the region's workforce and year-round residents.

Zoning Analysis

The Commission worked with consultants Utile and Outwith Studio to conduct a zoning analysis to understand where different types of housing are allowed to be built in the region – by right or by special permit – according to zoning. Consultants analyzed the text and maps of zoning codes from each Cape Cod town.

Regional Affordable Housing Entity Research

The Commission worked with consultants Utile and Outwith Studio to evaluate the potential and develop recommendations for new regional entities to manage the development of additional affordable housing units to augment recommendations set forth in the Regional Housing Strategy.

Strategies Research

To identify ways to improve on the region's housing challenges and to support recommendations for the region, Commission staff is examining plans and potential and piloted strategies across the country to see what has worked elsewhere that could work on Cape Cod. Staff is looking at plans that include such things as design ideas, resident assistance programs, regulations, attainable housing efforts, education and partnerships, and funding sources.

Housing Suitability Analysis

A housing suitability analysis will help identify parcels throughout the region that may be more suitable for multifamily housing development, including potential opportunities for redevelopment. Commission staff have identified about two hundred parcels that may be suitable for housing development or redevelopment, due to their proximity to community activity centers, planned access to infrastructure, possible underutilization, and lack of sensitive resources.

Learn more at https://capecodcommission.org/housing.

Development and Approval of the FY2024-2028 Transportation Improvement Program

The Cape Cod Commission supported the Cape Cod Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), and its advisory group, the Cape Cod Joint Transportation Committee, in the development of key transportation planning documents for the region including the FFY2024-2028 Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP). The TIP serves as a prioritized listing of roadway, bridge, and transit projects proposed for implementation during the next five years.

Developed with a robust virtual and in-person public engagement process, the plan approved in May 2023 includes over \$450 million in funded projects across all fifteen communities. Highlights include:

Improvements (2025-2027)

- Harwich, sidewalk installation on Route 28 to Saquatucket Harbor (2024)
- Dennis/Yarmouth, Bass River Bridge and Route 28 at North Main Street intersection (2024)
- Yarmouth/Barnstable, Cape Cod Rail Trail extension (2024)
- · Provincetown, Shank Painter Road
- Bourne, Route 6 Scenic Highway median installation (2025)

The TIP is accessible at www.capecodcommission.org/TIP.

Development of the 2024 Regional Transportation Plan

The Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), a long-range comprehensive plan, is the primary means by which federal and state funds are allocated to the Cape's transportation needs. The Cape Cod Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), a collaboration of local, regional, state, and federal transportation officials, votes on this federally required document, which is compiled and maintained by the staff of the Cape Cod Commission. It is updated every four years.

Development of the Cape Cod 2024 Regional Transportation Plan began in Fall 2022.

A robust public engagement and outreach effort began in October 2022 and included fifteen RTP meetings and presentations, nineteen monthly presentations to the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and Joint Transportation Committee (JTC), four RTP subcommittee meetings, and seven outreach table pop-up events, and an online public comment tool. More than seven hundred public comments were received and incorporated into the draft document.

The MPO released the draft 2024 RTP for a 21-day public comment period on June 26, 2023, with endorsement expected in July 2023. The latest on the RTP is available at: www.capecodcommission.org/RTP.

Cape Cod Metropolitan Planning Organization members (as of June 30, 2023)

Gina Fiandaca , Chair, Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT), Secretary/Chief Executive Officer Jonathan Gulliver, MassDOT Highway Division, Highway Administrator Harold "Woody" Mitchell, Vice Chair, Cape Cod Commission Robert Lawton, Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority (CCRTA), Chairman

Mark Forest, Barnstable County Board of Regional Commissioners

Brian Weeden, Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council, Chairman Daniel Santos. Town of Barnstable

Pamela Haznar, MassDOT

David Mohler, MassDOT

Steve Woefel, MassDOT

Judith MacLeod-Froman, Sub-region A Representative:

Bourne, Falmouth, Mashpee, and Sandwich

Sheryl McMahon, Sub-region B Representative: Dennis and Yarmouth

Kevin Galligan, Sub-region C Representative: Brewster,

Chatham, Harwich, and Orleans

Robert Weinstein, Sub-region D Representative: Eastham,

Provincetown, Truro, and Wellfleet

Cape Cod Joint Transportation Committee members (as of June 30, 2023)

Griffin Beaudoin, Barnstable Shawn Patterson, Bourne Griffin Ryder, Brewster Rob Faley, Chatham Thomas Andrade, Dennis John Roughley, Eastham Peter McConarty, Falmouth Lincoln Hooper, Harwich Catherine Laurent, Mashpee Tom Daley, Orleans James Vincent, Provincetown Paul S. Tilton, Sandwich Jarrod Cabral. Truro Jay Norton, Wellfleet Jeff Colby, Yarmouth Sean Polay, Bicycle Representative (Alternate Amy Graves)

Complete Streets Prioritization Plans

Through the MassDOT Complete Streets Municipal Funding Program, the Cape Cod Commission is working with several Cape Cod towns to help improve safety and accessibility along our roadways.

Broadly speaking, Complete Streets promote more livable communities. They improve safety, health, economic viability, and quality of life in a community by improving the pedestrian and vehicular environments and providing safer, more accessible, and comfortable means of travel between home, school, work, recreation, and retail destinations.

This year, Commission staff worked on prioritization plans for Bourne and Falmouth. The next steps for both projects involve Commission and town staff working together to determine the final ranking of projects and drafting of the final Complete Streets Prioritization Plans. After these documents are created and submitted, town staff can then enter Tier 3 in MassDOT's Complete Streets Program, which means that they can apply for a grant for up to \$500,000 in construction funding to implement projects included in their Prioritization Plan.

More information is available at www.capecodcommission.org/CompleteStreets.

Replacing Cape Cod's Bridges

In recognition of the regional importance of safe and reliable canal crossings, the Cape Cod Commission, the Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce, and the Association to Preserve Cape Cod partnered to establish the Canal Bridges Task Force in December 2022. The purpose of the Task Force is to share information, assist with outreach efforts, collect and coordinate input, and advocate for the replacement of the Bourne and Sagamore bridges in a manner that is the best long-term interest of the region and its people.

The bridges are instantly recognizable landmarks that serve as the symbolic and literal gateway to Cape Cod. However, the continued degradation of these 88-year-old, functionally obsolete structures also represent a significant threat to the region's long-term viability.

MassDOT and the Army Corps continue to seek input on the Cape Cod Canal Bridges Program, a program consisting of replacement of both bridges, as well as improvements to the approach roadway networks to address the multimodal deficiencies within the Cape Cod Canal area.

More information is available at www.mass.gov/cape-bridges.

Digital Equity Planning

Building upon efforts to expand access to broadband across the region, the Cape Cod Commission was selected as a provider for the Cape's 15 communities under the Massachusetts Broadband Institute's Municipal Digital Equity Planning Program.

Through this program, the Commission will work with regional stakeholders to identify community needs to drive investment and activities to broaden internet access and usage.

Digital equity efforts ensure everyone has the same opportunities to access the information technology needed to fully participate in society, democracy, and the economy.

Developing digital equity plans will support eligibility for related Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act funds in the region.

Plans are developed at no cost to towns and are funded by the Massachusetts Broadband Institute at the MassTech Collaborative under the Municipal Digital Equity Planning Program. Funding is provided by Massachusetts ARPA State Fiscal Recovery Funds.

More information is available at: www.capecodcommission.org/our-work/digital-equity-program

Economic Development

Barnstable County Economic Development Council

The Barnstable County Economic Development Council (BCEDC) is an advisory board to the Barnstable County Board of Regional Commissioners. It was established to guide economic development policy to improve the quality of life for all, foster a healthy economy offering a range of employment opportunities at livable wages for year-round residents, and protect the region's natural and built assets today and in the future.

BCEDC functions include advising on development of the economic development goals for Barnstable County, serving as the Cape Cod Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Committee and Economic Development District (EDD) governing board, advising on the planning, approval and implementation of the 5-year CEDS, and advising the Barnstable County Commissioners on allocation of certain economic development grants and contracts, including the Cape Cod License Plate Grant program.

Members (as of June 30, 2023)

Rob Brennan, President, CapeBuilt Homes
Kara Galvin, Executive Director, Cape and Islands Workforce
Board
Lisa Guyon, Executive Director, WE CAN

Cindy Horgan, Executive Director, Cape Cod Children's Place **Tammi Jacobse**n, Director of Workforce Development & Training, Cape Cod Community College

Alisa Magnotta, Executive Director, Cape Cod Housing Assistance Corporation

Robert "Bert" Talerman, Co-President, Cape Cod Five Cents Savings Bank

Julie Wake, Executive Director, Arts Foundation of Cape Cod Harold "Woody" Mitchell, Chair, Cape Cod Commission (nonvoting)

Mark Forest, Commissioner, Barnstable County Commissioners (non-voting)

John Ohman, Representative, Barnstable County Assembly of Delegates (non-voting)

CEDS Year Four Report Approved

In June 2023, the BCEDC and Cape Cod Commission approved the Year Four Cape Cod CEDS annual report, outlining successes and challenges.

The following initiatives are included as part of the Year Five plan:

Regional Housing Strategy Cape Cod Freshwater Initiative Needs Assessment

Development of the 2024-2029 CEDS is anticipated to begin in Fall 2023. Learn more by visiting: www.capecodcommission.org/ceds

Regional Broadband Assessment

The Cape Cod Commission and consultants CTC Technology and Energy and Rural Innovation Strategies Inc. are working to examine the region's broadband network. The project includes an assessment of user experiences and existing infrastructure within Barnstable County. It is funded with American Recovery Plan Act funds distributed by Barnstable County. The assessment aims to quantify anecdotal information about connectivity issues in the region. The results will inform recommendations for improving the network and help guide conversations about future investments.

The Town of Bourne requested assistance to help meet multifamily housing zoning requirements required as a Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority adjacent community. The Commission will help develop and support community engagement on potential zoning changes.

Internet accessibility on Cape Cod varies seasonally, with higher demand coinciding with the annual influx of seasonal residents and visitors. Additionally, the year-round population has increased over the past decade and during the COVID-19 pandemic, which drove increases in remote work, virtual public meetings, telehealth, and other virtual engagements.

Understanding the functionality of the region's existing internet network and potential for upgrades or expansion to increase access to high-speed broadband is important for the region.

The full assessment is expected to be completed in spring 2024.

Technical Assistance to Towns

Funding for the following projects was provided by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development's District Local Technical Assistance (DLTA) program through the Cape Cod Commission.

Bourne, MBTA multifamily housing requirements Eastham, North Eastham Corridor Special District

The Town of Eastham requested assistance to develop several base and overlay zoning changes for the mixed-use North Eastham Corridor Special District, with the goal of encouraging quality development and redevelopment projects that meet identified community needs for housing, economic opportunity, and infrastructure. The project will build on a variety of prior planning efforts in the town, adapting Eastham's municipal priorities and established community needs into specific zoning language that will assist the Town in achieving its strategic goals.

Mashpee, Housing Production Plan Update

The Town of Mashpee requested assistance to update its Housing Production Plan. Mashpee intends to update the plan, last adopted in 2015, to account for changing demographics, young families, a changing workforce, and an aging population, and to make room for potential zoning bylaw amendments that would allow for increased density and new housing opportunities.

Orleans, Local Comprehensive Plan Development

The Town of Orleans requested assistance to support development of its Local Comprehensive Plan to plan for the

Wellfleet, Local Comprehensive Plan development

The Town of Wellfleet requested assistance to support development of its Local Comprehensive Plan, including identification of goals and objectives and completion of a targeted action plan. Wellfleet began work on its LCP in 2017 and had completed many tasks before work was halted in 2020 due to the pandemic.

Create model tools to address region's housing needs

At the request of multiple communities, DLTA funds will support a region-wide project to develop a suite of model tools municipalities can use to address housing needs. These will include model mechanisms for municipal or regional government entities to obtain available properties for development or redevelopment as housing, year-round deed restrictions, and model zoning bylaws on topics such as inclusionary zoning and employee/dormitory housing, among other potential models. The outcomes of this project will support implementation of the Commission's Regional Housing Strategy and efforts across Cape Cod to increase the affordability and types of housing available, while maintaining the local character and protecting sensitive resources. The models will be able to be used or adapted by towns to suit their unique circumstances.

OneCape 2022

More than 300 engaged citizens and committed stakeholders came together at the Wequassett Resort in Harwich on August 1 and 2, 2022 for the eighth annual OneCape Summit.

Designed to inspire informed action on our region's most pressing challenges, plenary and breakout sessions held throughout the two-day summit focused on ways to improve housing affordability and accessibility, manage aging infrastructure, address marine and freshwater quality, mitigate and adapt to climate change, lay the foundation for sustained economic development, ensure equity in planning processes, and utilize the best available data and information to make informed decisions. Summit proceedings are available at onecape.capecodcommission.org/2022-onecape-summit

The 2022 OneCape Award was presented posthumously to Dr. Florence Seldin, for the many remarkable contributions she made to the community. Not only did Dr. Seldin serve on and hold leadership roles on many boards and committees in the Town of Chatham, she also served as Chatham's representative to the Cape Cod Commission from 2006 to 2009. In that role, she chaired the Planning Committee, which worked with staff to develop the 2009 Regional Policy Plan.



Dr. Seldin served as a stakeholder during the planning process to develop the Cape Cod 208 Plan and as Chatham's representative on the Cape Cod Water Protection Collaborative from 2010 to 2017. She was engaged in numerous local and regional comprehensive planning projects and was even participating in and leading meetings remotely during the pandemic.



Regulatory

Through its Regulatory Program, the Cape Cod Commission reviews projects presumed to have impacts on more than one town relative to issues identified in the Cape Cod Commission Act, including but not limited to water quality, traffic, community design, housing, open space, natural resources, and economic development, as Developments of Regional Impact (DRIs) and negotiated Development Agreements.

Decisions and Development Agreements Barnstable

Cape Cod Hospital Cancer and Cardiology Expansion
DRI-22003, Hyannis, DRI Decision, Approved, 7/14/2022
Description: Cape Cod Healthcare proposed redevelopment and expansion at Cape Cod Hospital, which includes the

addition of four patient floors and site improvements, resulting in a net increase of 60,298 square feet of floor area.

Centerville Gardens Wireless Communications Tower,

DRI-22021, Barnstable, DRI Decision, Approved, 11/3/2022 **Description:** Crown Castle, Inc. proposed 110-foot monopole-style tower with collocation capacity for four service providers with associated equipment and infrastructure.

35 Scudder Residential Community

DA-22065, Barnstable, Development Agreement, Approved, 2/2/2023

Description: Quarterra Multifamily Communities, LLC f/k/a Lennar Multifamily Communities, proposed to redevelop a portion of a 54-acre +/- property at 35 Scudder Avenue, Hyannis with a residential development consisting of 312 new rental units located in 13 multifamily buildings, a recreation building, and other associated improvements and amenities.

New England Wind 1 Connector

DRI-22005, Barnstable, DRI Decision, Approved, 5/11/2023 **Description:** Park City Wind, LLC proposed construction and operation of the portion of the New England Wind 1 connector located within Barnstable County, which is intended to connect to and serve the proposed approximately 800-megawatt New England Wind 1 offshore wind project.

Marstons Mills Cranberry Bogs, EX-23009, Marstons Mills

DRI Exemption, Approved, 6/8/2023

Description: Three Bays Preservation, Inc. d/b/a Barnstable Clean Water Coalition, proposed division of two parcels and conveyance of a portion of each ecological restoration and conservation purposes.

Bourne

Bourne Solar Extension

DRI-14013, Bourne, DRI Extension, Approved, 4/13/2023
Description: Farland Corporation, Inc. requested a five-year extension to a previously approved DRI for a 2-MW solar field off MacArthur Boulevard

96 Megansett Rd. Bourne, ENF/EIR-22012, Bourne

DRI Exemption, Approved, 4/27/2023

Description: Cape Club Building, Inc. proposed to remove existing structures and construct a new single-family dwelling and associated improvements including a swimming pool, tennis court, patio, driveway, and retaining walls.

Falmouth

Martha's Vineyard Reliability Project DRI-22009, Falmouth,

DRI Decision, Approved, 5/11/2023

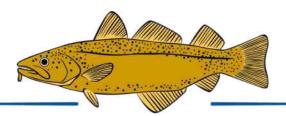
Description: Eversource, Inc. proposed to improve the

reliability of grid-based electricity on Martha's Vineyard by installing an additional cable. The Project will include an approximately 2.7-mile underground duct and manhole system from the existing Eversource Substation off Stephens Lane in Falmouth to the landfall site at Surf Drive Beach in Falmouth and a submarine cable across Vineyard Sound.



CAPE COD COOPERATIVE **EXTENSION**





BARNSTABLE COUNTY

CAPE COD COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

3195 Main Street | P.O. Box 367 Field Office - 3675 Main Street Barnstable, MA 02630-0367 508-375-6690

www.capecod.gov/extension www.buyfreshbuylocalcapecod.org www.loveyourlocalwater.org

REPORT OF CAPE COD COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

For the Period July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023

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Cape Cod Cooperative Extension 4-H Program



Participation for 4-H in the 2023 Barnstable County Fair planning was under way throughout the FY23 year. The members, leaders, Advisory members, and supporting adults participated in a Fun Night at the Fairgrounds to prepare for the fair. The participants helped prepare the Youth Building, worked together to create a new Barnstable County 4-H banner, and shared a meal together.



The UMass 4-H STEM educator and Barnstable County 4-H educator provided 3 Aerospace workshops this year at Joint Base Cape Cod Recreation Center for military youth. The workshops were on physics of flying including the construction and flight of a glider, education on planets which involved the youth designing and constructing their own planet. During the final workshop the youth designed, created, and launched their own rocket.

The Barnstable County 4-H program worked in conjunction with Barnstable United Elementary School and Buy Fresh Buy Local Cape Cod (BFBLCC) to provide an afterschool planting program.



Students participating in the afterschool daycare program, directed by Maria Caputo, planted a mixed greens box under the guidance of three Master Gardeners with the support of their teachers. The Master Gardeners instructed the students on the appropriate method to prepare the planter, how to plant seeds for greens, how to monitor the growth of the plants, and how to care for their planter box. The planter boxes were in the cafeteria of the school which allowed all students in the school to observe the growth. The youth shared their enthusiasm and success with the adults that picked up the youth up at the end of each session. Both students and adults were excited to be part of the project. Some families were motivated to start home gardens to expand upon the learning experience. The funding for the program was provided through a Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources grant obtained by Tara Racine of BFBLCC. The grant covered the purchase of all the supplies including seeds, soil, planter boxes, and gardening gloves.

Barnstable County 4-H Advisory Council awarded two postsecondary scholarships to two prior 4-H members who accessed the option provided by the Advisory scholarship procedures to reapply for the scholarship. Scholarships were awarded to Jennifer Shealey who returned to University of Ver-



mont studying Geography. The second scholarship was awarded to Foster Rubinstein returning to University of New Haven continuing his study in Homeland Security and Emergency Management.

As the program growth continued new youth members and volunteers were welcomed to the Barnstable County 4-H family.

Cape Cod Cooperative Extension AgHort Program

Cape Cod Cooperative Extension's Agriculture and Horticulture program provides educational program outreach and serves as a resource for science-based information for industry professionals, municipalities and the public. Agriculture and horticulture are important components of Barnstable County's economy and provide residents and visitors with food, jobs, recreation and beauty. The program enables Barnstable County citizens, professionals, and municipalities through technical expertise, site visits, publications and diagnostic services to make sustainable and environmentally sound land management decisions.

The agriculture and horticulture program serves as a resource for the public aided by volunteers, Master Gardeners. Master Gardeners are recruited and trained; in FY23, twenty-six new volunteers were recruited and trained. The more than 200 active Master Gardener volunteers provide more than 5000 hours of volunteering. The Master Gardeners help staff the Horticulture Clinic, which provides citizens with an opportunity to get horticulture questions answered, soil tested, and identification of plants and pests. The Master Gardeners also provide education and outreach through numerous events and activities.



Master Gardener volunteer speaking to the public at the Demonstration Garden located at the Cape Cod Fairgrounds during Evening in the Garden Educational program.

Coastal Processes Outreach

Over the last year technical assistance on coastal processes has been provided in the form of 31 site visits (typically with associated GIS analysis and follow-up written reports) on issues relating to coastal bank stabilization, beach grass for erosion control, proposed revetment construction on coastal banks, and dune restoration. The combined area of the properties that were provided information to make sound management decisions was over 115 acres (513 site visits since 2009). 28 site visits (valued at \$96,000) were conducted in 11 Barnstable County towns (Bourne, Brewster, Dennis, Eastham, Falmouth, Harwich, Orleans, Provincetown, Sandwich, Truro, & Yarmouth) in addition to several other towns throughout Massachusetts. Additional direct outreach has been provided in the form of 10 presentations to 355 people total (over 10,400 reached in 217 presentations since 2009). A wide range of audiences have been reached from congressional staffers to conservation commissions, to town officials, to Audubon, to town boards/commissions, to high school students, to homeowners associations. The number of in-person presentations is greatly reduced from pre-COVID times, however the yearly coastal conference has resumed.

This year a new Marine Extension Bulletin was published entitled Beach Nourishment Guide for Homeowners. Beaches, if they are to persist, rely on an ongoing supply of sediment. When that doesn't occur naturally, sand can be



Beach Nourishment Guide for Homeowners

By Greg Berman, Coastal Processes Specialist

INTRODUCTIO

Contail beaches have natural beauty and intrinsic value, but they also provide storm damage prevention and protect widdlife habitat. Human-bailt structures, like evertments and sea walls, after the natural movement of sediment, reducing the supply of sand to adjacent and mearby beaches and can create a "sand-varveed" system. These stabilization protects, also referred to as shoreline armos, are designed to protect the upland upon which a house is located, but crossion is often shifted to other constal resources seaward of these structures.

To make up for the reduction into the soliment uspply caused by these projects, compensatory nourishment is almost always required during the permitting process for a proposed new Countal Engineering Structure (CES) as well as for the reconstruction or repairs of existing structures. These projects must comply with a variety of state and local regulations that can be complete and numeral.

RATIONALE FOR COMPENSATORY NOURISHMENT

RATIONALE FOR COMPENSATORY NOURISHMENT

Beaches and duties are comprised of sand that comes from the erosion of causal bands. Courtal beaches provide seems damage prevention by allowing wave energy to dissipate along their gends edge. When sand is bee from a beach its elevation is lowered enabling larger waves no roach the sheetline, which increases the voluntealities of nearble habitant and coastal bourse. This loss of sand can impact many species of animals (e.g., birds, rartles, shellifish, etc.) that depend upon a beach habitat of a specific elevation. If the beach height drops due to lack of seliment supply, it may no longer be satisfied for these species.

This bulletin is intended for conservation commissions, property owners, their consultants, and others involved in using sand as mitigation. Its goal is to consultative and symbosise the many regulatory and guidance documents on this topic to assist in noriginity these projects.

4 SEA GRANT HARME EXTENSION BULLETIN SPRING 2022-

introduced at a beach to replenish or "nourish" it. This bulletin is designed to help people involved in beach nourishment projects, such as conservation commissions, property owners, and consultants by gathering and simplifying the rules and advice related to these projects. Electronic distribution of the bulletin began in Spring of 2023 on the Cape Cod Cooperative Extension website www.capecod.gov/coastalprocesses.

Coastal Resilience

The new coastal resilience position began in February 2023. After completing onboarding and training, the Coastal Resilience Specialist helped existing coastal staff expand outreach and technical capacity while building a new area of expertise for the team. Between February and June 2023, presentations and technical assistance were provided to 116 municipal staff, residents, students, and consultants. The Specialist invested significant time in floodplain management training, specifically to expand capacity for post-storm response and recovery.



The annual Islands Coastal Conference was held in collaboration with the Coastal Zone Management Program on June 12, 2023. Nearly 90 people attended, representing non-profits, private consulting firms, local and state governments, and the interested public. 15 speakers presented on a variety of topics including local resilience projects, nature-based solutions, and climate action planning.

Additional projects included organizing and planning the Islands Coastal Conference held in June 2023, assisting with a sea level rise visualization project with local schools, assisting coastal staff with trainings and technical assistance requests, and developing outreach publications and activities.

Floodplain Management and the Community Rating System

All Barnstable County towns received technical assistance for basic floodplain management and the Community Rating System (CRS). Nine towns are in the CRS program and all completed annual reverification. Two towns (Eastham and Orleans) completed 5-year audits in FY22. Eastham advanced to a 15% discount and Orleans maintained its 15% discount. Bourne and Dennis continued to work with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to pass the primary stage for eligibility for CRS participation. Barnstable County communities in the CRS are currently saving 4,000 policyholders \$500,000 annually. Total savings since the creation of the program in 2015 are \$3.3 million.

Technical assistance was provided for floodplain management and resilience (building codes/floodplain regulations, flood insurance, flood maps, historic structures in floodplains, grants, etc.) 160 times for over 1,100 community officials, residents, businesses, and organizations. The floodplain program offered 4 trainings for 214 community officials and other professionals, and provided 14 continuing education credits for Certified Building Officials and 24.5 for Certified Floodplain Managers®. Outreach was provided to 850 people in the form of 14 presentations and organized events for local elected officials and staff, businesses, and the public.

Additional projects included assisting communities with reviewing and updating existing bylaws to meet basic National Flood Insurance Program requirements, a sea level rise visualization partnership with local schools, arranging a major training for building commissioner s and survey professionals, and acting staff to the Barnstable County Coastal Resources Subcommittee.



Marine Program

Joshua Reitsma – Fisheries & Aquaculture Specialist Abigail Archer – Fisheries & Aquaculture Specialist Rachel Hutchinson – Marine Resources Specialist

Cape Cod Cooperative Extension's Marine Program works with industry, municipalities and the public to be a resource for educational programs and an unbiased, research-based source of information. Fisheries and aquaculture products are an integral part of Barnstable County's economy providing millions of dollars in economic activity and a traditional source of employment.

FY23 highlights of the Marine Program include:

- Successfully leveraged funding from county and towns to support a seed bid program providing just over 12.5 million quahog seed, 600 bags of oyster remote set, and close to 2 million oyster seed to the towns of Barnstable County.
- Barnstable County's Cooperative Extension office remains the administrator of SEMAC (SouthEastern MA Aquaculture Center), and Marine Program staff oversee and administrate its activities and programs. The Center is directed by a 13-member board of directors and received \$45,122 in support from the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources in FY23 for direct industry assistance, including funding for disease monitoring and new telemetry systems for relay of water quality data from important shellfish growing areas.
- With support from SEMAC and industry, the water quality monitoring program using the long-term deployment of instrumentation at six locations was continued. In addition, SEMAC funding allowed for the deployment of buoy systems capable of telemetry of data from remote monitoring sites in shellfish growing areas. This was on top of funding received in FY20 from a state grant program to purchase replacements for aging instrumentation and equipment and has proved essential in maintaining and improving the long-term program.
- A twentieth year of shellfish habitat assessment data was collected at 5 sites around the Cape providing baseline data for shellfish resource managers and industry members to compare against. This data was also shared with the local USDA FSA office to help establish baseline data to inform their disaster assistance products for shellfish aquaculture.
- Marine Program staff maintained a network of shellfish disease (veterinary disease) monitoring stations which included over 35 participating shellfish growers and 4 wild shellfish sites. This monitoring is designed to collect information on disease occurrence, prevalence, intensity, and seasonality to better understand potential impacts throughout Barnstable County.

- In FY23, surveillance for potential causes of oyster seed mortality was added with help from Arun Venugopalan of WHOI. This was at the request of the aquaculture industry, who complained of struggles in growth of seed in certain conditions and ultimately limited seed availability due to issues.
- Marine Program staff assisted the Town of Harwich and the Division of Marine Fisheries with collecting data from an electronic fish counter on the Herring River at the Bells Neck Conservation area. The data on numbers of river herring that move upstream here is used by the state to track progress towards population recovery goals.
- Herring Wardens in Barnstable County participate in the River Herring Network, a group coordinated by Marine Program staff that brings in speakers from Umass Amherst, and federal and state agencies to talk about the latest research and management decisions that affect local stewardship efforts in river herring runs. The first in-person annual meeting since 2019 was held at the Lakeville Public Library.
- Working with researchers from WHOI, partners at the Center for Coastal Studies and funding from the national Sea Grant program marine staff finished a second year of research examining juvenile shellfish growth over a gradient of water quality conditions in the three bays system of Barnstable. The project aims to better understand how potentially stressful conditions of ocean and coastal acidification interact with other factors like the food available to the shellfish to affect growth and survival.
- Municipal shellfish resource managers have often brought up concerns about enhancing soft shell clam resources for recreational and commercial harvest. A pilot project was attempted with the town of Dennis that indicated the use of predator nets could help improve wild soft shell clam recruitment.
- Roughly 95% of MA shellfish aquaculture production is oysters, and the rest is predominately hard clams. The industry has interest in diversifying but candidates have been limited. Work continued around the regulatory changes associated with southern surf clams and whether their range extends into Cape Cod Bay.
- Potential impacts from birds interacting with aquaculture gear has been a growing concern from some regulatory agencies. To help shellfish growers and resource managers get ahead of this issue several passive methods of deterring birds from roosting on aquaculture gear were followed with project partners.

- The Fundamentals of Shellfish Farming (FOSF) was taught again in FY23 using a hybrid approach for 35 students with a variety of backgrounds and interests in aquaculture. While the core of the 10-week evening course was again taught by marine program staff, the class brings in industry experts to relay real world experiences.
- The cultivation of hard clams or quahogs, either commercially or for restoration, can be fraught with challenges from veterinary level causes of mortality. Staff are participating on two separate grant funded projects to improve clam survival to two of those factors, QPX and neoplasia, with the goals of improving survival for better economics and ecological benefits to the Cape Cod region.



New employee Rachel Hutchinson deploying water monitoring equipment in Orleans.



Quahog seed being planted in experimental plots in Wellfleet.

Municipal Assistance Coordinator

The role of the Municipal Assistance Coordinator is to provide resiliency and cost-effective programming to the Cape and Islands through various grant programs, reduction, and diversion projects through County resources and MADEP SMRP grant programs. This role is essential to continue the Cape and Island's sustainable solid waste systems.

As we moved though the pandemic, it was necessary to create a foundation of in-person meetings, working groups, and quarterly informational gatherings. Virtual "town hall" meetings with solid waste and recycling committees, community stakeholders, county colleagues, MADEP, DPWs and transfer stations have largely moved to an in-person format. The collaborative work with partners the Cape Cod Commission, and Barnstable County Health Department, is necessary for regional solutions for sustainable management of our waste streams.

2022 demonstrated the continued importance of highlighting environmental justice, economic savings, the need for resiliency in the transfer of our waste streams, and the desire for regional development for sustainable management of solid waste. In 2021, the County concluded a two-part feasibility study reviewing our need for a cohesive/resilient and sustainable regional solution to the environmental and fiscal cost impacts as a result of the National Sword and Covid-19. With the results shared, a new steering team comprised of County officials and employees are working on the development of a regional solid waste district. Identifying opportunities for grant funding, site assessment, stakeholder support, and the "low hanging fruit" for best management practices within a regional solid waste program.

Each year, the MAC assists municipalities in filling out annual reporting for eligibility to apply for MADEP grant funding, most notably SMRP (Sustainable Materials Recovery Program). This information captures both solid waste tonnages and divertibles that pass through municipal solid waste programs on the Cape and Islands. This process helps gather data on tonnage, spending, and program offerings in each town. the survey assesses material streams such as rubbish, recyclables, construction demolition, and organics (food waste and leaf and yard waste). 19 of 23 municipalities of the Cape and Islands applied for and received MADEP grants.

Annual public services included in this program are boat shrink wrap collection, latex paint collection, and holiday strand light collection. The boat shrink wrap collection event for recycling yielded 10,000 pounds of clean recyclable shrink wrap that will be processed into coffee can lids and domestic garbage bags. This program is in partnership with Woods



Tania Keeble of ReColor Paints collecting latex paint at Tony Kent Areana on August 5th for recycling.

Hole Oceanographic Institution and 5 Cape Cod municipal depots serving all boat owners in Barnstable County. The latex paint collection event is held in tandem with a summer household hazardous waste event in the Town of Dennis. It is accessible to all Barnstable County residents and yielded over 25,000 pounds of latex paint was collected to be recycled back into latex paint and sold domestically in the Commonwealth. This program is in partnership with ReColor Paints. The holiday strand light collection event is held at all 15 transfer stations on Cape Cod. 2022 yielded 10,000 pounds of strand lights, is open to all Barnstable County residents and is in partnership with AmeriCorps Cape Cod. With just these three material streams, 45,000 pounds of waste was diverted from the landfill or our regional waste-to-energy facility to be processed into new materials.



Provincetown resident, Tom Jung participating in the Cape-wide annual holiday strand light collection event from October through the end of January 2022-2023

In additional to technical assistance and grant support, education on sustainable solid waste systems and services to both the municipalities and the public continues to be promoted through national media and through outreach to town officials, schools, recycling committees, solid waste professionals, other environmentally and organizations. Relationships with town officials, boards of health. selectboards. universities. schools. recyclina solid waste professionals, and other committees, environmentally focused organizations are an extremely important to the success of the role of the MAC.

Nutrition, Food Safety, Food Access, and Local Food Nutrition and Food Safety Education

Cooperative Extension's nutrition education program promotes optimal health to youth, families, senior citizens, and industry groups. Information and resources are available on food preparation and safety, how to stretch food dollars, growing and preserving food, healthy eating, and other nutrition-related topics. Program educators collaborate on various projects and events highlighting local food and food access.

Youth and Family Education

Through SNAP-Ed grant funding, 10 preschool classes received a series of lessons focused on eating fruit and vegetables and combined literacy, food safety and tasting opportunities to 115 children. Additionally, take home materials went to these families and supplemental teaching materials were left with each of these classrooms. Infant nutrition was the topic of a workshop for new parents in Orleans.

Nutrition educator collaborated on Americorps MLK Day of Service by demonstrating a healthy soup demo with ingredients provided for attendees.



A Healthy soup demo was done at Americorps Day of Service with attendees provided ingredients.

A total of 73 school-aged children in the Falmouth and Dennis-Yarmouth school districts have participated in Show Me Nutrition afterschool nutrition education series through the SNAP-Ed Program funding.

Dennis-Yarmouth Regional High School's horticulture class participated in a hands-on lessons utilizing crops grown in the school greenhouse. 421 sixth and seventh graders participated in nutrition lessons focused on healthier choices for adolescents offered as part of Mattacheese Middle School's health curriculum. Supplemental lessons and microgreen grow kits were provided through the SNAP-Ed grant for use by the health teacher in the classroom.

Six-week nutrition and gardening series at three elementary schools tied in experiential learning by starting seeds in the classroom, tasting opportunities, nutrition lessons and planting in the school garden and container gardens. 246 students in total participated.

Food Explorer cafeteria tastings and rotating educational displays were conducted at four schools for students and their families focused on a unique fruit or vegetable each month.

Food for Thought, a monthly electronic child nutrition newsletter has been distributed to parents and elementary school staff. Currently, there are 958 subscribers to this newsletter.

Educators presented nutrition and food safety information, displays and demos at various community events: wellness fairs, the Boston Food Show, MassHire job fair, Harwich COA Girl Power intergenerational wellness programs, CHNA meeting, and the Barnstable County Fair among others.

A nutrition educator collaborated with the Faith Family Kitchen and Champ Homes on a series of hands-on nutrition and cooking classes reaching vulnerable teens and young adults in the mid-Cape area.

Recording of Local Food Report interviewing Food Safety Educator on safe food preservation can be found at The Local Food Report | CAI (capeandislands.org)

Education for Senior Citizens

Older adults participated in presentations and cooking demonstrations at seven locations including senior centers, residential sites, and events. Monthly classes were conducted for 77 low-income seniors as part of SNAP-Ed programming.



Display and nutrition information for Veterans Event at Cape Cod Community College

Two series of classes were conducted for a total of 30 seniors including Healthy Eating for Successful Living in Older Adults, a 6-week evidence-based program offered in collaboration with Elder Services of Cape Cod and the Islands.

NourishHub series was presented for twelve older adults in collaboration with the Hyannis Public Library. Via a grant through the Institute for Museum and Library Services, participants received ingredients to prepare highlighted recipes at home each week.

Cooking demonstrations were conducted at three food pantries with educational materials and recipes provided to an additional food pantry due to on-going pandemic restrictions.

Industry and Small Business Resources

Fifteen ServSafe food safety certification courses have reached 188 individuals in the food service industry and in regulatory roles, fulfilling the Food Code requirements set forth by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. One abbreviated course covering the basics of safe food handling was provided for food service volunteers.

Nutrition educator collaborated with Cape Cod Municipal Health Group to offer two series of workshops for municipal employees highlighting healthier comfort foods and incorporating fresh seasonal produce. Nutrition educators provided cooking demonstrations and educational materials at five benefits fairs for the members and retirees of Cape Cod Municipal Health Group.



CCMHG cooking classes for municipal employees at Cape Cod Tech

An educator provided a food product development presentation to growers, new food business entrepreneurs and producers for the Community Development Partnership.

Two trainings for 38 employees of the local Transitional Assistance Office were provided to give updates on departmental SNAP-Ed projects.

Nutrition educators acted as preceptors in community nutrition rotations; providing guidance, practical experience and training to six Dietetic Interns in collaboration with Delicious Living Nutrition Dietetic Internship. The experiences contribute towards the 1200 hours of post-graduate supervised practice required of the Commission of Dietetic Registration of all Dietetic Interns before taking board exams.

MDAR Local Food Policy Council Grant allowed for gathering of local food vendors, distributors and food access organizations for insight in creating a single framework to connect them all. Recommendations led to creation of a basic wireframe that may then be made live pending further funding. This group also convened to consider a Barnstable County Food Equity Plan. This work will continue into

Fall/Winter 2023 and will be ongoing as it identifies the underserved and addresses barriers to access and to culturally appropriate foods as needed.

Nutrition educator currently participates in MA Partnership for Food Safety Education and MA Food System Collaborative meetings, co-chairs the Cape Cod Hunger Network to support the work of the local food pantries, sits on the YMCA's Head Start Health Advisory Committee, the BC Health and Human Services Advisory Council to represent the Cape Cod Hunger Network, and attended the Community Leadership Institute.

Food Access

Since 2020, Cape Cod Cooperative Extension (CCCE) Food Access program has been critically examining and assessing the local food system to identify areas for support. In the fall of 2022, the Food Access program and Buy Fresh Buy Local Cape Cod (BFBLCC) received \$450,190 from the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources (MDAR) through the Local Food Purchase Assistance Cooperative Agreement Program (LFPA). The funded Cape Land and Sea Initiative was designed to create new economic opportunities for local and regional food producers. This funding was allocated to purchase locally grown and sourced produce and seafood products from the region's food producers, prioritizing purchasing from socially disadvantaged growers. The program coordinated with Cape Abilities Farm to purchase produce, on the County's behalf, and distribute food weekly throughout the Cape to underserved populations. A strategically designed network of community partners was established to ensure food was equitably distributed throughout the Cape's environmental justice communities. Over 40 community partners were involved in distributing food from February through June 2023 to more than 2,000 households. The LFPA program will continue through May 2024. At completion of the LFPA grant period, CCCE's Food Access program anticipates distributing at least 6,000 boxes of food to Cape Cod residents.



CCCE's Land and Sea boxes of locally sourced produce and seafood products are distributed at no cost to Cape Cod's food insecure populations.



Health Ministry USA is one of CCCE's many LFPA partners. Health Ministry distributes the LFPA Land and Sea boxes to the Brazilian and Latino communities on the County's behalf.

Everyone Eats Cultural Community Gardens

To promote diversity in Cape Cod's food system, Cape Cod Cooperative Extension (CCCE) and Buy Fresh Buy Local Cape Cod (BFBLCC) established the Everyone Eats Cultural Community Gardens in 2021 with funding received from the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources (MDAR). For the 2023 growing season, CCCE Food Access program received funding through MDAR from the Local Food Purchase Assistance Cooperative Agreement Program (LFPA) to expand growing capacity at the Everyone Eats Cultural Community Garden sites. CCCE, through the Food Access program, provided financial resources to Health Ministry USA and Canaan SDA Church to hire Haitian and Brazilian garden coordinators to oversee the management at the Everyone Eats gardens. All produce was distributed to the local Haitian, Jamaican and Latino communities.



Jean-Claude Butter, Canaan SDA community engagement coordinator showcases the abundant harvest from their Everyone Eat's Garden. The garden produce is distributed through the Canaan food pantry to those in need.



Canaan SDA Church members prepare to distribute recently harvested produce to community members.

In June 2023, MDAR's Commissioner Ashley Randle and her staff visited the Everyone Eats Cultural Community Garden managed by Health Ministry USA at Faith Assembly of God Church in Hyannis. The cultural experience and knowledge from these two community groups was a contributing factor to the successful growing season.



Everyone Eats Cultural Community Garden managed by Health Ministry USA at Faith Assembly of God Church in Hyannis.

Food Delivery Program

In FY 2023, the food pantry delivery program expanded to include 5 pantries across the Cape providing over 8,000 bags of food to those without transportation. Community Connection, Cape Abilities, and over 10 volunteers delivered food to homebound individuals. More than 4,000 deliveries were made in FY23. CCCE also coordinated the transportation program to provide meals from Faith Family Kitchen to area motels for the Cape Cod Council of Church's In From the Streets Program (IFTS). This program was in operation between November and April and provided meals to cover 7 lunches and 7 dinners each week to those staying at the motels.

Food Rescue

CCCE continued to focus on reducing food waste in the region through a partnership with the national food recovery non-profit, Food Rescue US. This collaboration connects CCCE's existing network of food donors with food pantries and meal sites to reduce food waste and combat food insecurity. In 2023 the number of food rescues doubled from the previous year. Over 40 local organizations benefited from receiving rescued, donated food. CCCE's food rescue program has over 60 volunteers.

Buy Fresh Buy Local Cape Cod

Buy Fresh Buy Local Cape Cod (BFBLCC) is celebrating its sixteenth year as a chapter of the Massachusetts Buy Fresh Buy Local Initiative. The mission of BFBLCC is to connect the public with Cape Cod-grown land and sea products while also communicating all the positive effects that result when they buy local products. BFBLCC collaborates with Barnstable County staff, Cape Cod growers, farmers' markets, other Buy Locals groups, and community partners to provide resources, agriculture/nutrition education, and locally-grown foods to Barnstable County residents— especially those experiencing food access barriers. These programs build the local food system and economy: benefitting local farmers, consumers, and the broader Cape Cod community.



BFBLCC Marketing Campaign and Education Programs

In 2023 the BFBLCC Program Coordinator created a marketing campaign to promote local farmers and farmers' markets, and collaborated with CCCE staff on educational and direct service projects that were funded by a Massachusetts Department of Agriculture (MDAR) Buy Local grant for \$79,983.20. This included the graphic design and distribution of 10,000 printed, full-color Guides to Local Farms and Food booklets to farm stands, farmers' markets, community centers, town halls, libraries, schools, senior centers, and social service offices across Barnstable County. An online version of the guide was also shared on the BFBLCC website, social media accounts, and in newsletters. Additionally, as part of a Local Food Promotion Program (FMPP) project, which BFBLCC partnered on with other Buy Local groups in Massachusetts, BFBLCC created brochures in five languages (Spanish, Portuguese, Haitian Creole, Simplified Chinese, and Arabic) to provide non-English reading residents and visitors with information about local agriculture, farmers' markets, and information about how to use Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly food stamps) benefits to purchase locally-grown foods. Signs were also designed and distributed to local farmers' markets which included "Welcome to the Farmers' Market" in fifteen languages. BFBLCC also collaborated with CCCE's Food Access Coordinator on the Local Food Purchase Assistance Cooperative Agreement Program (LFPA) to purchase produce from local farmers to distribute at no-cost to people from underserved communities, and on the Food Rescue Program to divert excess food from the waste stream to food pantries or for composting.



Hypertension, Glucose, and Nutrition Education for Lower and Outer Cape

BFBLCC partnered with CCCE Nutrition Educators and Barnstable County Department of Health (BCDHE) and the Environment's Public Health Nurses and Nutritionist to provide weekly, no-cost blood pressure and glucose checks at locations in five towns in the Lower and Outer Cape (Orleans, Eastham, Wellfleet, Truro, Provincetown). Individuals receiving the health screenings also received Dietary Approaches to Stop Hypertension (DASH) nutrition information, recipes, and cooking demonstrations. The nutrition education emphasized eating fresh fruits and vegetables as part of a preventative, healthy lifestyle therefore BFBLCC guides, farmers' market schedules, and information about SNAP and Massachusetts' Healthy Incentives Program (HIP) were also distributed to connect people with locally grown foods. The participating towns and host sites were selected based on a recent study conducted by the BCDHE that demonstrated the greatest need for these services in that area.

Seed to Plate: Senior Citizens Transportation to Farmers' Markets



2023 marked the third year of the Seed to Plate program, and this year the program expanded to also include no-cost transportation to local farmers' markets. The Seed to Plate program traditionally consists of two parts. In the first half, the senior citizen participants receive a container garden demonstration, led by Master Gardeners. Each participant is given an Earth Box (accessible container planter), seedlings, soil, and assistance setting their garden up. For the second part of the program, a CCCE Nutrition Educator does a cooking demonstration, using ingredients that will be grown in the container gardens, and the participants receive samples, recipes, and BFBLCC guides. This year the Seed to Plate

program included a third part. By partnering with the Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority (CCRTA), the participants were also able to join CCCE staff on trips to their local farmers' market. While there they received an overview of the farmers' market, instructions on how to use their SNAP benefits, and guidance on how to make their benefits go even further with the HIP program and market incentives. Learn more about the Seed to Plate program by watching this video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NinxhMq0Qzo

Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) Seafood Food Safety Training

Thirty Cape Cod seafood producers and professionals received free HACCP food safety certification, which will allow them to expand their seafood businesses to include value-added seafood products. Before this course there were no local opportunities, which meant local producers needed to travel out of state to take the class. BFBLCC, CCCE staff, Woods Hole Sea Grant staff, and a Cornell University food safety instructor collaborated to offer the two-part course in April 2023. BFBLCC also worked with the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe, so that almost half of the class was made up of Tribal Members and staff. The course was also offered in both English and Spanish. All class fees, course materials, and certification costs were covered through grant funds, thanks to support for MDAR. This allowed BFBLCC to deliver the class at no cost to participants, which eliminated cost as a barrier and made this economic opportunity accessible to people of all income levels.

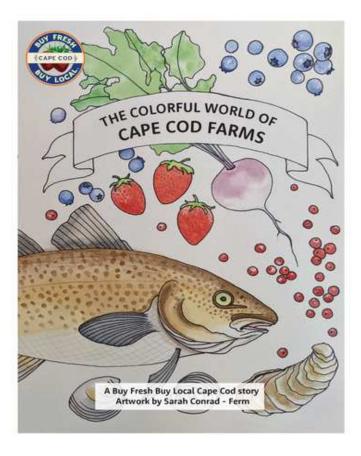
Agriculture Education at Barnstable United Elementary School with 4-H Impact

Twenty-five Barnstable United Elementary School students received afterschool agricultural education through BFBLCC and CCCE's 4-H Impact program. The students learned plant science, experimented with growing methods, documented observations, and received nutrition education that highlighted fresh, locally grown fruits and vegetables. Each student also took home their own container garden.

Homeless Youth and Young Adults Cooking Classes

BFBLCC increased the capacity of the Youth and Young Adults Cooking Classes program which provides monthly cooking classes, led by local chefs, to provide unhoused youth and young adults with meals and to teach them cooking skills that may lead to job opportunities. These cooking classes are a collaborative effort of the CCCE Food Access Coordinator, Barnstable County Department of Human Services, the Housing Assistance Corporation, the Homeless Prevention Council, the Cape Cod and the Islands Regional Network on

Homelessness: Youth and Young Adults Homelessness Committee (YYA Committee). BFBLCC supported the program by purchasing ingredients, cooking tools, and distributing bags with local fresh fruits and vegetables. BFBLCC also organized guest lecture classes conducted by CCCE's Nutrition Educators.



Ticks and Entomology Program

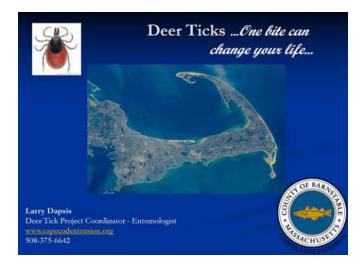
The tick outreach program has a branded theme "One Bite Can Change Your Life". Barnstable County has the fourth-highest incidence rate of tick-borne diseases in the state. One of the major contributing factors to risk is the demographic picture of the Cape. Median age means that 50% of people are older and 50% younger. 95% of cases of babesiosis and anaplasmosis are found in people 60 years and older. Older people represent about 50% of cases of Lyme – children under the age of 10 represent a majority of the remaining cases.

Outreach efforts were restored to in person events rather than Zoom. Sixty-seven workshops/events were conducted at libraries, senior centers, community centers and for groups such as AmeriCorps, the Master Gardener Program, Middle Schools, County Fair and Garden Clubs. The tick extension program was also covered extensively via newspaper articles and radio interviews.

Workshops were also conducted for backyard horticulture, pollination ecology, insect evolution, entomophagy – edible insects and forensic entomology – using insects to solve crimes.

A ten-part video series on the Extension website has been accessed by people within but also outside of Barnstable County including Australia.

The Extension Tick and Entomology program remains a publicly accessible resource for insect identification and control recommendations. Tick identification, tick bite prevention and tick testing remain in the forefront of public contact.



Water Quality and Hazardous Materials Program

The program mission is to protect Cape Cod's environment and people from chemical hazards through regional, direct services. The program mission is accomplished through a diverse portfolio of programs, projects, and operations.

Household and Small Business Hazardous Waste Collection Program

The program protects Cape Cod's aquifer and supports a clean water. Further, the program protects solid waste and recycling from chemical hazards. Prevention of accidental ingestion and poisoning of chemicals by children and pets is a program priority. The program encourages emergency preparedness for residents to protect first responders and the environment from toxic and dangerous poisons being released in the wild during emergency situations. The program supports climate change initiatives such as chemical resiliency and stormwater protection. The program supports wastewater protection myriad ways.

The program operates by calendar year. Twenty-four house-

hold hazardous waste (HHW) collections events were held on Cape Cod in 2022. Six thousand two hundred eighty vehicles attended bringing in 600,970 pounds or 124,753 gallons of hazardous waste. Thirty-six small businesses used the program to dispose of chemical waste generated during business processes.

A pilot project to collect HHW from residents who are transportation-challenged was initiated in 2021, continued through 2022.

Cape Cod businesses and residents require year-round disposal of their unwanted chemicals. A grant from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MA DEP) to support the construction of a year-round permanent hazardous waste depot was awarded in 2021 and project tasks were completed through FY'23. An earmark for \$500,000.00 was included for this project in the Commonwealth's Economic Development legislative bill in FY'23.



HHW Collections operate April through October rain or shine. Kalliope Chute, program manager.



HHW contractors work in rain or shine. Thank you! Linda Parent and Vonnie Jacquard, HHW contractors.



Help reduce needle-stick injuries to municipal employees and the public while alleviating the problem of sharps found in solid waste and the environment.



Access the Sharps Disposal Program brochure go to https://www.capecodextension.org/project/sharps-disposal for more information on drop-off and pick-up locations, or call Kalliope Chute, Hazardous Materials Environmental Specialist at 508-375-6699.

Flares Collection Program

Barnstable County offers free disposal of marine and road flares. Road flares contain perchlorates, a regulated chemical in drinking water. 7,537 flares were collected and disposed

of in calendar year 2022. The program collaborates with Cape Cod towns, State Police Bomb Squad and Clean Earth for disposal.

Unwanted Medication Program

To prevent medications from contaminating water sources, Barnstable County works to provide free residential disposal of unwanted medications in cooperation with fourteen town police departments (excluding the Town of Sandwich). Other options for disposal include the DEA take-back days offered 2x yearly. Cape Cod and Falmouth Hospitals offer disposal kiosks as well. Additionally, mail back envelopes can be found at major pharmacies for convenient disposal.

Mercury Collection Program

In cooperation with all fifteen towns on Cape Cod, Barnstable County offers free disposal of mercury at HHW collections, at town transfer stations, and through free home pickup of elemental (liquid) mercury. Over 71.809 pounds of mercury was collected in calendar year 2022.

WET Festival

The WET Festival program is part of the national aquifer educational initiative serving school children grades 3-6. AmeriCorps Cape Cod provides program coordination and WET Festival AmeriCorps Cape Cod provides program coordination and implementation with the supervision of the Extension educator. The program provides comprehensive education aligned with STEM and Commonwealth curricula requirements on all water, including drinking water and wastewater. A lending library of activities such as 'Beach Cleanup' was implemented by the AmeriCorps Cape Cod coordinator and offered to all communities in FY'23. Over 2,000 school children participated in WET Fest in school year 2022-2023.



WET Festivals teach school children about the Cape's sole source aquifer.

Aqua Fair

The Aqua Fair celebrates Cape Cod's vast network of water steward organizations that protect the largely unconfined, sole-source Cape Cod aquifer. The fair has been virtual during the pandemic and the County hopes to offer an in-person celebration in the spring.

Groundwater Guardians

The Groundwater Guardians, part of a national Project WET initiative, support education initiatives focused on Cape Cod's aquifer. Material offerings include infographics, podcasts, games, and other educational activities. The project for FY'23 was to bring WET Festival back in schools after the pandemic delay. See WET Fest for more information.

Municipal Assistance

The Extension Educator offered assistance to municipal departments: schools, natural resources, harbormaster, health, fire, waste, and water districts, on chemical safety and disposal. Examples of chemicals include firefighting foams, mercury, lab chemicals, and cleaners. Additionally, the MAC offered tours, a roundtable, trainings, workshops, talks, and support to other municipalities and non-profits in FY'23.



Continuing education through site visits and tours. Linda and Donald Parent pictured at Clean Earth facilities in Providence, RI.

Mentorship

The educator supported an intern from Barnstable High School STEM program and an AmeriCorps Cape Cod individual placement in FY'23.

Affiliations

The program educator is a member of the North American Hazardous Materials Management Association (NAHMMA), serves as the Secretary/Treasurer for the NAHMMA Northeast chapter and is on the communications committee of the NAHMMA national chapter. Additionally, the educator serves on the Environmental Science and Technology committee at Barnstable High School and the Commonwealth's Strategic Sourcing Team for contract FAC 110.

Connect

www.Facebook.com/LoveYourLocalWater

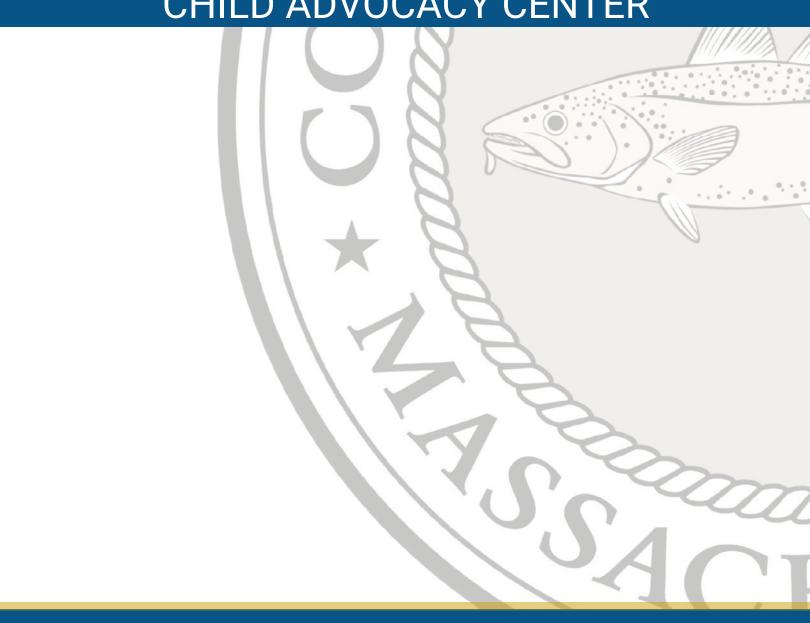
www.LoveYourLocalWater.org

www.CapeCodGroundwater.org

*Data were aggregated and reported by calendar year.



THE CAPE & ISLANDS
CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER





P.O. Box 427
Barnstable, MA 02630
508-375-0410
www.childrenscove.org

REPORT OF CHILDREN'S COVE: THE CAPE & ISLANDS CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER

For the Period July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023

Staff

Stacy Gallagher, Director sqallagher@childrenscove.org

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Jacob Stapledon, Community Engagement & Education
Program Manager
jacob.stapledon@childrenscove.org

Nancy Raymond, Administrative Assistant nraymond@childrenscove.org

Kathy Fayerberg, Family Services Coordinator Kathy.fayerberg@childrnescove.org

Alexandra Foley, Child Exploitation Program Coordinator Alexandra.Foley@childrenscove.org

Lauren Journet, Multidisciplinary Team Coordinator Lauren.Journet@childrenscove.org

Sayard Ryan, Family Nurse Practitioner, Pediatric Sexual Assault Nurse Practitioner

(employed through DPH and the statewide Pediatric Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) Program) Sayard.Ryan@childrenscove.org



Our Story

Children's Cove: The Cape and Islands Child Advocacy Center was created as a department of Barnstable County as an initiative from the Barnstable County Task Force on Children. Children's Cove has grown into a unique collaborative effort between partner agencies including the Cape and Islands District Attorney's Office, Department of Children and Families, Department of Public Health, and all departments of law enforcement across the Cape & Islands. Children's Cove is one of twelve Child Advocacy Centers (CAC) in Massachusetts and over 950 nationally. We offer a safe, welcoming place for children to go if there is a report or concern that they have been sexually abused, severely physically abused, been witness to domestic violence, sexually exploited, or victims of human trafficking. We bring together all the professionals in the field who have made it their life's work to help. We treat each child with respect, care, and compassion and make it possible for the trauma to stop and the healing begin.

Children's Cove has proven for more than twenty-five years that taking a regional approach to helping vulnerable, abused children brings the best out in every agency involved in the recovery of the victim and the prosecution of the offender. As pioneers of a groundbreaking collaborative regional approach, Children's Cove has gained statewide and national attention as a model organization with programs that have been replicated on a broader scale. In October of 2022, Children's Cove hosted an anniversary celebration, with speakers from the Cape & Islands Legislative Delegation, one of the founding members, Mary LeClair, and family members of the late District Attorney Phillip Rollins, in which a future expansion of the Children's Cove facility will be dedicated in his name.

Children's Cove is a fully operational and accredited Child Advocacy Center with the National Children's Alliance in Washington DC whose components include the Sexual Abuse Intervention Network (SAIN) Team, (the investigatory program of Children's Cove); the medical exam, with a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) which utilizes a state of the art technology to utilize evidentiary images in court proceedings; case tracking and team review; family advocacy; specialized therapeutic referrals; case coordination, and education and training.

Children's Cove serves the same jurisdictional areas at the District Attorney's Office for the Cape & Islands, as well as the Department of Children and Families. This includes the fifteen towns of Cape Cod, the six towns on Martha's Vineyard, and the island of Nantucket. Children's Cove works collaboratively with each police department in these areas and the Massachusetts State Police. Children's Cove provides forensic interviews and supportive services if the abuse is thought to have occurred within the jurisdictional area of Cape Cod and the Islands of Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket. The alleged victim may be from the age of two years old to seventeen years old or older depending on cognitive and developmental ability.

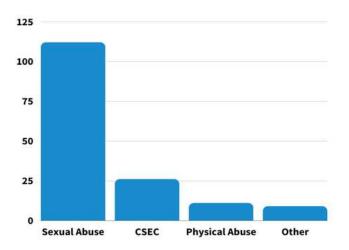
During the twelve-month period of July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023, 224 individuals were referred for services and 158 were provided with forensic interviews at Children's Cove. This is a 2.6% decrease in referrals and 5.3% decrease in forensic interviews as compared to FY2022. These numbers are comparatively similar and may indicate that the significant increase in referrals and forensic interviews may be a consistent baseline moving forward when compared to the 48% increase in total referrals in FY2021.



Victim Services

The forensic interview is the best-practice approach to interviews with children who have been victims of crime. It is only a portion of the services Children's Cove provides, as not every child referred is ready for the interview process. Our team works to ensure that child victims and those at risk have access to high-quality, free, and supportive services to support the healing process.

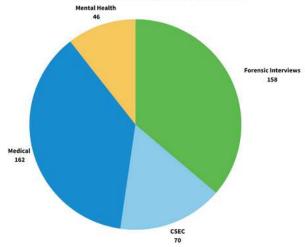
Reason for Forensic Interview Referral



For children supported through forensic interviews, Children's Cove saw a case distribution of 127 referrals for female identified individuals, and 31 male identified individuals. For each of these referrals for interviews the specific concern identified included 112 individuals for concerns of sexual abuse, 26 individuals for concerns of sexual exploitation, 11 individuals over concerns of physical abuse, 9 individuals for other concerns including neglect, witnessing violence or crime, or problematic sexual behavior. In specific cases, such as for suspected cases of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children across the Cape and the Islands, Children's Cove coordinates multidisciplinary response meetings in absence of a forensic interview. This includes cases where children may be victims of human trafficking, online exploitation by child sexual abuse material or sextortion, but may not be ready to engage in the forensic interview process. During the reporting period our Child Exploitation Program Coordinator held 70 multidisciplinary response meetings involving 60 children regarding risks and concerns for potential exploitation. This included 7 male identified children and 53 female identified children. These referrals indicate a 50% increase in referrals for individually identified children at risk of, or directly, sexually exploited.

In addition to the forensic interview process we work collaboratively with the Department of Public Health and have a Nurse Practitioner/Pedi SANE and medical suite on-site to

Direct Services Provided

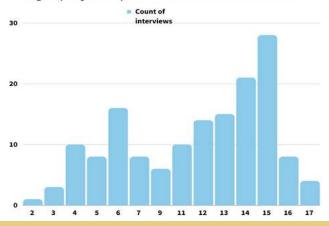


provide comprehensive, compassionate care to child victims and their families. All children referred to the Children's Cove are offered timely, non-invasive, medical examinations with the consent of their parents at no cost. These exams are provided by the Nurse Practitioner/PediSANE on site in the medical suite. Medical examinations, education, consultation, and referrals were provided for 162 individuals during the reporting period. This is a significant increase from the previous reporting period (31 individuals) which is attributed to the onboarding of a new PediSANE shortly after the beginning of the fiscal year.

Family Service Coordination

Following the investigative and immediate support process with a child, Children's Cove provides on-going follow up and advocacy for the children and families served and assists in the connection to meaningful activities and supports. Our Family Services Coordinator works with the family to identify needs and community resources and helps the family navigate any systems as part of the investigation in a non-stigmatizing and confidential way. This is provided at the will of each child and family, and the needs, services and supports for each family vary.

Age (in years) of Children Interviewed



As part of Family Service Coordination, the Children's Cove Mental Health Program utilizes trauma-informed providers throughout the Cape and Islands to provide mental health services. The Trauma Informed Provider Network (TIP Network) is comprised of Cape and Islands therapists who have agreements with Children's Cove to provide specialized clinical services. Children's Cove, in turn, provides ongoing training, learning collaborative workshops and referrals to these selected providers. During the reporting period our Mental Health Program made 46 clinical referrals to clinical providers in the community for children and non-offending family members.

Community Education and Training

Stigma and the lack of information about adverse childhood experiences and abuse are some of the driving factors for children and families not knowing where to seek support. Supportive and professional community engagement, partnerships and education are pivotal in increasing access to children and families in need.

Children's Cove engages in direct outreach, education and training to community members, youth-serving organizations, and professional multidisciplinary team partners. Children's Cove also utilizes multimedia awareness campaigns, including radio ads, news articles, social media, and public service announcements as part of its outreach to the community regarding child sexual abuse.

Children's Cove utilizes a statewide education curriculum developed in partnership with the Massachusetts Children's Alliance, statewide Child Advocacy Centers, the Department of Children and Families, and contributors from prosecution, medical professionals, and mental health professionals. This curriculum was developed to provide an evidence-based, best-practice approach to recognizing and responding to child abuse and is utilized to provide trainings to youth-serving organizations such as schools, early education centers, summer camps, recreational centers, faith-based organizations, and community membership organizations.

Beyond our standard curriculum, Children's Cove offers innovative multidisciplinary education presented by many nationally recognized experts in the field of child abuse. Following the Covid-19 Pandemic, Children's Cove made a strategic decision to change the way we offered innovative and current trend education and training. For more than 10 years, the organization offered an annual two-day conference to explore and examine the latest insights and approaches on how to best serve and care for child victims and their non-offending family members. Children's Cove is now offering discipline specific, one-day seminars at no cost to multi-

disciplinary members. In this reporting period, Children's Cove provided three seminars focusing on topics such as online sexual exploitation of children, problematic sexual behavior, and the multidisciplinary approach to responding to cases of crimes against children. These seminars were provided by national speakers to members of law enforcement, prosecution, child protection, clinical social-workers and mental health counselors, and team members of victim services organizations.

Over the reporting period professional training, community prevention, and parent education was provided to more than 1,900 individuals across the Cape and Islands representing more than 60 different agencies and organizations. In the coming fiscal year, Children's Cove's Education and Training program will begin to offer online learning for multidisciplinary partners at no cost to increase the reach of training across the region, and expanded access to organizational training requests.

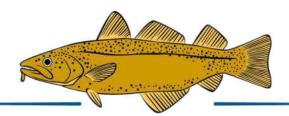


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Report of the BARNSTABLE COUNTY DREDGE





BARNSTABLE COUNTY

DREDGE

Superior Court House P.O. Box 427 Barnstable, MA 02630 www.capecod.gov/dredge

REPORT OF THE BARNSTABLE COUNTY DREDGE PROGRAM

For the Period July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023



Administration

Ken Cirillo, Director 508.375.3655 | kenneth.cirillo@capecod.gov

Staff

Christopher Armstrong, Leverman Denver Bergamin, Deckhand Jason Bevis, Superintendent Brendan Cahill, Deckhand Andrew DiPietro, Deckhand Cory Fleming, Leverman Phil Marks, Deckhand

Mission

The mission of the Barnstable County Dredge Program (BCDP) is to improve the recreational, environmental, and economic value of our changing coastline and estuaries while achieving cost savings for municipalities on Cape Cod.

The BCDP began in 1996 with the purchase of its first cutterhead suction dredge (CSD), the Cod Fish I. The dredge Sand Shifter (14-inch CSD) was later added to the fleet in 2017 and closely followed by the Cod Fish II (14-inch CSD) in 2019. In 2020, after 23 seasons, the Cod Fish I was sold because the repairs required for the dredge were too costly.

In addition to the two 14-inch CSDs, the County acquired and operates two push boats, the Stephen S. Bradbury and the JW Doane, a barge, a booster station, several work skiffs and the dredge support boat, Commander.

Background

The County Dredge Program is critical to our region because it helps maintain the changing coastal landscape while protecting its environmental and economic vitality in addition to offering each town significant cost savings.

The demand for dredging on Cape Cod continues to increase due to climate change implications, annual sand dynamics brought about by seasonal storms, as well as the availability of additional state grant funding (MA Dredge).

It should be noted that every town on Cape Cod uses the County's Dredge services except for Brewster as they do not have any harbors or channels along their coast.

The dredging "season" typically runs from September to May (now reduced from June) and is subject to time of year (TOY) restrictions, ranging from winter flounder and horseshoe crabs, to piping plovers as well as summer tourism.

The program on average provides dredge services at a rate

that is at least 75% below private sector costs with savings estimated in excess of \$6m since the program's inception.

Included in the dredge rates, the County also contracts with a private Hydrographer to conduct Pre & Post Dredge surveys at a cost of approximately \$8,000 per project. These surveys are invaluable records in the event of a damaging hurricane or other weather events and may be used for submission to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) as documentation of storm damages and funding reimbursements.

The BCDP received two grants in this fiscal year, the first one was from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) for \$1,012,500 and the second one was from the Massachusetts (MA) Dredge Grant for \$975,000. These funds have been used to replace old equipment in need of repair as well as for new equipment to improve the operational efficiency of the program.

See Table 1.0 for a complete list of the equipment purchased.

In total, since the start of the dredge department, the County dredges have removed over 2.5 million cubic yards of material from over 300 projects with 95% of the material dredged going to rebuilding the beaches around Cape Cod.

Project Statistics - 2022-2023 Dredge Season

Cubic Yards dredged:

68,678

Number of towns with dredge projects completed this season:

5

Smallest project (volume):

Falmouth Inner Harbor

694 Cubic Yards

Largest project (volume):

Stage Harbor Approach Channel, Chatham

25,217 Cubic Yards

Longest run of pipe this season:

Cockle Cove to Stage Harbor Approach Channel, Chatham

2.1 miles or 11,088'



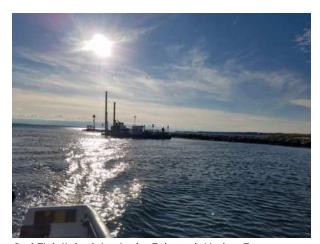
Towing pipe from Aunt Lydia's Cove to Stage Harbor.

Summary of Projects Completed and Volumes Dredged

Barnstable County Dredge Department YTD Summary of Dredge Volumes by Town/Project		
Town	Dredging Location	Volume Dredged (Cubic Yards)
Chatham	Mill Creek	4,966
Chatham	Aunt Lydia's Cove	25,217
Chatham	Stage Harbor	11,092
Harwich	Saquatucket Harbor	6,992
Harwich	Allen Harbor	8,746
Falmouth	Falmouth Inner Harbor	694
Dennis	Sesuit Harbor	6,627
Yarmouth	Parker River Approach Channel	4,344
	Total Volume Dredged	68,678



Dredged material from Wychmere Harbor Entrance Channel, Harwich.



Cod Fish II dredging in the Falmouth Harbor Entrance Channel

Permitting Delays & Postponed Projects

The total number of projects, volumes dredged, and revenue was down significantly from FY21 & FY22. This was due to projects being postponed due to delays in several towns 10-year comprehensive dredging permits being approved.

The loss of revenue from these postponed projects resulted in an estimated loss of \$1,031,680 to the dredge program.

Highlights

Dredge permit challenges continued this year.

The dredge Sand Shifter and the pushboat JW Doane were at the Fairhaven Shipyard for repairs during July & August. Most of the work performed was routine, including sanding, priming, and painting of the hull, decks, and structure as well as some fabrication work on the JW Doane.

Fiscal Status

The operating revenue for FY2023 was \$941,267.

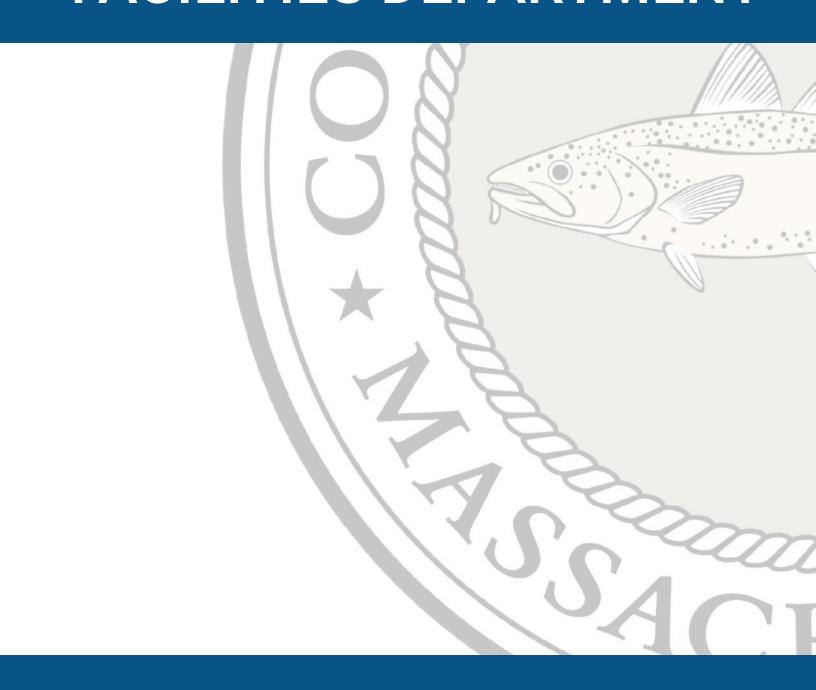
Summary of Projects Completed and Volumes Dredged

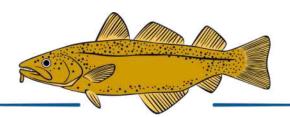
Landside Equipment	Marine Equipment
Front end loader* (1)	Work boats (2)
Excavator* (1)	Push boat* (1)
Skid steer* (1)	Skiffs* (4)
Fusion machine*	Booster (1)
Pipeline (10,000 ft)	Booster barge* (1)
Pickup trucks* (2)	Survey vessel* (1)
ATV* (1)	Hydrographic survey equipment*
	Dredge monitoring and management equipment

Table 1. *Indicates equipment or software purchased in 2023 using MA Dredge Grant Funding or ARPA Awards.

Report of the

FACILITIES DEPARTMENT





BARNSTABLE COUNTY

FACILITIES DEPARTMENT

P.O. Box 427
Barnstable, MA 02630
www.capecod.gov/facilities

REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FACILITIES

For the Period July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023

Staff

Donald T Reynolds, Director (508) 744-1201 | dreynolds@capecod.gov

Eileen O'Connell, Executive Assistant (508) 375-6602 | eoconnell@capecod.gov

Supervision Staff

Parker Kelley, Working Supervisor Deborah Reynolds, Night Supervisor

Maintenance Staff

Patrick Arnold, Maintenance/Repair Joseph Brochu, Maintenance/Repair Richard Burgess, Mail Clerk/Custodian Paul Coletti, Maintenance/Repair Sean Cushing, Maintenance/Repair Dave Eaton, On Call Pesticide Contractor Michael White, Maintenance/Repair

Custodial Staff

Daryll Acker

Jose Couto

Klauss Cunha

George Davis

Aurelio Lima

Stephen Minor

Marcos Nunes

Jairo Oliveira

About

The Facilities Department is responsible for all physical plant operations, general maintenance and capital planning within the Barnstable County Complex, Second District Courthouse in Orleans, Children's Cove, Resource Development/AmeriCorps Administration Building, Extension Farmhouse, certain county residences and the former House of Correction.

The physical plant consists of the following thirteen elements:

- · Superior Courthouse, County Complex
- Deeds and Probate Court, County Complex
- · First District Courthouse, County Complex
- · County Complex Grounds, Barnstable
- · Second District Courthouse, Orleans
- Children's Cove. Barnstable
- · Extension Farmhouse, Barnstable
- Resource Development/AmeriCorps Administration Building, County Complex
- · Cape Cod Commission, cleaning only
- · Recycle Building, Barnstable
- Former House of Correction, County Complex
- Health Lab/Water Testing, County Complex
- · Innovation Building, County Complex

The Facilities Department budget provides funding for the following:

- HVAC, plumbing and electrical systems maintenance and repair
- Utilities
- Grounds and parking lot maintenance
- · General maintenance and custodial services
- · ADA administration and compliance
- · Safety and security programs
- · Mail collection and distribution
- County Recycling Program

Second District Courthouse:

- Grounds Maintenance: \$9,180.00

- Snow Plowing: \$1,000.00 - HVAC Study: \$17,250.00

Superior Courthouse:

- Carpet Replacement: \$11,870.00

- Tree Removal: \$4,000.00

Registry of Deeds/Probate Court:

- Roof Drain Repair: \$10,600.00

- Emergency Chiller Repair: \$7,408.13

First District Courthouse:

- Epoxy Flooring Holding Cells: \$70,961.00

- Fencing/Chiller Pad: \$4,353.11

- Outside Improvements: \$13,470.00

County Complex:

- Grounds Maintenance: \$35,015.00

- Vehicle Replacement: \$40,916.02

Former House of Correction:

- Emergency Circuit Upgrade: \$5,036.32

White House:

- Roof Trim Repair: \$7,900.00

Innovation Building:

- Roof Patching: \$2,495.00

- Lawn/Grounds Maintenance: \$3,285.00

- Propane Tank/New Boiler Install: \$21,102.23

- New Roof: \$11,900.00

TOTAL: \$277,741.81



Facilities employees Parker Kelley and Sean Cushing work concrete into the form.



Presenting the completed emergency generator and propane tank pads, complete with the trench for the gas line leading to the main house.



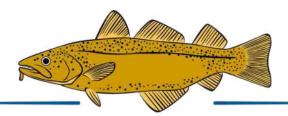
Facilities staff undertook the renovation of the Farm property's Heifer house for use by the Cooperative Extension Service. At that time, all the work was conducted in-house, except for the roof.



The image above depicts the finished work of the Farm property's Heifer house.

Report of the DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE





BARNSTABLE COUNTY

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

P.O. Box 427 3195 Main Street, Route 6A Barnstable, MA 02630 www.capecod.gov/finance

REPORT OF THE BARNSTABLE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

For the Period July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023

Staff

Carol Coppola, Director of Finance/County Treasurer 508-375-6915 | carol.coppola@capecod.gov

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Julie Ferguson, Senior Fiscal Grant Officer 508-375-6975 | jferguson@capecod.gov

Jennifer Frates, Chief Procurement Officer 508-375-6637 | jennifer.frates@capecod.gov

Priscilla Ellis, Finance Assistant 508-375-6975 | pellis@capecod.gov

Kara Mahoney, County Auditor 508-375-6639 | kmahoney@capecod.gov

Naomi Marinelli, Fiscal Grant Officer 774-314-2253 | naomi.marinelli@capecod.gov

Bobbi Mortiz, Fiscal Grant Officer 508-375-6873 | bobbi.mortiz@capecod.gov

Wayne Malcolm, Payroll / Benefits Coordinator (508) 375-6647 | wayne.malcolm@capecod.gov

Patricia Rogers, Assistant Treasurer 508-375-6645 | trogers@capecod.gov

Quan Tobey, Fiscal Grant Officer 508-375-6965 | quan.tobey@capecod.gov

Priority Areas

Financial Accounting

The financial accounting team records, tracks, reports, executes and predicts financial transactions within the County. The team holds responsibility to evaluate, increase, and reinforce internal control compliance.

Grant Management and Administration

Leading with Purpose



To facilitate the exchange of accurate financial information to all members of the public, departments of the County, elected officials and communities served. We are committed to safeguarding the financial interest of the County, to uphold effective budgeting and budgetary controls, preserve and strengthen internal control structures to ensure the integrity of financial and accounting information. The department maintains a high level of compliance with all pertinent federal, state, and local laws and regulations.

Recent accomplishments in FY2023 include the following:

- 1. Implement comprehensive Financial Policies;
- 2. Strengthen controls within treasury and grant management responsibilities;
- 3. Deployment of ERP modules to increase efficiencies and effectiveness:
- 4. Received an unqualified "clean" audit opinion on the County's fiscal year 2022 financial statements.

A team of four professional grant fiscal officers perform a wide range of tasks and hold responsibility for overseeing the entire lifecycle of federal, state and local grants including cooperative agreements and other related instruments.

Procurement

Responsible for providing an open and transparent

procurement process that promotes maximum competition and delivers procurement opportunities to Barnstable County and member communities.

Highlights of the FY 2023 Financial Statements:

- Overall financial results are positive; the County's General Fund, Cape Cod Commission Fund and Dredge Enterprise Fund experienced favorable results;
- General Fund revenue exceeded budget estimates by more than \$3.6 million;
- General Fund expenditures turned back nearly \$2.3 million in unexpended appropriations;
- Cash in the County's treasury at the close of the fiscal year totaled over \$98 million;
- The County's outstanding debt decreased by \$1.9 million;
- The department completed a general obligation borrowing for Bond Anticipation Notes (BANs) for \$4,277,059 at an interest rate of 4.25%
- Grant officers managed 68 grants totaling over \$55.4 million dollars.

The following pages include abbreviated financial statements for Barnstable County for the year ending June 30, 2023. Tax assessments to county municipalities, revenue and expenditure operating budget results, detailed statement on outstanding debt and a report of all funds under the management and control of Barnstable County are included within the Annual Report. These statements reflect the county's financial position in accordance with the Uniform Municipal Accounting System (UMAS), required by the Department of Revenue. Financial records are also maintained to comply with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles and Governmental Accounting Standards. Audited financial reports, and supplementary information can be found on the County's website, https://www.capecod.gov.

The department continues to strengthen and strive for excellence in financial reporting; initiatives in place for the most recent fiscal year, 2023, include preparation of an Annual Comprehensive Finance Report (ACFR). The county's ACFR examines all funds, departments, organizations, offices of elected officials and authorities that make up the county's legal entity. The ACFR is an important tool used to analyze the county's overall financial position for purposes of bond financing and for establishing financial transparency and credibility with its creditors and oversight agencies.

BARNSTABLE COUNTY FY 2023 TAX SCHEDULE									
TOWN	EQUALIZED VALUATIONS	TAX RATE	RATIO	FY 2023 COUNTY TAX	FY 2023 CCEPF TAX	FY 2023 TOTAL TAX	SEMI-ANNUAL COUNTY TAX PAYMENT	SEMI-ANNUAL CCEPF TAX PAYMENT	TOTAL SEMI- ANNUAL TAX
BARNSTABLE	\$16,031,008,100	11.29	16.80%	608,492	652,389	1,260,881	304,246	326,194	630,440
BOURNE	\$5,178,654,100	3.65	5.43%	196,567	210,747	407,315	98,284	105,374	203,657
BREWSTER	\$4,380,442,300	3.08	4.59%	166,269	178,264	344,533	83,135	89,132	172,267
CHATHAM	\$7,904,158,600	5.57	8.28%	300,020	321,663	621,683	150,010	160,832	310,841
DENNIS	\$7,955,584,100	5.60	8.34%	301,972	323,756	625,728	150,986	161,878	312,864
EASTHAM	\$3,250,149,400	2.29	3,41%	123,367	132,266	255,633	61,683	66,133	127,816
FALMOUTH	\$13,186,717,700	9.29	13.82%	500,531	536,639	1,037,170	250,265	268,319	518,585
HARWICH	\$6,396,397,000	4.50	6.70%	242,789	260,304	503,093	121,395	130,152	251,547
MASHPEE	\$5,990,551,100	4.22	6.28%	227,385	243,788	471,173	113,692	121,894	235,586
ORLEANS	\$4,515,570,600	3.18	4.73%	171,398	183,763	355,161	85,699	91,882	177,581
PROVINCETOWN	\$3,620,873,900	2.55	3.79%	137,438	147,353	284,791	68,719	73,676	142,396
SANDWICH	\$4,979,931,300	3.51	5.22%	189,024	202,660	391,685	94,512	101,330	195,842
TRURO	\$2,485,412,200	1.75	2.60%	94,339	101,145	195,484	47,170	50,572	97,742
WELLFLEET	\$2,661,294,900	1.87	2.79%	101,015	108,303	209,318	50,508	54,151	104,659
YARMOUTH	\$6,880,187,700	4.84	7.21%	261,153	279,992	541,145	130,576	139,996	270,572
:	\$95,416,933,000	67.19	100.00%	3,621,760	3,883,032	7,504,792	1,810,880	1,941,516	3,752,396

Dali	iistable Cot						pes and Acco	unt Groups		
For the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2023 (unaudited)										
	General	Cape Cod Commission	Capital Projects	Dredge	Registry of Deeds	ARPA	AquiFund Loan Program	Special Revenue	Long-term Debt	Totals (Memorandum only)
ASSETS										200
Cash and cash equivalents Receivables:	27,678,076	8,139,926	2,356,160	137,425	3,529,467	32,273,816	5,899,488	21,854,246		101,868,604
Departmental	1,887,231	1,435		210,920			13,376,538	5,062,916		20,539,040
Amounts to be provided - payment of bonds									19,466,529	19,466,529
Total Assets	29,565,306	8,141,361	2,356,160	348,345	3,529,467	32,273,816	19,276,026	26,917,162	19,466,529	141,874,173
LIABLITIES AND FUND EQUITY				(ķ.		
Liabilities:					I					
Accounts payable Accrued payroll	325,912 607,914	27,984	40,000	25,470		229,859	222,245	1,863,449		2,734,919 607,914
Withholdings Deferred revenue:	512,109									512,109
Departmental	270,586		14,632	£#			13,376,538	3,562,584		17,224,339
Tailings	10,848	1 1								10,848
Agency Funds		1 1			3,847,608					3,847,608
Notes payable	l .	1 1	4,262,427							4,262,427
Bonds payable									19,466,529	19,466,529
Total Liabilities	1,727,369	27,984	4,317,059	25,470	3,847,608	229,859	13,598,783	5,426,033	19,466,529	48,666,694
Fund Equity: Reserved for encumbrances	138,879	92,227	129,628	281		6,155,649	113,104	3,349,772		9,979,541
Reserved for encumbrances Reserve for W/C Liability	130,079	13,000	129,020	201		0,155,049	113,104	3,349,772		13,000
Reserved Fund Balance	l .	1,666,358	(2,090,527)		(318,141)	25,888,309	5,564,139	18,141,357		48,851,495
Undesignated fund balance	27,699,058	6,341,791	(2,090,527)		(310,141)	23,666,309	3,304,139	10,141,357		34,040,849
Unreserved retained earnings	27,099,000	0,341,791		322,594						322,594
Total Fund Equity	27,837,937	8,113,377	(1,960,899)	322,875	(318,141)	32,043,958	5,677,243	21,491,129		93,207,479
Total Liabilities and Fund Equity	29,565,306	8,141,361	2,356,160	348,345	3,529,467	32,273,816	19,276,026	26,917,162	19,466,529	141,874,173

Barnstable County, Massachusetts

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023 (Unaudited)

		Cape Cod	Capital	\$ 		AguiFund	Special	OPEB &	(Memorandum
	General	Commission	Projects	Dredge	ARPA	Loan Program	Revenue	Stabilization	Only)
Revenues:									
County Commissioners					966,162		25,984		992,14
Information Technology	318,450								318,45
Finance	385,255						8,992	68,779	463,02
Facilities	1,685,003		841,089				3,051	44,77.5	2,529,14
Cooperative Extension	64,497		0.44,003				2,166,550		2,231,04
Registry of Deeds	16,677,669						2,200,220		16,677,66
Health & Environment	841,235					3,757,204	2,156,495		6,754,93
Human Services	0-1,233					3,737,204	2,081,908		2,081,90
Children's Cove							671,903		671,90
Cape Cod Commission		4,208,728					3,826,856		8,035,58
Dredge		4,200,720		942,293			219,708		1,162,00
(1) (1) (1) (Table 1)				942,293					
Public Safety Training							121,497	251 205	121,49
Fringe Benefits							366,396	251,085	617,4
County Tax Assessment	3,621,760								3,621,70
Investment Income	1,284,050						111212017		1,284,03
Miscellaneous	79,299	701000000000000000000000000000000000000		(727)2100200			146,636		225,9
Total Revenue	24,957,218	4,208,728	841,089	942,293	966,162	3,757,204	11,795,976	319,864	47,788,5
Expenditures:									
County Commissioners	1,237,546				9,852,285		1,849,579		12,939,4
Information Technology	1,596,146								1,596,1
Assembly of Delegates	289,174								289,1
Finance	1,455,254						6,605		1,461,8
Facilities	2,296,893		116,895				1,566		2,415,3
Cooperative Extension	2,682,034		100				1,965,921		4,647,9
Registry of Deeds	2,361,771						268,167		2,629,9
Health & Environment	3,536,611		666,195		63,746	5,929,643	1,921,497		12,117,6
Human Services	685,498		********		8,404	- Paralogue - IV	1,663,066		2,356,9
Children's Cove	463,988						554,891		1,018,8
Public Safety Training	168,473						247,087		415,5
Fringe Benefits	1,145,212						18,545		1,163,7
Miscellaneous	677,462						746,051		1,423,5
Debt Service	745,569		14,632				740,031		760,2
Cape Cod Commission	140,503	4,123,517	17,002		10,797		2,976,151		7,110,4
Dredge		A Kenting Fr	574	1,682,361	249,519		276,794		2,208,6
or cogo				1,002,001	279,043		274/137		6,600,0
Total Expenditures	19,341,631	4,123,517	797,721	1,682,361	10,184,751	5,929,643	12,495,920		54,555,54
cess (Deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	5,615,587	85,211	43,368	(740,068)	(9,218,589)	(2,172,439)	(699,944)	319,864	(6,767,0
Other Financing Sources (Uses):									
Operating Transfers in	2,099,725	727,372	293,151	758,333	÷1	643,878	4,302,233	4,846,481	13,671,1
Operating Transfers Out	(8,100,010)	50	(183, 151)		100	(643,878)	(2,424,281)	(108,333)	{11,459,6
Interim Sorrowing	2-				I.		920,165		920,10
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(6,000,285)	727,372	110,000	758,333			2,798,117	4,738,148	3,131,6
cess of revenues and other sources over									
penditures and other uses	(384,697)	812,583	153,368	18,265	(9,218,589)	(2,172,439)	2,098,172	5,058,012	(3,635,33
en not speciment and the in the control to the cont									

Totals

Barnstable County, Massachusetts Schedule of Long-Term Debt For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023 (Unaudited)

	June 30, 2022	Issued	Retired	June 30, 2023
Description				
Totals By Issue Date:				
3/18/2009	900,000		150,000	750,000
11/22/2010	1,073,680		134,210	939,470
11/22/2010	1,620,000		180,000	1,440,000
7/8/2010	1,350,000		150,000	1,200,000
5/22/2013	2,200,000		200,000	2,000,000
5/22/2013	1,650,000		150,000	1,500,000
5/22/2013	2,750,000		250,000	2,500,000
1/7/2015	3,250,000		250,000	3,000,000
9/20/2017	2,360,000		500,000	1,860,000
Totals By Issue Date:	17,153,680	(8)	1,964,210	15,189,470
Totals By Fund:				
General	900,000		365,000	535,000
Dredge Enterprise	1,460,000		135,000	1,325,000
AquiFund Loan Program	14,793,680		1,464,210	13,329,470
Totals By Fund	17,153,680		1,964,210	15,189,470
Totals By Issue Type:				
General Obligation Bond (GOB)	2,360,000		500,000	1,860,000
Mass Clean Water Trust (MCWT)	14,793,680		1,464,210	13,329,470
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	17,153,680	7.6	1,964,210	15,189,470

Barnstable County, Massachusetts Statement of Revenues and Expenditures - Budgetary Basis General Fund

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023 (Unaudited)

	Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
Revenues:			
Information Technology	277,457	318,450	40,993
Finance	118,000	385,255	267,255
Facilities	1,817,380	1,685,003	(132,377)
Cooperative Extension	90,000	64,497	(25,503)
Registry of Deeds	14,230,102	16,677,669	2,447,567
Health & Environment	1,036,254	841,235	(195,019)
County Tax Assessment	3,621,760	3,621,760	(0)
Investment Income	100,000	1,284,050	1,184,050
Miscellaneous	6,300	79,299	72,999
Total Revenues	21,297,253	24,957,218	3,659,965
Expenditures:			
County Commissioners	1,283,514	1,237,546	45,968
Information Technology	1,638,017	1,596,146	41,871
Assembly of Delegates	336,077	289,174	46,903
Finance	1,492,899	1,455,254	37,645
Facilities	2,851,987	2,296,893	555,094
Cooperative Extension	2,848,751	2,682,034	166,717
Registry of Deeds	2,617,445	2,361,771	255,674
Health & Environment	4,003,258	3,536,611	466,647
Human Services	847,032	685,498	161,534
Children's Cove	543,798	463,988	79,810
Public Safety Training	296,877	168,473	128,404
Fringe Benefits	1,199,367	1,145,212	54,155
Miscellaneous	903,155	677,462	225,693
Debt Obligations	778,211	745,569	32,642
Total Expenditures	21,640,388	19,341,631	2,298,757
Excess of revenues over expenditures	(343,135)	5,615,587	5,958,722
Other Financing Sources (Uses):			
Operating Transfers in	8,207,267	2,099,725	(6,107,542)
Operating Transfers (out)	(8,099,509)	(8,100,010)	(501)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	107,758	(6,000,285)	(6,108,043)

Barnstable County, Massachusetts Statement of Revenues and Expenditures - Budgetary Basis Cape Cod Commission

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023 (Unaudited)

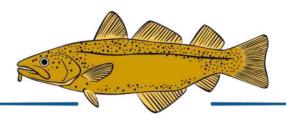
	Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
Revenues:			
Environmental Protection Tax	3,883,026	3,883,032	6
License Plate Fund	200,000	200,000	-
Regulatory Fee	125,000	88,150	(36,850)
Miscellaneous	15,000	37,546	22,546
Total Revenues	4,223,026	4,208,728	(14,298)
Expenditures:			
Cape Cod Admin & Indirect Costs	3,116,512	2,581,750	534,762
Planning	862,574	442,217	420,357
Grant Match	74,025	70,936	3,089
Regulatory	611,048	499,035	112,013
Natural Resources	363,814	161,691	202,123
Transportation	311,595	27,772	283,823
Strategic Information Office	511,368	288,098	223,270
Economic Development	192,498	52,017	140,481
Totals By Fund	6,043,434	4,123,517	1,919,917
Excess of revenues over expenditures	(1,820,408)	85,211	1,905,619
Other Financing Sources (Uses):			
Operating Transfers in (indirect cost recovery)	1,726,512	727,372	(999,140)
Operating Transfers (out)			
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	1,726,512	727,372	(999,140)
			51

Barnstable County, Massachusetts Statement of Revenues and Expenditures - Budgetary Basis Dredge Enterprise Fund For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023 (Unaudited)

	Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
Revenues:			
Operating Revenue	1,366,950	941,267	(425,683)
Investment Income	15,000	7.5	(15,000)
Miscellaneous	(E)	1,026	1,026
Total Revenues	1,381,950	942,293	(439,657)
Expenditures:			
Operating Expenses	1,563,001	1,167,252	395,749
Debt Service	295,833	314,273	(18,440)
Fringe Benefits	277,089	196,476	80,613
Indirect Costs	7,758	7,758	
Totals By Fund	2,143,681	1,685,759	457,922
Excess of revenues over expenditures	(761,731)	(743,466)	18,265
Other Financing Sources (Uses):			
Operating Transfers in	758,333	758,333	
Operating Transfers (out)		100	
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	758,333	758,333	







BARNSTABLE COUNTY

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT

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508-375-6613 | Fax: 508-362-2603

Laboratory Fax: 508-362-7103

www.capecod.gov/healthandenvironment

REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT

For the Period July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023

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Fiscal Year 2023 in Review

The mission of Barnstable County Department of Health and Environment (BCDHE) is to promote a healthy Cape Cod community through disease prevention and control, health and safety education, environmental protection, and emergency preparedness. Fiscal Year 2023 (FY23) marked the second year of post-pandemic response including uninterrupted COVID-19 contact tracing and continued adaptation of regional public health programs and services, under the supervision of newly appointed Public Health Nurse Wendy Judd. The Department also began to refocus its efforts on important environmental and emergency response initiatives, which are vital to the protection of Cape Cod's fragile ecosystem and the safety of its citizens.

In February of 2023, the Department received funding through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to bolster existing programs and services and introduce new initiatives. Funds were approved to support a public health nursing program needs assessment, a new contract epidemiologist, the establishment of Aquifund to assist homeowners in meeting clean water goals, emergency preparedness upgrades, regional water initiative management, water quality laboratory enhancements, harmful algal bloom assessment and monitor.

ring, a Responsible Management Entity (RME) for innovative/alternative septic systems, advancements in research and development at the Massachusetts Alternative Septic System Test Center (MASSTC), and PFAS identification and analysis.

While the Department has provided low interest loans for septic system installations and upgrades for roughly 17 years via the Community Septic System Loan Program (CSMLP), Title 5 regulatory changes in FY23 intended to improve water quality in our region called for program expansion, enhancement, and rebranding. Now known as Aquifund, the program offers zero to low interest loans for septic system installations and upgrades to innovative/alternative septic systems, as well as new sewer connections. Aquifund is intended to support homeowners in the ongoing effort to improve water quality of Cape Cod's sole source aquifer and recreational water bodies and reduce degradation from human influences.

The Water Quality Laboratory continues to expand its offerings to advance water quality monitoring capabilities in our region. In FY23, new instruments were purchased including liquid chromatography with tandem mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS) for analysis of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in drinking water. These "forever chemicals" are an emerging health threat nationwide, calling for increasing research, regulation, and highly specialized monitoring, which the Laboratory intends to offer in FY24.

The Department was proud to establish the Community Services Division in FY23. Partially funded by the Public Health Excellence Grant and additional funds obtained to create a Public Health Training Hub, the Division aims to assist local health departments in raising standards through strengthened collaboration, maximized use of available technology, stabilization of resources, and improvements to public health workforce training and credentialing.

Administration

The Administration Division oversees the Department's budget and programs and provides an avenue through which citizens and towns can directly access services and information relative to public health and the environment. In FY23, the Administrative Division continued to support bathing beach monitoring, the Massachusetts Alternative Septic System Test Center (MASSTC), assistance with hoarding, public health screening for at-risk populations, public health emergency preparedness efforts and Aquifund.

The Division provides operational, fiscal, communications and

and personnel oversight, serving first as the financial center, preparing, and managing the annual budget and the capital plan. This includes oversight of federal and state grant procurement across the various divisions. Those divisions are staffed with 43 full and part-time employees as well as 14 seasonal personnel.

FY23 brought a new emphasis on public health communication as well as the need to convey environmental issues in a timely and accurate manner. Health Communications Coordinator Bethany Traverse uses various channels, including the department website, social media, and conventional press to spread information about the department's programs, public health information from our partner agencies, as well as communicable disease data, ensuring access to accurate and trustworthy information for the residents of Cape Cod and beyond. Ms. Traverse also serves as Public Information Officer for the Barnstable County Regional Emergency Planning Committee (BCREPC).

In FY23 the Division bid farewell to long-time Executive Assistant Barbara Austin, who provided valuable service and an enormous contribution to the success of departmental operations. Katarina Soldatov resumed the position; Ms. Soldatov previously worked as an administrative assistant in the Water Quality Laboratory.

Environmental Health

Inspectional and Shared Services

Barnstable County Department of Health and Environment field staff members maintain the readiness and certifications necessary to assume health agent responsibilities in any town whose needs require assistance for routine services, technical assistance, or special projects. The Department's close and regular communication with local Boards of Health and their agents makes such events seamless to the public.

In addition to general support services, department inspectors conducted over 1,000 restaurant/retail food establishment and swimming pool inspections across Barnstable County during the summer season, including complaint follow-up and repeat inspections when necessary. The pandemic was still a consideration in FY23, making it necessary for inspectors to learn and master constantly evolving regulations and quidelines related to COVID-19.

Public health concerns throughout the region, including those related to drinking water, added to the tasks required of seasonal inspectors and gave them an opportunity to further educate residents and visitors about the importance of preserving and protecting our natural resources.

Landfill Monitoring

Coordinated by Senior Environmental Health Specialist Lynn Mulkeen, Department staff perform ground and surface water sampling for eleven Cape Cod towns to meet the consistently stringent post-closure and operational landfill monitoring requirements. This ongoing program supplies continued surveillance of groundwater across the region and establishes data trends important in recognizing any emerging concerns.

Annually, more than 600 water wells and surface water sites are sampled as part of this program. Additionally, the Department provides specialized monitoring of soil gases required as part of the landfill closure process to five towns resulting in over 500 soil gas readings being collected.

Bathing Beach Water Quality Monitoring

The Bathing Beach Monitoring Program serves the towns in Barnstable County through weekly collection and analysis of water samples from the towns' public and semi-public beaches. Water samples are analyzed at the Barnstable County Water Quality Laboratory. The Program notifies town health agents and semi-public beach operators when sample results exceed the bacteriological limits set by the Massachusetts Bathing Beach Regulations. When an exceedance occurs, the Program staff immediately resamples the affected beach and continues this action until results meet state requirements. More than 350 beaches across Cape Cod are sampled every week in the summer months.

In FY23, the task of overseeing this extensive program was executed by Environmental Project Assistant Jennifer McMullin. This summer, with the help of a team of five seasonal field/laboratory analysts, over 4,500 samples were collected and analyzed. Testing results are published daily on the County Health Department website as well as on the Massachusetts Department of Public Health statewide beaches website.



Beach Sampler/Analyst John Shea at Seaview Beach in Yarmouth collecting a water sample.



Beach Sampler/Analysts Lucas McCauley and Kaitlyn Lyons pipetting water samples for dilution.

Also, in FY23, new beach water quality signs were designed and distributed to the towns to be posted at their public beaches. The signs feature a new interactive QR code for beachgoers to scan. The code links to the Barnstable County Bathing Beach Water Quality page where visitors can learn more about the Beach Monitoring Program, including daily testing results.



Beach Sampler/Analyst John Shea at Seaview Beach in Yarmouth collecting a water sample.

For more information regarding the Bathing Beach Monitoring Program, please visit

https://www.capecod.gov/departments/healthenvironment/programs-services/water-andwastewater/bathing-beach-water-quality/.

Rabies Awareness and the Cape Cod Oral Rabies Vaccination Program

The Barnstable County Department of Health and Environment, in conjunction with the Cape Cod and Southeast Massachusetts Rabies Task force (CCSMRTF), continues to coordinate with local health directors, animal control officers and natural resource officers to contain terrestrial rabies on Cape Cod with a goal of pushing it farther west and north. The task force, co-chaired by the Department's Deputy Director Erika A. Woods and Zak Mertz, Executive Director of the Birdsey Cape Wildlife Center, continues to meet regularly to develop strategies and procedures to address terrestrial rabies to include the promotion and coordination of annual rabies clinics that are hosted in partnership with town agencies.

In addition to education and policy, the CCSMRTF works with USDA Wildlife Services, supported by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, to coordinate semi-annual distribution of the Oral Rabies Vaccine (ORV). Approximately 80,000 ORV baits were distributed across Bourne, Sandwich, Falmouth, Barnstable, Plymouth, Wareham, Carver, Kingston, Middleboro, Rochester, Marion, and Lakeville via helicopter and by hand (ground vehicles and bait stations). These vaccines are not harmful to wildlife or domestic animals and



A helicopter gets ready to perform aerial distribution of the Oral Rabies Vaccine (ORV).

will provide rabies immunity to raccoons, coyotes, skunks, fox and other terrestrial mammals that ingest the vaccine. This program is part of a national effort to stop the expansion of rabies into new areas of the country.

The Cape Cod Hoarding Task Force

Hoarding disorder (HD) is estimated to affect two to six percent of the population. Characterized by the inability to discard possessions resulting in an accumulation of items that compromises the intended use of living areas, HD creates distress in daily functioning and poses risks to the health and environment of individuals in and around the home, as well as first responders. The illness is often associated with the early stages of dementia and Alzheimer's Disease and not only impacts individuals, families, and neighbors; it poses risks of enhanced fire danger, degraded indoor air quality, compromised structural integrity, and increased strain on town resources.

Chaired by Deputy Director, Erika A. Woods and overseen by a seven-member executive committee, the mission of the CCHTF is to provide education, collaboration, and support for those affected by hoarding through accessible tools, referrals, and resources. With an estimated 8,500 Cape residents affected by HD, the Task Force continues to provide professional training, community outreach and support for the many self-help groups across Barnstable County. The Task Force regularly fields calls and emails from individuals struggling with hoarding, concerned family members, service providers, housing agencies and municipalities from each town on Cape Cod.

Public Health Excellence & Training Hub

The Massachusetts Public Health Excellence Grant (PHE) was created to expand sharing of staff and resources between multiple towns to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of local and regional public health through the development of a fully trained workforce.

In FY23, Katie O'Neill assumed the role of Public Health Shared Services Manager for the Public Health Excellence Grant. Ms. O'Neill is also assisting with the Field Training Hub grant. Maddyline Bourgeois came on board as the Shared Services Administrative Assistant.

The Cape Public Health Collaborative (PHC), formally known as the Barnstable County Public Health Excellence group, now includes 12 of the 15 Cape Cod towns: Bourne, Brewster, Chatham, Dennis, Eastham, Harwich, Mashpee, Orleans, Provincetown, Sandwich, Truro, and Wellfleet. IN FY23 the Cape PHC began implementing Relevant Systems

Inspectional Software to create a uniform approach to food establishment inspections throughout the towns. Additionally, iPads were purchased for each town for onsite operation of the proposed inspectional software. Each participating town also received updated equipment for food establishment and swimming pool inspections.

The Field Training Hub provides local public health professionals with standardized, hands-on competency training in the areas of housing, food, wastewater, and more. It is anticipated that the training hub staff will begin providing field training to Barnstable County, the Islands, and parts of Southeast Massachusetts in late fall 2023.

Wastewater Division

Massachusetts Alternative Septic System Test Center

In operation since 1999, the Massachusetts Alternative Septic System Test Center (MASSTC) has been on the cutting edge of researching and testing technologies that remove contaminants from wastewater discharged through onsite septic systems. As the nation's premier test-bed for academic institutions and private industry alike, the Test Center diverts untreated wastewater from Joint Base Cape Cod where it is used to simulate residential wastewater influent. This allows for the active investigation and development of products that focus on nitrogen reduction to protect sensitive marine resources.

In FY23, MASSTC installed two additional test systems for a Clean Water Act Section 319 grant project started in FY22, entitled "Encouraging the Use of Lignocellulose (Wood) Based Onsite Septic Systems for Nitrogen-Sensitive Environments by Demonstrating Concurrent Contaminant Removal That Justifies More Economical Means for Effluent Disposal." This project is supporting the construction of reduced size final disposal systems associated with some innovative/alternative septic systems at MASSTC.

MASSTC "Phosphorus Project," also supported through Section 319 grant funds, concluded in FY23. The grant in part provided subsidies for several homeowners to install and test experimental phosphorus-removal septic systems at their homes.

Three interns were hosted at MASSTC this year to assist with new and expanding grant projects. Kate Donovan-Mahar assisted Bryan Horsley with operator tasks. Lisa Chen assisted Alexie Rudman with the Responsible Management Entity (RME Program). Jacob Athamni assisted Sara Wigginton and Abigail Collyer in the virus laboratory.



MASSTC staff and interns perform sampling at Shubael Pond (from left to right: Sara Wigginton, Lisa Chen, Alexie Rudman, Kate Donovan-Mahar, and Bryan Horsley)



Brian Baumgaertel (left) and Bryan Horsley (right) take a groundwater sample near a septic system.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) Science to Achieve Results (STAR) grant, awarded in FY22, has allowed MASSTC to continue work started under a previous Section 319 grant to assist EPA in determining the efficacy for using onsite and decentralized wastewater treatment systems for water reuse purposes. Work on this project is expanding its dataset in FY23, comparing the treatment of pathogens from various soil depths, decentralized technologies, and large wastewater treatment plants. There is also an ongoing collaboration with MassDEP's Wall Experiment Station in Lawrence, whose staff will use droplet digital (ddPCR) and quantitative polymerase chain



Abigail Collyer (left) demonstrates virus sampling procedure for visiting STEM teachers (right).



George Heufelder climbs into a riser at MASSTC to take a subground level sample for the virus project.

reaction (qPCR) analyses to assay human pathogenic enteric adenoviruses and noroviruses. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) Science to Achieve Results (STAR) grant, awarded in FY22, has allowed MASSTC to continue work started under a EP's Wall Experiment Station in Lawrence, whose staff will use droplet digital (ddPCR) and quantitative polymerase chain.



Bryan Horsley samples an I/A septic system at Shubael Pond.

A large factor in the success of MASSTC's projects is the involvement of staff in education and outreach. In FY23 several MASSTC staff were honored to be a part of multiple conferences and events in FY23, including:

WaterWORKS 2023 Career Day sponsored by Cape Cod Blue Economy Foundation at the Cape Cod Community College in its continuing efforts to inspire the next generation's passion for wastewater.

Cape Cod Natural History Conference (CCNH) in March: RME Coordinator Alexie Rudman and Test Center Operator Bryan Horsley presented "A Watershed Moment for Wastewater: An Overview of Historic Wastewater Management on Cape Cod and New Approaches for Addressing the Nutrient Crisis."

Massachusetts Environmental Health Association: MASSTC's RME Coordinator Alexie Rudman and the Nature Conservancy's Emma Gildesgame presented "Expanding the Nutrient Reduction Toolbox: Nature Based Approaches and Next Generation Septic on Cape Cod".

Also in FY23, MASSTC Staff were honored to be part of a number of media publications including an article in the New York Times (A Toxic Stew on Cape Cod: Human Waste and Warming Water, January 1, 2023) and in the Boston Globe (Healey administration unveils new permit system to address Cape water pollution, June 21, 2023). These articles highlight the important work that MASSTC continues to do in addressing water pollution on Cape Cod. Brian Baumgaertel also joined The Point, a radio show for WCAI, on July 13, 2022 to discuss managing wastewater.

On May 8, 2023, and June 22, 2023, MASSTC hosted two live



RME Coordinator Alexie Rudman leads a presentation at the CCNH.

online podcasts for their show "Potty Talk". Both podcasts were well-received by online audiences. MASSTC also produced three homeowner-aimed, cartoon-style informational short videos, titled "What is the RME?", "What is an Innovative/Alternative Septic System?", and "The Basics of Wastewater".

Members of the public are invited to schedule tours of MASSTC, which hosted over 25 tours on site in its continuing efforts to educate the public on the critical issue of wastewater infrastructure and water quality action.



Bryan Horsley discusses advanced septic technology to a group tour.

Finally, MASSTC was pleased to host a group of goats from GoatGreen Cape Cod, to clear an area that will serve as the foundation for its newest building. The goats were essential in removing poison ivy that threatened MASSTC staff and supported MASSTC' mission to use more environmentally friendly methods to solve issues.



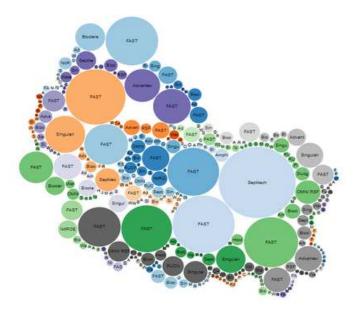
Administrative Assistant Tracy Long wrangles three goats tasked with removing poison ivy from testing areas at MASSTC.

Innovative/Alternative Septic System Education and Tracking

Concurrent with ongoing research and development efforts underway at the Massachusetts Alternative Septic System Test Center (MASSTC) and in conjunction with the region-wide EPA Section 208 Plan implementation, the Department assists towns with monitoring their I/A septic systems at no cost. An internet database was developed to collect inspection reports and effluent monitoring results, and it also allows regulators the ability to track compliance for 4,200 active and over 5,000 total I/A systems across the Cape, Islands and Southeastern Massachusetts.

The Program's exceptionally large monitoring dataset currently houses over 50,000 sample reports and allows for a detailed analysis of applicable septic systems. An online charting system makes the data more easily accessible for boards of health and the public at https://septic.barnstablecountyhealth.org.

The Department had previously finalized a contract with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to track all pilot and provisionally approved systems in the Commonwealth, enabling DEP to evaluate newer I/A technologies more efficiently. All Pilot Use and Provisional Use systems are now tracked in the database.



This System County Bubble Diagram shows the number and types of I/A systems throughout the Cape and Islands. To view the interactive diagram, visit

https://septic.barnstablecountyhealth.org/charts/bubblecounts.

AquiFund

The Community Septic Management Loan Program (CSMLP) has undergone a rebranding as AquiFund, in reference to Cape Cod's sole source aquifer. After 17 years and over \$60 million in low-interest loans distributed for septic system repairs and replacements on Cape Cod, AquiFund expanded to include loans for the installation of innovative/alternative technologies, as well as sewer connections. This expansion is in response to the growing problem of nitrogen pollution in the bays, estuaries, and ponds across Cape Cod that will require residents to upgrade or replace their current septic systems or connect to town sewers.



Formerly the Community Septic Management Loan Program, AquiFund offers 0% and low interest loans (based on eligibility) for septic system installations, upgrades, and new sewer connections.

AquiFund now offers 0%, 2%, 4%, and 5% interest rate loans for new program applicants. All loans are still subject to the 20-year maximum repayment term. Other terms and conditions may apply.

AquiFund was made possible by enactment of the Open Space Bond Bill of 1996. This law appropriated \$40 million to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) to assist qualified homeowners with defraying the cost of Title 5 regulatory compliance. In turn, MassDEP used the appropriation to fund loans through the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust (MCWT). In 2006, the County secured special legislation allowing AquiFund to borrow money directly from the MCWT.

To date, AquiFund has provided loans for over 4,850 septic system repair and sewer hook-up projects. Program funds from the state remain available into the foreseeable future, allowing AquiFund to continue providing an effective and efficient means of assisting area residents with often cost-prohibitive yet essential septic system and sewer connection requirements.

Two new staff members were onboarded in FY23; Alice Ryan was hired as the AquiFund Program Manager in May of 2023, and Pilar Ahmann joined the team as AquiFund Loan Specialist in July of 2023. The addition of two new staff members continues to benefit the program's success since the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) amended Title 5 septic system regulations to include stricter standards as means of protecting the region's water from nitrogen pollution. These regulatory changes are leading municipalities to install sewers and require some homeowners to upgrade their existing septic systems to innovative/alternative (I/A) technologies.

It is important to note that the Cape Cod AquiFund Program is self-supporting through interest earned from loan program enrollment, thus saving taxpayers all operation costs and staff salaries. Additional savings include all associated legal expenses and recording fees at the Registry of Deeds. For more information about AquiFund, or to apply online, please visit our website: www.capecod.gov/aquifund.

Responsible Management Entity (RME)

With generous funding from The Nature Conservancy and EPA's Southern New England Program, the Massachusetts Alternative Septic System Technology Center (MASSTC) began developing a regional Responsible Management Entity (RME) to facilitate the continued proper design, installation, operation, maintenance, and performance of Innovative/Alternative (I/A) and Enhanced I/A (EIA) systems on Cape Cod. The intent of this program is to develop a

for the continued performance of I/A systems that water resource managers will increasingly rely on to meet environmental goals. Innovative/alternative septic systems are among a suite of technologies being deployed in southeastern New England (and beyond) to address excess nutrient loading to coastal waters.

As the designated RME for Barnstable County, MASSTC has been working with five pilot towns and neighborhoods across Barnstable County to inform and create a transferrable management model for these decentralized systems that can be expanded and replicated in other municipalities. This pilot is being conducted in the towns of Bourne, Wellfleet, Brewster, and Falmouth, and in the Shubael Pond neighborhood in Barnstable. MA.

The success of the RME pilot relies on three key components: technology, management, and public outreach and engagement. On the public outreach and engagement front, much of FY23 was spent engaging with stakeholders across state, regional, and local levels to introduce the concept of an RME, describe what an RME pilot might look like, solicit questions and feedback from different audiences, and develop communication products to begin answering these questions.

Test Center staff have participated in multiple formal and informal events (including five regional conferences), hosted Q&A sessions, developed a series of public-facing communication products (videos, a podcast, factsheets, articles and a web platform), and cultivated new relationships in the region. On the management front, the program has been implemented in the Shubael Pond neighborhood of Barnstable as part of a US EPA pilot project, giving valuable insight on operation and management procedures for scaling up the RME pilot in other towns.



RME Coordinator Alexie Rudman leads a presentation at the Massachusetts Environmental Health Association.

On the technology front, a group of experts have been convened from federal and local government, academia, and regional interest groups for a Recommended Technologies Panel. This panel will help identify parameters for analyzing performance data on I/A systems collected in Barnstable County, which will be used to select technologies for incorporation into the RME Pilot. Technologies will be regularly evaluated throughout the lifespan of the RME program at MASSTC for inclusion into the program.

A utility fee rate calculation model is in development. In the meantime, staff continue to hold meetings with financial experts from The Nature Conservancy, pursue grant funding, and facilitate discussions with state regulators related to helping towns and homeowners leverage state funding sources for I/A system upgrades.

Water Quality Laboratory

The Barnstable County Water Quality Laboratory provides analytical services to Barnstable County's private residents and municipalities alike. Certified by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP), the Laboratory provides analysis for many common biological and chemical contaminants. The Laboratory's mission is to protect the public health from exposure to environmental and anthropogenic contamination through monitoring and analysis of the Cape's drinking water supplies, groundwater, and surface water sources. In FY23, the Barnstable County Laboratory received over 19,000 samples and performed over 100,000 individual analyses.

Through providing high quality analyses of potentially harmful contaminants in drinking water, the Laboratory assists water departments on Cape Cod in meeting monitoring requirements necessary for adherence to state and federal water quality standards. Water departments benefit from the flexibility of the Laboratory to assist when periodic problems arise, such as the seasonal and transient occurrences of bacterial contamination in their water systems.

The Laboratory also provides analytical services to owners of private drinking water wells and weekly sample pick-up in Wellfleet, Truro, Eastham, Brewster, Falmouth, and Mashpee.

In addition to drinking water, the Laboratory provides wastewater analysis for the Massachusetts Alternate Septic System Test Center and several other wastewater treatment and monitoring entities. In FY23, the Laboratory conducted analyses of a wide variety of environmental samples including bathing beach samples, landfill monitoring samples, shellfish harvesting area samples, pond and lake samples, and swimming pool and spa samples. The Laboratory also ana-



Laboratory Assistant Teagan Connelly answers questions from the public about their well water test.

lyzed samples associated with a state-run initiative to monitor lead in school drinking water. Finally, the Laboratory has been supporting local health agents' management decisions with regards to harmful algal blooms in our freshwater ponds by providing cyanotoxin analysis.

In recent years per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), aka "forever chemicals", have become a great health concern to the residents of Cape Cod. In response, the Laboratory purchased a state-of-the-art liquid chromatograph tandem mass spectrometer (LC-MS/MS) to analyze for these contaminants of emerging concern. The Laboratory plans to begin testing for PFAS in drinking water in FY24.



Chemist Andrew Barker works on the Laboratory's new LC-MS/MS to test drinking water for PFAS contaminants.

Public Health Nursing Division

Wendy Judd RN, BSN joined the Department's Public Health Nursing (PHN) Division as the lead Public Health Nurse in October of 2023. Wendy brings over thirty years of Maternal Child Health and Ambulatory clinical experience to the position. Programs and services of the Public Health Nursing Division include the Tick-borne Disease Prevention Program, the Public Immunization Program, the Sun Safety and Skin Cancer Awareness and Prevention Program, the Municipal Health Group Biometric Screening Program, the Ask a Public Health Nurse Program, public safety personnel services, OSHA standard bloodborne pathogen/communicable disease training for public and private sector workers, subsidized housing preventative health screenings, disease surveillance and blood pressure clinics, the COVID-19 and Monkeypox Helpline, and our quarterly Community Health Newsletter. Division outreach efforts also include conducting health fairs and speaking at a wide range of venues.



Rita Mitchell, one of the Division's contract nurses, staffs the Sun Safety and Tick Awareness Table at Mashpee Night Out.

The Division's Public Immunization Program continues to provide a cost effective, convenient option to anyone seeking vaccination, including those without insurance. The program also provides free immunizations through the Federal Vaccine for Children Program (VFC). Free vaccines administered through the VFC program included a total of 1,047 immunizations to 513 children and adolescents. The Program also offers all travel vaccines and is listed on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) travel clinic website.

In FY23, a total of 249 travel vaccines were administered. As a Mass Health and Medicare provider that also collaborates

with the UMass Medical School for Health Care Financing, the Program can bill most major insurance carriers when applicable.

FY23 saw the official end of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency. The Division continues to provide adult recommended vaccinations and immunizations for students. Due to capacity issues at many local pediatric practices, the Division has stepped up to provide childhood immunizations for families that might not otherwise be able to access them. The Division has also been working with School Districts and Community Outreach organizations in the County to catch children up on their recommended vaccination schedules. Some examples of these initiatives include increased efforts for immunization of children, teens, and adults who are working on their immigration applications, as well onsite School Immunization Programs and immunization outreach programs in collaboration with the Hyannis Fire Department and Barnstable Schools.



Members of the Public Health Nursing Division provide catchup immunizations at the Hyannis Fire Department's Touch-a-Truck event.

The Division continued to provide several vital services that were initiated during the pandemic, including Covid-19 and communicable disease case management for all Provincetown and Wellfleet residents. Rabies vaccination was provided to various members of the town's animal control officers in addition to TB testing for fire, police, Cape Cod Community College, and Certified Nursing Assistant (CAN) training programs. The Public Health Nursing team was also involved in various bloodborne pathogen initial and annual training for County employees.

The Division began its 3rd year of a \$500,000 state grant to or-

ganize a shared services program for Covid-19 case investigation and contact tracing in all 15 towns through the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MA DPH). Three contact tracers were hired and to date, eight towns have joined our collaborative efforts. The contact tracers have also been involved in working with skilled nursing facilities, residential programs, and early children education centers.

Going forward into FY24, the Contact Tracer/Community Resource Coordinators scope of services was amended and now supports other core health activities for towns across the Cape. Starting this past December, the Community Resource Coordinators, along with multiple town health agents, began working towards enhancing the Cape Cod Hoarding Task Force (CCHTF). Their efforts included the following:

- Weekly workshops in Harwich and Mashpee starting in early March June (16 weeks)
- Scheduling, advertising, and attending CCHTF listening sessions for municipal and non-profit organizations to determine hoarding support needs; 4 sessions were conducted in early May covering the Upper, Mid, Lower, Outer regions of Cape Cod.
- Planning for four hoarding workshops scheduled for FY24 in the towns of Falmouth, Sandwich, Dennis, and Orleans.

The Community Resource Coordinators also continue to:

- Collaborate with the Dennis Senior Center on PEARLS (Program to Encourage Active Rewarding Lives) coaching program to reduce social isolation in older adults, with the goal of expanding to other public health interventions i.e., hoarding, self-care, etc. Social isolation has been documented as one of the sequalae of the COVID epidemic and impacts many in Barnstable County.
- Conduct bi-weekly MAVEN training with MADPH.
- Discuss and develop plans for upcoming Public Health Nursing Needs Assessments.
- Create paper-based educational materials on public health topics for Wellfleet Health Department to give to residents, while working with other town health agents to replicate the materials as needed across the remaining 14 towns of Barnstable County.
- Collaborate with the Shared Services Division to develop the "Wicked Wellness" monthly flyer for health awareness and disease prevention. This communication tool focuses on the 2023 calendar of HealthNet National Observances. These are

then distributed to the health agents across Cape, posted on our Public Health Nursing Division web page, and shared across Department social media platforms for public awareness.

 Attend Cape & Islands Health Agents Coalition meetings monthly.

The Division continued distribution of Covid-19 vaccine which was started in January of 2021. In FY23, 59 COVID-19 and Flu clinics were held, resulting in administration of 1,000 COVID-19 boosters and 2,000 flu immunizations.

In FY23 the Division's Ask a Public Health Nurse Program continued to operate out of local food pantries across Barnstable County and provide needed access to a health professional for screenings and related wellness resources. Services included blood pressure screenings, glucose testing, health counseling, distribution of relevant educational materials regarding illness prevention, and other valuable community health resources. Specific sites that benefit this program include Saint David's Pantry, Brewster Baptist Church and Council on Aging, Bourne Coady School Residences, Chatham Center for Active Living, Saint Christophers church, Eastham Council on Aging, Eastham Library and Methodist church, Hyannis Faith Family Kitchen, Falmouth Service Center, Harwich Family Pantry, Orleans Katys Korner, Orleans Methodist church, Truro Community Center, Wellfleet Grace Chapel Community Dinner, Provincetown Methodist Church, and the Provincetown Mobile Pantry. The Division also supported the Buy Fresh Buy Local grant through the Cooperative Extension by providing weekly health screening services and nutritional education to the towns of Eastham, Orleans, Wellfleet, Truro, and Provincetown over a 16-week period from March 2023 through June 2023.

As in previous years, the Ask a Public Health Nurse Program collaborated in FY23 with the Hunger Network and Lower Cape Outreach to provide an onsite chronic disease monitoring program called Foods to Encourage (FTE) in several locations. By participating in FTE, clients with hypertension, diabetes, and pre-diabetes have access to weekly blood pressure and glucose testing, as well as health counseling, nutrition education, and a bag of produce. The FTE program is offered a Harwich Family Pantry, Falmouth Service Center, Orleans Methodist Church pantry, and the Brewster Council on Aging.

As the pandemic eased the Division was again able to expand on-site public health education opportunities in FY23. The Division offered tick and Lyme education along with sun-safety to 2,507 students and staff of Barnstable County schools via in-person presentations. In-person events at Nauset Highschool, Harwich Elementary School, local farmers'

markets, and councils on aging served another 528 individuals. Lyme disease is endemic in this region, making education about tick-borne illness prevention vitally important.

In collaboration with the Municipal Health Group, the Division offers vital biometric screenings to all municipal employees through the Municipal Health Group Biometric Screening Program. Biometric screenings include blood pressure, pulse, glucose, cholesterol, bone density, skin analysis. All screenings include health counseling and up-to-date informative literature. The County Cooperative Extension nutritionist provides education and samples of healthy eating.

Cape Cod Regional Tobacco Control Program

Cardiovascular disease and lung cancer are the leading causes of death in both men and women in the United States, yet both are preventable simply by avoiding tobacco use. Further, the current use of vaping products has reached epidemic levels, warranting a strong effort to educate the public about the inherent dangers of these devices. These realities brought about the Cape Cod Regional Tobacco Control Program (CCRTCP).

Under the direction of Robert Collett, CCRTCP is supported through a state grant administered by the Department on behalf of all Cape Cod towns (with the exception of Dennis), Martha's Vineyard, Nantucket, Plymouth and Wareham. The Program's education efforts include an annual visit to each tobacco merchant in all 23 communities within the service area and assisting local boards of health with promulgation and implementation of tobacco control regulations. Visits were made to all 385 tobacco merchants in the region to provide education regarding local, State of MA and Federal Tobacco Retail Laws. A total of 385 tobacco sales compliance checks (utilized to assure compliance with youth access laws) were conducted within the service area. Violators were rechecked for compliance.

The Program also investigated 3 complaints of violations of the MA Indoor Workplace Smoking Law, sharing findings with respective local Boards of Health. Additionally, CCRTCP works with other local public health/prevention collaboratively to implement comprehensive substance abuse prevention strategies and offers public education addressing the use of tobacco and other nicotine delivery products, including e-cigarettes, otherwise known as vaping devices. The Program Director often consults with other Massachusetts communities providing technical assistance and guidance with tobacco control regulations and enforcement.

The CCRTCP consistently serves as a model within the

Commonwealth of Massachusetts and with our federal partners. For more information regarding the Massachusetts Tobacco Control Program, please visit www.makesmokinghistory.org.

Cape Cod Medical Reserve Corps

In FY23, the Cape Cod Medical Reserve Corps (CCMRC) began its 3rd decade of service to the region, continuing its mission to engage volunteers to strengthen public health and emergency response and to build community resiliency. Director, Diana Gaumond and Volunteer Coordinator, Marypat Kane-Oropallo continue to lead CCMRC. Administrative Assistant Kathleen Galligan retired early in FY23; her service is much appreciated.

Volunteers come to the CCMRC with a wealth and variety of experience. They work in both clinical and non-clinical roles, bringing compassion and expertise wherever they are needed. Many volunteers stepped forward to assist with immunization clinics for flu, COVID-19, and mpox. MRC volunteers were on hand to welcome migrants to Joint Base Cape Cod when they were transferred from Martha's Vineyard. The CCMRC volunteers also provided support to the Pan Mass Challenge and joined the ranks of the medical teams at the Falmouth Road Race.

One vital role of CCMRC volunteers is staffing emergency shelters, usually related to severe weather events. Volunteers were on standby in early February when an Arctic blast brought us dangerous cold and in March when winter storm Sage threatened to impact the Cape. The CCMRC members participate in shelter training to prepare for deployments when needed.

Training is an important component in achieving CCMRC's mission. Volunteers are trained in CPR, emergency preparedness, Narcan use, Stop the Bleed, and the Incident Command System (ICS). Some volunteers go on to join our teams of trainers. This enables us to go into the community and provide classes in CPR, AED use, Choke Saving, and Stop the Bleed. We also provide tick and Lyme education to summer camp staff members.



Medical Reserve Corps volunteers participate in a Choke Saver training.



Medical Reserve Corps staff and volunteers participate in a Stop the Bleed training.

The CCMRC is grateful for the time and effort given to the community by our talented volunteers and always welcomes others to join our team.

Emergency Preparedness Division

Regional Emergency Planning Committee

The Barnstable County Emergency Preparedness Division remains steadfast in its commitment to enhancing regional resilience by coordinating comprehensive disaster preparedness, response, and recovery efforts across Cape Cod and Nantucket. Guided by the collaborative spirit of the Barnstable County Regional Emergency Planning Committee (BCREPC), the Division continues to evolve its strategies to address a spectrum of challenges, from natural disasters to various other emergency scenarios.

Building upon the foundation established by the BCREPC, the Emergency Preparedness Division maintains a proactive stance in ensuring the safety and well-being of the community. The committee, representing all fifteen Cape Cod communities and Nantucket, serves as the cornerstone of collaborative emergency response planning. The BCREPC harnesses the expertise of local stakeholders, private sector organizations, public agencies, and volunteer groups to holistically address diverse threats, weather events, and public health emergencies.

Chief Peter Burke of the Hyannis Fire Department and Chief Heath Eldredge of the Brewster Police Department currently serve as the BCREPC's co-chairs. Their efforts are supported Emergency Preparedness Director William A. (Chip) Reilly III, Multi-Agency Coordination Center Manager/Incident Management Team Coordinator Michael Walker, Hazardous Materials Specialist/Laboratory Safety Officer Amy L. Alati, as well as many private sector organizations, public sector agencies, and volunteer organizations that serve on the committee.

Barnstable County Multi-Agency Coordination Center (MACC)

The Emergency Preparedness Division's Multi-Agency Coordination Center (MACC) services as a 24-hour hub (when needed) for regional coordination and response. Throughout various seasons and events, the MACC demonstrated its vital role in managing diverse emergency situations, including severe weather events. Collaborating with local public safety agencies, utility providers, and volunteer groups, the MACC ensured swift resource allocation, situational awareness, and pre-event coordination, contributing significantly to the safety and welfare of residents and visitors alike.

Barnstable County Regional Shelter Program

The Barnstable County Regional Shelter Program remains steadfast in its mission to provide a safe haven during emergencies. Collaborating with non-profit organizations, volunteer groups, and community entities, the program is prepared to activate shelters at a moment's notice. While the shelter program was not activated in FY23, the volunteer cadre conducted training and preparedness efforts in the event the shelters are needed to offer respite to residents and guests. Furthermore, the Division's commitment to enhancing public awareness and preparedness is evident through hours of community presentations, media outreach, and an inclusive training program for shelter managers and volunteers.



Emergency Preparedness Director Chip Reilly runs a sheltering training for municipal staff and volunteers.

Barnstable County All Hazards Incident Management Team (BCAHIMT)

The Barnstable County All Hazards Incident Management Team (BCAHIMT) remains a linchpin in the county's emergency response framework. Responding to search and rescue operations, community events, and exercises, the BCAHIMT exemplifies its dedication and expertise in incident command. The team's critical role extends to supporting Technical Rescue and Wide Area Search Teams, reinforcing the county's capacity to handle complex emergencies.

As Barnstable County progresses into the future, the Emergency Preparedness Division continues to champion a culture of preparedness, collaboration, and resilience. Rooted in the shared commitment of the BCREPC and supported by dedicated professionals, volunteers, and stakeholders, the division stands ready to face the uncertainties of tomorrow, fortified by the lessons of the past and the innovative strategies of the present. In the dynamic landscape of emergency preparedness, the Barnstable County Emergency Preparedness Division continues to demonstrate an unwavering commitment to enhancing safety and resilience across Cape Cod and Nantucket. Through steadfast collaboration and strategic initiatives, the division continually refines its approach to address a wide spectrum of challenges and uncertainties.

Tier II Hazardous Chemical Emergency Report Inventory Program

In FY23, roughly 438 municipal and private facilities in Barnstable and Nantucket counties used/stored hazardous or extremely hazardous chemicals in quantities that meet or exceed US EPA-enforced thresholds. The Tier II compliance assistance program serves these facilities with their compliance under SARA Title III, otherwise known as the Emergency Planning Community Right to Know Act (EPCRA). Since 2005, facilities on Cape Cod and Nantucket have been assisted by the BCREPC in creating, updating, and filing their mandatory annual hazardous chemical inventory reports, and corresponding site plans, by the federally mandated March 1st deadline each calendar year.

Hazardous Materials Specialist and Laboratory Safety Officer, Amy L. Alati, has 34 years of labor, regulatory interpretation, program implementation/enforcement, training, and compliance process experience. The Tier II program provides hazardous chemical inventory and emergency data filing guidance, mapping updates for the region's fire departments, comprehensive facility assessments, and compliance trainings to all public and private Tier 2 facilities on Cape Cod and Nantucket. In FY23, the Tier II program saved the region's

municipal facilities and private businesses approximately \$220,000 in consultant filing fees and compliance training costs. This program also prevents facilities from facing potential penalties from the EPA, as well as enhancing facility cost savings through lowered insurance riders.

Annual reporting provides critical safety information and mandatory facility site plans for hazardous materials preplanning and emergency responses at the local, state, and federal levels. More importantly, Tier II data is essential in protecting our first responders who work to mitigate spills or releases across Cape Cod and Nantucket. Since 2008, this data has also been beneficial in providing baseline information for the BCREPC's annual, mandatory hazardous materials exercises. These valuable collaborations build knowledge, relationships, and educational opportunities for each town's first responders, public works employees, public health representatives, and Tier II facility managers/workers.

Additional services provided to the towns under the Tier II program include in-person, cost-saving facility site assessments for hazard identification and mitigation, chemical safety education, the reduction of town liabilities, OSHA compliant Hazard Communication Standard trainings, planning, chemical emergency response coordination. When requested, information and guidance is also provided to towns and facilities who report under other emergency preparedness committees outside of Barnstable County. The positive growth and consistent progress of this important hazardous materials emergency planning program has prompted several off-Cape municipalities, state agencies, and even foreign countries to use the BCREPC's Tier 2 compliance program as a model for EPCRA compliance programs in their region.

Hazardous Materials Trainings

A primary function of the Emergency Preparedness Division is to conduct innovative, cost-free hazardous materials awareness and response training programs for municipal agencies, such as health, police, fire, and public works departments. These programs promote regional preparedness among the towns, empower facility workers with OSHA compliant safety and response skills, and enhance responder/worker awareness and accountability, while protecting environmental health.

Amy Alati, BCREPC's Hazardous Materials Specialist, provided OSHA Hazard Communication Standard training courses to county, municipal, and private entity employees in FY23. The BCREPC also coordinates, advises, and participates in chemical safety drills and facilitates technical workshops in both Barnstable and Nantucket Counties. These services

benefit the towns by enabling significant cost savings comprehensive planning to comply with annual hazardous material training mandates, avoiding steep consultant fees, and by reducing insurance rider fees while improving overall municipal compliance with EPA and OSHA regulations.

Residential Underground Storage Tank (RUST) Program

Since 2009, the Department has provided services to the residents of Cape Cod which track removals and fund repair/replacement of residential underground storage tank (RUST) lines for home heating fuel, which is highly toxic. To reach property owners who need financial help in removing a RUST at the end of its lifecycle, the Department continues to offer the RUST 0% Loan Program. This program affords counsel and critical data to numerous homeowners, realtors, fire departments, and potential homebuyers in FY23.

The RUST program documents the mandatory environmental compliance status of these home heating fuel tanks in each town. This is critical to the County's sole source aquifer protection efforts. The RUST program also enables the completion of real estate transactions in an efficient and transparent manner, streamlines RUST loan application guidance, and enhances the RUST loan payment collection services in Barnstable County.

Cape and Islands Health Agents Coalition

The Cape & Islands Health Agents Coalition (C&I HAC), a longstanding public health collaboration between the Department and the towns in Barnstable County, Dukes County and Nantucket, was established in 2004 under the coordination and facilitation of Amy L. Alati, Hazardous Materials Specialist/Laboratory Safety Officer. The Local Boards of health in each town are mandated every year, by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH), to implement new, unfunded, and grant-funded public health emergency planning (PHEP) deliverables by set deadlines.

The C&I HAC continues to provide the 23 towns of Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket with public health emergency preparedness information, resources, staff assistance, routine meetings and trainings which meet each specific planning deliverable. Credentialed public health training workshops, ongoing environmental health education seminars, public health emergency response drills and regulatory guidance updates assist the towns of the Cape and Islands to consistently become more adept at situational awareness, public health emergency planning, public health hazard assessments, environmental health oversight, and coordinated emergency response efforts.

In FY23, the Department of Health and Environment continued to assist local boards of health in the development and implementation of post-COVID-19 data updates, vaccination clinic logistics, regional communication, and case/contact tracing follow-ups on virus clusters throughout the communities of Cape Cod.

Members and affiliates of the Cape and Islands Health Agents Coalition have worked in conjunction with BCDHE and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) for the past 18 years by sharing resources, critical information and new/emerging methodologies that streamline a public health issue or crisis. Local Boards of Health (LBOH) are supported with ongoing programs, webinars, and the latest information from C&I HAC's planning partners which include the Barnstable County Public Health Nursing Division, the Cape Cod Medical Reserve Corps, the Mass Septic Testing Center, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, the Visiting Nurse Association (VNA) of Cape Cod, BCDHE staff and BCDHE's contracted public health nurse planners. These



Lisa Crowner, Regional Preparedness Coordinator for the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, moderates a tabletop exercise to help local health officials evaluate COVID-19 response efforts.

collaborative efforts support each town's public health programs and emergency response efforts, supplement their workloads, and provide the towns credit for each mandatory PHEP deliverable.

Throughout FY23, the Department administratively served the C&I HAC through ongoing individual support, remote/in person group meetings, trainings/presentations from subject matter experts and subcommittees for special topics. Service to the

towns through the C&I HAC utilizes the latest data, regulatory changes and updates, strategic planning and program implementation that helps facilitate a wide variety of individual and regional public health crisis response resources.

Grant funding from CDC also helps to fund public health emergency plans, which are updated, maintained, and exercised with the assistance of the Department's contracted public health nurse planners. Staff work together on a variety of subjects to assist the C&I HAC with meeting and exceeding the CDC and state health department mandated goals established in each budaet period. Coalition meetings/workshops are open to the public and routinely attended by a wide variety of public health liaisons, such as public health nurses, healthcare partners, non-profit service groups, emergency response agencies/municipalities and environmental health practitioners.

Laboratory Safety Management Program

With oversight and guidance from Amy L. Alati, Laboratory Safety Officer, the BCDHE Water Quality Laboratory continues to maintain the highest standard of OSHA, MIIA and in-house safety protocol compliance. The Laboratory Safety Program continues to build a risk-based, management-led, evaluation-driven safety management system (SMS) for this important regional service facility. Laboratory safety evaluations consist of solution-driven collaborations among chemists, administrative staff, management, Barnstable County Facilities, and the Barnstable Fire Department.

The lab's Safety Committee continues to meet and discuss ongoing hazard identification and mitigation strategies. These meetings provide proactive learning about a variety of new safety issues and facilitate participation in mandatory safety training. Top-down management support continues to be a cornerstone of the lab's Safety Management System (SMS) evolution and success. The Laboratory's SMS has also empowered a reduction, and in some cases an elimination, of worker health and safety risks and workplace hazards in the laboratory. This maintains critical employee protections and liability prevention. The County also benefits from this mandatory program in terms of thousands of dollars in cost savings through regular inspections to ensure compliance with fire prevention regulations and OSHA lab standards.

The lab staff continue to enthusiastically engage in these safety inspections and complete trainings on a variety of ubject matter such as OSHA-mandated Hazard Communication, OSHA Laboratory Standard, OSHA Bloodborne Pathogens, OSHA Emergency Action Plans, such as evacuation, shelter-in-place, and fire extinguisher trainings.

To maintain their environmental compliance obligations, the lab follows all applicable EPA, state, local, OSHA and NFPA standards.

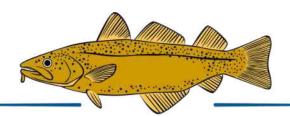
By organizing the numerous compliance initiatives in a specific health and safety planning portal, the Water Quality Laboratory continues to be an efficient operation focused on risk reduction, loss prevention in terms of worker accident/injury/disability avoidance, safe engineering and preservation of lab equipment and the prevention of environmental degradation through proper waste disposal. This translates into cost savings for BCDHE in terms of reduced Workman's Compensation claims, OSHA/EPA regulatory liability and insurance premium costs.



Senior Environmental Health Specialist Lynn Mulkeen delivers landfill samples that she collected in the field to the Water Quality Laboratory, where they are checked in and prepared for analysis.

Report of the HUMAN RIGHTS ADVISORY COMMISSION





BARNSTABLE COUNTY

HUMAN RIGHTS ADVISORY COMMISSION

P.O. Box 427 3195 Main Street, Route 6A Barnstable, MA 02630

www.capecod.gov/humanrights

REPORT OF THE BARNSTABLE COUNTY HUMAN RIGHTS ADVISORY COMMISSION

For the Period July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023

The Barnstable County Human Rights Advisory Commission (BCHRAC) consists of volunteers:

Commissioners:

Daniel Beltran

Leo Blandford

Rick Draper

Carla Fogaren

Jeanne Morrison

Barbara Morton

Morgan Mwalim Peters

Erica Lee Smith

Alternates:

Lynne Levine

Dan Kupferman

Liaisons:

Lou Cerrone, Town of Sandwich Dr. Brian O'Malley, Assembly of Delegates Theresa Santos, Town of Barnstable Donna Walker, Town of Provincetown

Coordinator:

Leslie Dominguez-Santos

Administrative Assistant:

Emily Stephens

Wendy Bierwirth stepped down as BCHRAC Chair in December of 2022; her efforts to continue the work of the BCHRAC after the passing of the Coordinator, Susan Quiñones, are deeply appreciated. Members and alternates are selected to represent the diversity of population, location, and skill sets represented in Barnstable County.

- Ordinance 22-01 specifies the composition of the BCHRAC to include:
- 9 voting members (appointed by the Board of Regional Commissioners)
- · 2 Alternates (to achieve quorum)
- Liaisons from all Towns and Tribal Nations within Barnstable County (appointed by town/tribe councils or Select Boards)

Mission

The mission of the Human Rights Advisory Commission is to promote equal opportunity for all persons of Barnstable County regardless of race, color, religious creed, national origin, gender, age, ancestry, sexual or affectional preference marital, family or military status, source of income, neighborhood or disability, where unlawful discrimination exists in housing, employment, education, public accommodations, town or county services, insurance, banking, credit, and health care.

Responsibilities

To promote and protect the basic human rights of all persons in Barnstable County

To enlist the cooperation and support of racial, religious, ethnic, civic, fraternal, benevolent, and private and public agencies in eliminating unlawful discrimination

To promote community awareness and understanding of the county's diverse cultures through education and community action

To provide the public with an outlet to voice perceived human rights concerns within Barnstable County and, when possible, to assist in the resolution of these concerns through assistance and referrals.

Human Rights Academy

One critical component of the BCHRAC's community education work is hosting the Human Rights Academy in fall and spring for local middle and high school students.

The theme for the 2022-2023 school year was "Pathways to Peace." This stemmed directly from student requests the previous spring to help them address the deep divisions they were noticing in their schools.

For the Fall session, The BCHRAC brought in facilitators from Cape Mediation, as well as Peer Leaders from Nauset Regional High School certified in conflict resolution to provide programming.

There were 147 students in attendance from 12 schools across Cape Cod, ranging from Falmouth to Provincetown. The event was hosted at Cape Cod Academy. Food was provided by the Family Table Collaborative.



Maura Smith Stein speaks to the students at the Fall Academy.

The focus of the Spring Academy is on student clubs and the human rights-related projects they worked on over the year. The 132 students from 10 high schools shared presentations highlighting their work. Student HRA Representative, Ayesha Shafi, emphasized the important role that students play in ensuring human rights for all. Mashpee Middle High School students, Tassia McGrail and Amna Iqbal, were the featured keynote speakers, presenting their "Who We Are" immigration legacy project.



Ayesha Shafi, Student Human Rights Academy Representative.

Students from Cape Cod Academy, Nauset Regional High School, Upper Cape Cod Regional Technical School, and Sandwich High School all shared aspects of their peer mediation work. Students from Provincetown IB School shared their individual social issue research projects. Students from multiple schools celebrated their community projects, including blood drives, staging diverse theater productions, community education on addiction, and peace building. Student leadership was on full display. The students were thoughtful and creative in their presentations. After years of virtual engagement, students appreciated the opportunity to interact with human rights student leaders from other schools.



ZYG808 performed and then guided the students to write and perform their own verses.

Human Rights Day Awards Celebration

In honor of International Human Rights Day, the BCHRAC hosts an annual December Awards Celebration to highlight the amazing human rights work being done in our community. The presentation this year included a virtual panel speaking on Healthcare is a Human Right: Promoting Quality Healthcare for All. Panelists included:

G. Leo Blandford, Director of Community-Based Care, Outer Cape Health Services, Vice-Chair BCHRAC

Dr. Brian O'Malley, Provincetown Delegate to Barnstable County and Liaison to BCHRAC

Cecilia Phelan-Stiles; Senior Manager of HR Communication Systems, Cape Cod Healthcare

Dr. Kumara Sidhartha, Medical Director, Cape Cod Healthcare ACO

The celebration also was a time to present awards to Human Rights Champions in our community. This year's awardees included:

The Rosenthal Community Champion Award is given to an individual in the public sector who has fostered and supported human rights, concepts and ideals. This year's award celebrated the work of Matthew Levesque. As President of the Barnstable Town Council, Matthew worked with intention to connect with and to engage under-represented residents of Barnstable County. This includes extensive outreach to ensure that Brazilian and Latinx populations on Cape Cod had equal access to COVID information and vaccines. He continues to deliver food through the Brazilian Health Ministry. He helped guide and support remote access for residents of Barnstable County during public comment and public hearings of Town Council meetings, providing inclusion for people who cannot physically participate due to job situations, transportation issues, family commitments, etc. He also helped to revise the application process for boards, committees, commissions to better engage all residents of Barnstable County, leading to greater representation in Town activities.

The Cornerstone Award is given to an individual who is recognized by their peers, community, and associates as an individual who fostered and supported human rights, concepts, and ideals. This year's award celebrated the work of Barbara Burgo. Barbara is a longtime advocate for human rights and civil rights. Barbara is a public voice for the Cape Verdean community on Cape Cod, highlighting their struggles, perseverance, and contributions to the Cape Cod community. She co-founded the first and only Cape Verdean museum and

Cultural Center in Massachusetts. The museum hosts interactive tours and educational programs for public schoolsShe has also been a longtime advocate for people struggling with mental health, particularly within communities of color. Barbara is a former Chair of the Barnstable Human Rights Commission and the NAACP, former Vice Chair of South Coastal Counties Legal Services, former President of the Taunton Cape Verdean Association and former State President of American Association of University Women as well as volunteering for multiple community-based organizations.



Matthew Levesque, recipient of the Rosenthal Community Champion Award.



Barbara Burgo, Cornerstone Award recipient.

The **Tim McCarthy Award** is given to an individual or organization promoting human rights. This year the award was given to the family of the late **Susan Quiñones** in celebration of her many accomplishments as a human rights champion. As Coordinator of the Barnstable Human Rights Advisory Commission, Susan worked tirelessly for health equity and access, affordable housing, and strengthening relationships with the Wampanoag community. She worked to build community partnership with police chiefs after the murder of George Floyd. Susan was an accomplished attorney, working for 15 years as a lobbyist and then for MA State government before her County human rights work. In all of her careers and personal interactions, Susan worked hard to ensure an equitable and peaceful society for all. Human Rights Day Awards Celebration.



Photo of Susan Quinones, for Human Rights Coordinator

The celebration also included a recognition of **Unsung Health Equity Heroes and Heroines** in our community. This year's health equity awardees included:

Terry Alves-Hunter, Community Advocate
G. Leo Blandford, Outer Cape Health Services
Melanie Braveman & Molly Perdue, Alzheimer's Family
Support Center

Debra Dagwan, Community Activist
Ayanna Freedom, B Free Wellness
Joanne Geake, Sandwich Public Health
Paul Hebert, Champ Homes
Ron Hoffman, Compassionate Care ALS
Michael Mecenas, Health Ministry
Outer Cape Health
Danny Rodrigues, Duffy Health Center



Human Rights Advisory Commission Coordinator Leslie Dominguez-Santos presented Michael Mecenas, of the Brazilian Health Ministry, with an Unsung Health Equity Hero awards.

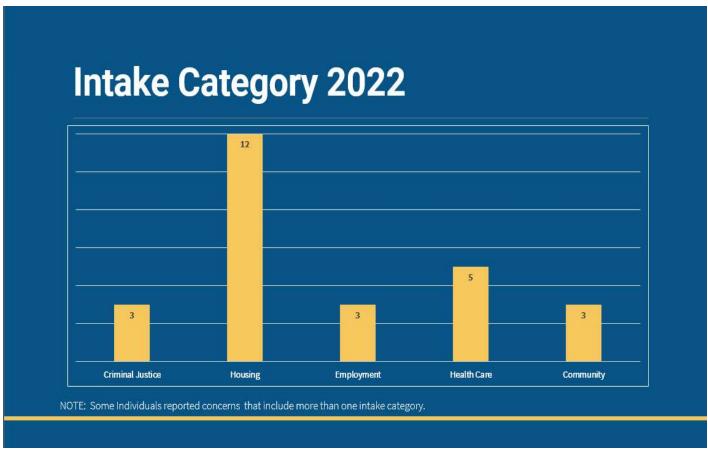
Community Outreach

One part of conducting community education and awareness is the BCHRAC's participation in community festivals and outreach events. The Commission often hosts a table at such events where volunteers can distribute flyers, discuss human rights concerns, and explain the work we do. FY23 outreach events include:

- Volunteers from the BCHRAC set up an information table at the annual Unity Day event.
- Bourne Schools Resource Fair
- · Cape Cod Pride
- Independence House International Festival
- Race Amity Day
- Unity Day

Human Rights Concerns: Intakes

The BCHRAC plays a critical role in helping people within Barnstable County to voice and address their human rights concerns. The BCHRAC is in the process of converting its data tracking of intakes to the fiscal year. However, in calendar year 2022, there were a total of 23 intakes/inquiries; between January-June of 2023, there were a total of 16 intakes/inquiries.



Identified areas of the highest concern for issues of discrimination, bias or harassment include schools, health care and housing.

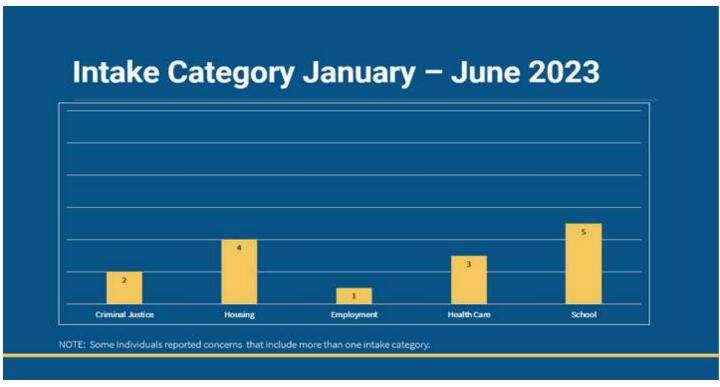
Committee Work

The volunteers of the BCHRAC conduct much of their planning through committee work. Current committees include:

Annual Human Rights Day Awards Celebration – Host annual December Human Rights Day event. Honor members of the community doing human rights work in the community, as well as Unsung Heroes connected to theme of the year.

Communications – Work with the BCHRAC Coordinator and Administrative Assistant to streamline messaging with the County Communications Team.

Education and Outreach – Identify topics and speakers for internal and community education. Work with BCHRAC Coordinator and Administrative Assistant to plan events and participate in outreach activities.



The protected classes most frequently identified as the basis for discrimination, bias or harassment are race and disability.

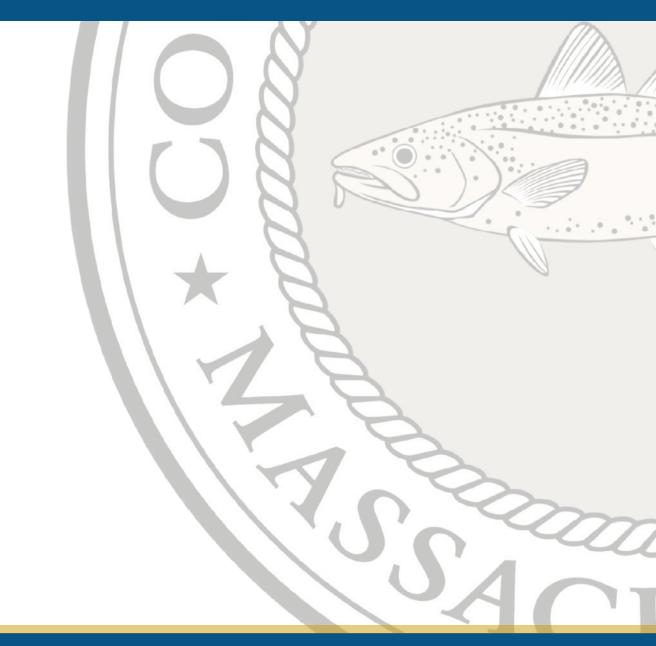
Committee Work continued...

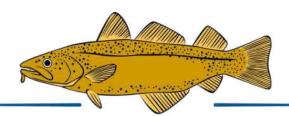
Human Rights Academy – Host two annual events: Fall Academy with presentation and Spring Academy Gathering for students to highlight their work.

Intake and Referral – Assists the BCHRAC Coordinator in providing follow-up to human right concern intakes. Research and identify possible resources for individuals based on their concerns. Create and maintain database on federal & state regulatory and enforcement agencies.

Strategic Plan – rewrite once every 3 years. Conduct annual review to ensure objectives and priorities are aligned.

Report of the DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES





BARNSTABLE COUNTY

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

3195 Main Street P.O. Box 427 Barnstable, MA 02630 508-375-6628

www.capecod.gov/humanservices

REPORT OF THE BARNSTABLE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

For the Period July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023

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Overview

The mission of the Barnstable County Department of Human Services (BCDHS) is to plan, develop, and implement programs which enhance the overall delivery of human services in Barnstable County and promote the health and social wellbeing of County residents through regional efforts that improve coordination of services.

The Department has a history of organizing regional approaches that promote health and wellness for underserved populations by mobilizing a community response to needs identified through research and evaluation. The Department's primary role is to provide opportunities for exchange of information and encourage growth/improvements in the focus areas identified in the Department's Human Service Plan. The complete plan can be found on our website.



Healthy Connected Cape Cod

Healthy Connected Cape Cod is the conceptual framework that ties together Department initiatives. The principal aim is to facilitate connectedness by engaging residents, health and human service organizations, coalitions, and networks throughout Cape Cod, to plan and implement activities that promote health and well-being.

The underpinnings of the Healthy Connected Cape Cod conceptual framework are as follows:

- Strengthen individual, family, and community wellness through health promotion and disease prevention.
- · Identify focus areas based on local qualitative and qualitative

data regarding assets and needs.

- Implement evidence-based activities and practices that resonate with community members.
- Implement activities that are culturally appropriate and accessible to people with disabilities.

The Cod Wellness Work Group, an outgrowth of Health Connected Cape Cod, is a collaborative effort by regional stakeholders, Barnstable County Department of Human Services, and the MA Department of Mental Health that functions to improve the network of communication around wellness issues. It promotes agency collaboration, information sharing, and the creation of supporting programs to raise community awareness and inspire action.

Health and Human Services Advisory Council

In 2003, pursuant to an Ordinance proposed by the County Commissioners and adopted by the Assembly of Delegates, the Department convened an advisory group made up of representatives of numerous County health and human services consortia and networks. The Barnstable County Health and Human Services Advisory Council (HHSAC), in conjunction with the Barnstable County Department of Human Services, is responsible for providing advice concerning the human service needs of Barnstable County to County elected officials and administrators.

To achieve broad representation on the Advisory Council, representatives from County-wide associations and collaborative networks, working groups, and task forces are appointed by the County Commissioners in the areas of healthcare services and human services. A full listing of appointed representatives to the Advisory Council can be found on our website.

As the Commonwealth of Massachusetts continues to permit remote meetings, the Advisory Council has elected to continue meeting in this manner, with great success.







Serving the Health Insurance Needs of Everyone (SHINE)

SHINE is a state health insurance assistance program that provides free health insurance information, counseling, and assistance to Massachusetts residents with Medicare and their caregivers. The Department is SHINE administrator for the region including Barnstable, Dukes, and Nantucket counties.

Much of the funding comes from federal and state sources along with an annual appropriation from Barnstable County. In FY23, 65 highly trained SHINE counselors, 51 of them volunteers, provided free Medicare enrollment services to over 6,000 residents through a hybrid delivery of telephonic and in person counseling. SHINE partners with the 15 towns in Barnstable County, Nantucket, and the towns on Martha's Vineyard. Fifteen new SHINE counselors were trained in the spring of 2023.

In FY23, SHINE program staff engaged in outreach activities to residents in each of Cape Cod's towns. SHINE staff held both in-person and virtual presentations and reached 470 participants through 19 events. One of those events was a veteran's outreach/stand-down at Cape Cod Community College with over 250 attendees. Additionally, 180 articles were published through Council on Aging (COA) newsletters and local media outlets.



Aging Well & Healthy Living

Healthy Aging Cape Cod (HACC) & Age-and Dementia-Friendly Cape Cod

Healthy Aging Cape Cod has historically been a collaborative effort among organizations serving older adults in Barnstable County (Cape Cod), aligning existing services that better enable residents to age in place successfully. Nearly half of Cape Cod residents are projected to be over 60 by 2030; as such, HACC efforts are focused on joining the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) Network of Age-Friendly communities and Dementia-Friendly Massachusetts. These parallel processes will serve as a catalyst to educate local leaders (elected officials, service providers and engaged

residents) and encourage them to implement changes that will make Cape Cod more livable for people of all ages, especially older adults. The age- and dementia-friendly networks provide cities, towns, counties, and states with the ability to access national and global research, planning models and best practices.

Older Adult and Social Services Program (OASSP)

Barnstable County Department of Human Services was the recipient of one of four awards from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Elder Affairs for a Public Health Workforce Expansion Grant in September 2022. This grant award of State ARPA funds helps the Department to address planning and preparedness needs of the older adult and caregiving populations on Cape Cod. Through creation of the OASSP, the Department can provide professional and technical advice to service providers, towns, and other stakeholders and recommend policy, practice, and systems change where relevant.



Behavioral Health

Regional Substance Addiction Council (RSAC)

In 2014 the Department founded the Barnstable County Regional Substance Addiction Council (RSAC). Department staff continued to support the Council's work in FY23 by developing and posting agendas, taking meeting minutes, stating roll calls for attendance and votes, and maintaining an updated Governance Document. Three new cochairs were elected in FY23, including the Department's Substance Use Prevention Program Manager. New leadership was voted in in two of the four work groups.

The purpose of the RSAC is to:

• Establish a communication infrastructure across towns, providers, and individuals on Cape Cod.

- Establish a communication infrastructure across towns, providers, and individuals on Cape Cod.
- Coordinate across the region to be better aligned for grants and funding opportunities.
- Collaborate with BCDHS to conduct regular assessments of substance use on Cape Cod.
- Coordinate regional efforts and provide information to towns within Barnstable County on new endeavors, for example: the Opioid Recovery and Remediation Funds.
- Identify needs and address gaps and disparities in the service system.
- Maximize interagency collaboration.
- · Maximize funding and resource opportunities.

In 2014, the Department conducted an Analysis of Substance Abuse Cape Cod: Baseline Assessment. The Analysis provides a snapshot of substance dependency and its related costs for Barnstable County. This informed the Action Plan, which set forth the Council's approach to addressing substance use disorders on Cape Cod via workgroups, which focus on prevention, harm reduction, and recovery initiatives. The Department acknowledged the benefits of regular assessment, and therefore conducted an update in the Fall of 2022. Emphasis was placed on collecting the feedback of those directly impacted by substance use and addiction, focusing on people with lived experience in recovery, treatment for substance use disorder, and active use of substances. A new Action Plan will be developed from the results of this updated assessment, covering 2023-2028 with the flexibility to update as community needs arise. The full Assessment report and related documents can be found on our website.



Substance Use Prevention

In FY23 the Department managed two substance use grants from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH):

MassCall3 Part B (MC3)

Barnstable County Human Services (BCHS) was granted Part B of the MASSCall3 grant from the MDPH which started July 1, 2021. The MASSCall3 grant is federally funded from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). Through MC3, communities will build capacity, develop a strategic plan to implement existing evidence-based strategies, or design innovative approaches adhering to SAMHSA's Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF). The aim is to utilize existing infrastructure, systems, and partnerships to support programming that will prevent misuse of substances among youth. To achieve this, BCDHS staff conduct presentations and tabling events at schools in the community.

The MC3 grant funded the 2022 Assessment of Substance Use on Cape Cod. Utilizing the SPF, BCDHS staff focused on building capacity within the County as well as readying the community for the upcoming implementation phase. Capacity building included trainings on vaping for caregivers and behavioral health providers; supporting community organizations providing addiction prevention support for caregivers (see photo); recovery support for providers in the field who also identify as in recovery; and relapse prevention support for people in recovery. Staff are currently writing the Strategic Plan based on key findings from the Assessment and from community engagement sessions. Community members and community partners played a major role in the success of this grant.

Overdose Data to Action (OD2A)

The purpose of OD2A is to use data to inform programming. In FY23, the Department continued support of Duffy Health Center's Recovery Support Navigator (RSN) Program. The Program provides the services of an RSN who supports people in early recovery. The RSN serves Barnstable County through targeted outreach and partnership building.

WellStrong, Inc. Peer Wellness Coach (PWC) Program is also funded by OD2A. Certified PWCs work with clients for 3 to 6 months providing mentorship, support in identifying recovery and wellness goals, peer-based support and accountability, navigation to recovery resources, and ultimately creating individualized recovery and wellness plans. The grant also funds evaluation of the above-mentioned programs. The OD2A grant ended on June 30, 2023, and will not continue into FY24.

In 2021, the Office of the Massachusetts Attorney General announced a settlement with opioid distributors providing more than \$500 million to the Commonwealth and its municipalities for prevention, harm reduction, treatment, and recovery. This settlement holds accountable opioid manufacturers, distributors, and pharmacies. Municipalities signed on to the settlement agreement will each receive a portion of the settlement funds directly over the next seventeen years. Department staff provide technical assistance to the towns in Barnstable County on this topic.

The MDPH and the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office emphasize a focus on involving people with lived experience. In response, BCDHS is partnering with the previous Cape Cod representative to the state Opioid Recovery and Remediation Fund (ORRF) Advisory Council on a pilot Community Engagement project in the Town of Falmouth. A consultant is supporting the town and their substance use commission on conducting community engagement forums, focus groups, and surveys. Once the data collection phase is complete, the BCDHS Substance Use Prevention Program Manager will create a community engagement model practice, with tips on how to tailor this to the unique needs of the different regions/towns within Barnstable County.



My Choice Matters Campaign

In FY23 the My Choice Matters campaign continued. Several years ago, the Department created and mobilized a County-wide public education campaign, My Choice Matters, to prevent substance use and reduce the social stigma surrounding it. The campaign utilizes a social-norm framework which is an effective evidenced based method of messaging that promotes health and changes behavior. Multiple strategies were utilized: website: www.mychoicematters.net, social media, print, radio and video.

Children's Behavioral Health Work Group

Convened in 2019, a group of stakeholders, local behavioral health providers, agencies, and advocates gathered to identify barriers to children receiving behavioral health services in Barnstable County. The Children's Behavioral Health Work Group (CBHWG) has grown to include over 35 local and state Human Services agencies, and other stakeholders. In May 2023 the Barnstable County Children's Behavioral Health Work Group updated its Recommendations and Action Plan, which can be found on the Department's website. This is a living document that is periodically updated to reflect the region's changing needs. Subcommittees have addressed issues related to clinician licensure, regulatory issues, and student loan forgiveness.

The CBHWG continues to provide support for some of the highest priority issues including the provision of mental health services within schools and addressing the Behavioral Health Care workforce crisis. The group's work continued in FY23, with a plan and scope of work developed to perform the region's first Baseline Needs Assessment for Behavioral Health Services for children ages 0-21. The Assessment builds upon a 2019 System Scan and evaluates our current Behavioral Health needs which have been escalated by the COVID pandemic. The Assessment was funded with an appropriation from the Barnstable County American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) award. The Assessments completion will provide the Department with specific and foundational data to strategically guide the Department's current and future initiatives.

Cape & Islands Suicide Prevention Coalition

The mission of the Cape and Islands Suicide Prevention Coalition is to help give Cape Cod and Island communities the necessary information and tools to raise awareness, promote education, and increase action to reduce suicides. Through its participation in the general membership and steering committee, the Department supports coalition initiatives, such



as the Suicide Prevention Awareness sign campaign. Three thousand-yard signs with caring messages and 988 lifeline information have been placed throughout Cape Cod & the Islands.

Homelessness and Affordable Housing

Regional Network on Homelessness

The Department is the convening agency for the Cape & Islands Regional Network on Homelessness. The Department's Director Joe Pacheco is a member of the Executive Committee and Policy Board, and the Department's Continuum of Care and HMIS Program Managers provide administrative support to the Network. In FY23, the Department supported the continuing regional response to homelessness during winter weather emergencies by leading community efforts to coordinate services and resources for those facing housing instability and/or lacking other basic needs during inclement weather. The board's priority areas for FY23 were as follows:

To complete the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) Coordinated Community Plan and implement funded projects by March 2024.

To implement new standardized Coordinated Entry System assessments that reflect local preferences for prioritizing individuals and families experiencing homelessness and housing instability by March 2024.

To convene a minimum of one focus group for individuals and families currently or formerly experiencing housing instability by March 2024.

Continuum of Care

A Continuum of Care (CoC) is a regional planning body that coordinates housing and services for homeless families and individuals in the region. The Department is the Collaborative Applicant for the Cape Cod and Islands CoC and is responsible for developing the annual consolidated application for CoC funding. In the FY22 Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) competition, the Cape Cod and Islands CoC was awarded over \$2 million dollars to fund permanent supportive housing for chronically homeless and disabled households, to fund Transitional Housing and Rapid Rehousing for individuals and families who are fleeing Domestic Violence (DV), to maintain the Homeless Management Information System and the Coordinated Entry System, and to conduct Planning activities for the CoC.

In February, the CoC sponsored its annual Domestic Violence training for collaborative community partners. This year's topic was Trauma-Informed Interviewing Techniques and Person-Centered Treatment Options for Survivors of Domestic Violence. The CoC worked with Independence House, the regional Victim Service Provider (VSP) and a CoC grantee, to develop policies and procedures for enrolling DV survivors into Coordinated Entry and for assessing participants for referrals to housing, while adhering to the confidentiality requirements of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). The CoC also increased outreach efforts to recruit persons with lived experience of homelessness to serve on boards and committees within the CoC structure.

Youth and Young Adult Homelessness

The Department is the grantee for the Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services Unaccompanied Homeless Youth and Young Adult (YYA) grant. The maximum obligation for this grant increased by \$109,159 during this fiscal year to \$672,000. The sub-grantees for this program provided services and resources to 96 YYA during FY23. Additionally, 19 YYA secured stable housing with the assistance of sub-grantees.

Additionally, in FY23, the Cape and Islands were one of 17 communities selected by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development for the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) and were awarded \$1.357 million dollars for the two-year demonstration period. A key element of YHDP is the development of a Coordinated Community Plan (CCP) to address and end YYA homelessness. Barnstable County led an eight-month effort in addition to over four years of systems building to create the CCP entitled Hopeful Homes: Sea Change for The Cape and Islands.



Data Gathering

People experiencing homelessness give information to homeless services providers



Data Entry

Homeless services providers collect and input data in HMIS



Data Analytics

Barnstable County collects, organizes, and analyzes regional data from HMIS



Data Visualizations & Reporting

Barnstable County uses cleanedup data to produce reports and visualizations



Data Clean up

Barnstable County and homeless services providers work together to improve data quality

HOME Investment Partnership Program

The Department administers the HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME), a federal formula block grant to state and local governments designed exclusively to create affordable housing for extremely low and low-income households. The Barnstable County HOME Consortium (BC HOME), comprised of the 15 towns in Barnstable County, is a Participating Jurisdiction (PJ) to receive and disburse HOME funds. The Department acts as the BC HOME program's lead agent, responsible to HUD for all administrative functions related to its operation.

The BC HOME's primary activity is production of restricted affordable rental housing developments. For FY23, BC HOME provided \$300,000 of grant funding to LeClair Village in Mashpee (39 units) and \$300,000 to Scranton Main, Falmouth (48 age-restricted 62+ units). Both projects are currently under construction. Additionally, BC HOME has conditionally committed \$300,000 of grant funds for the development of Cape View Way, Bourne (42 units).



HOME-ARP Program

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) made funds available for housing, services, and shelters to qualified populations of individuals experiencing homelessness, at risk of homelessness, and other vulnerable populations. The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) allocated these funds by formula to participating jurisdictions in the HOME Program, including BC HOME.

In September 2021, HUD awarded BC HOME \$1,556,508 in HOME-ARP funds and issued regulations for the HOME-ARP Program including a requirement to develop an Allocation Plan with the purpose of engaging significant community and stakeholder outreach to gather data and prepare a needs assessment and gap analysis. During the consultation process, the most urgent and pressing need identified was to prioritize the creation and preservation of affordable rental housing. Based on this identified prioritized need, BC HOME allocated HOME-ARP funds to the development of affordable rental housing activity specifically restricted to assist the qualifying population.

The Allocation Plan was approved by HUD on March 29, 2023, and BC HOME is in the process of implementing the Allocation Plan to distribute the grant funds accordingly. HOME-ARP funds must be spent by September 30, 2030.

Shared Regional Housing Services Program

During FY23, the Department of Human Services proposed the creation of a Shared Regional Housing Services Program, modeled after the concept successfully deployed in other regions of the Commonwealth. Established by County Ordinance 23-03 and funded with an appropriation from the Barnstable County American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) award, the Program will be organized by the contracted consultant, Barrett Planning Group, LLC (BPG), in collaboration with and overseen by the Barnstable County Department of Human Services. Servicing all 15 communities, the Program will begin operation on July 1, 2023, and is fully funded through June 30, 2025.

Information Resources

Data, Research, and Evaluation

In FY23 the Department processed numerous data requests from community partners including information and analysis on homelessness, emergency planning, winter response, substance use, and affordable housing.

Online Resources

The Department's flagship website is the central access point to comprehensive online resources for local health and human services issues. The website provides fact sheets, educational materials, and local research publications related to the Department's initiatives.

The Department supports a companion public health website which offer a medical library of peer reviewed material, community health indicator data, evidence-based model programs, current legislation, related news, and a robust Health and Human Services Directory "Network of Care" listing with hundreds of local agencies. In FY23 there were a total of 56,875 visits to the site (a 19% increase from FY22), and 99,415 total page-views.

Complimenting the website, the Department continued its utilization of social media platforms to broaden our reach and increase engagement with the community. Follow the Department through its channels: "X" @HumanServicesBC |Instagram bchumanservices | Facebook @healthyconnectedcapecod.

E-Newsletters

The Human Services e-newsletter provides a wide range of information through monthly publication to over 2,200 individuals and agencies. The e-newsletter informs the health and human services community of upcoming events, trainings, grant opportunities, resources, and opportunities for capacity building.

The Regional Substance Use Council monthly e-newsletter provides information on substance use across the continuum of prevention, harm reduction treatment, and recovery to over 1,000 individuals and agencies.

To join our growing community of readers, sign-up here!

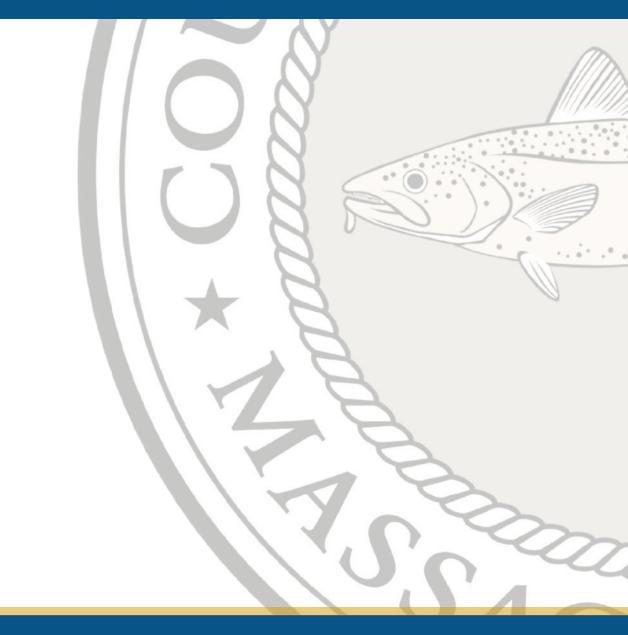
Conclusion

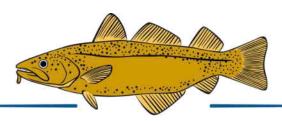
In support of our mission, in FY23 the Department managed over \$5 million dollars in grants from a variety of private, state, and federal sources to support the following regional programs: SHINE, HOME, Continuum of Care, Healthy Aging Cape Cod and Substance Use Prevention.

The Department of Human Services staff provides leadership and support to regional groups and coalitions including the Barnstable County Children's Behavioral Health Work Group, Barnstable County Health & Human Services Advisory Council, Barnstable County Regional Substance Use Council, HOME Advisory Council, Cape and Islands Regional Network on Homelessness, and Healthy Aging Cape Cod.

Barnstable County Department of Human Services plays an important role in facilitating communication, fostering collaboration, planning, coordination, capacity building, and resource development to improve health outcomes for the residents of Barnstable County.

Report of the DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY





BARNSTABLE COUNTY

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT

3195 Main Street
Innovation Building
P.O. Box 247
Barnstable, MA 02630
(508) 744-1250 | ithelp@barnstablecounty.org
www.capecod.gov/IT

REPORT OF THE BARNSTABLE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

For the Period July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023

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Department History & Mission

The Barnstable County Information Technology Department (BCIT) was formed in July of 2005. The mission of the Department is to provide technical services in support of the business operations of Barnstable County and its municipal customers throughout the region.

While the focus of the Department is to further the success of Barnstable County, BCIT also generates revenue for the organization by providing services externally.

Fiscal Year 2023

While the expansion of the services offered to towns culminated in a supplemental budget request for additional staffing in Fiscal Year 2022, the hiring of this staff was completed in Fiscal Year 2023. This has allowed the Department to take on the Town of Bourne as a customer, which has proven to be challenging but rewarding, as many new initiatives are.

The additional staffing has also allowed the Department to improve the consistency of coverage to existing customers; allowing for additional days of on-site support where requested, and improvements to coverage during IT emergencies.

While the availability of IT staff has alleviated some constraints, the supply chain issues with new IT equipment are still present. Despite notable improvements in shipping times, this resulted in occasional delays in both the deployment of new computers to staff, and with network infrastructure.

This report will summarize key project milestones for the County, as well as provide a brief history of regional services delivered by BCIT.



Fiscal Year 2023 Strategic Outline and Project Highlights

Barnstable County IT continues to assist County Departments and municipal customers with modernization of information systems and improvement of business continuity through the following strategies:

Take a Cloud-First Approach

Providing solutions using cloud services wherever possible. Cape Cod is geographically prone to severe weather, making systems and data vulnerable when hosted within the County.

Retire On-Premises Infrastructure

Aging servers and data storage systems are a liability that no community can afford. By migrating data and workloads away from these systems, organizations see better uptime, and lower risk.

Follow Best Practices

It's vital to keep pace with advances in technology along with impact those changes may have. This is especially important regarding cybersecurity; a rapidly evolving area of study that requires constant review.

The following are examples of services provided during the fiscal year:

Regional IT Services

Barnstable County IT entered into a new agreement with the Town of Bourne where much work has been done to realign the IT strategy of the organization. In the Town of Harwich, upgrades of the Town's financial and email systems were completed. The Town of Truro and the Town of Wellfleet both received assistance with network design. Additionally, BCIT assisted the Town of Chatham with the rollout of new cloud-managed network devices.

County IT Services

During Fiscal Year 2023, Barnstable County IT assisted in making the proceedings of more than 60 public meetings accessible to the public. The department resolved more than a thousand support requests and deployed 75 devices, as well as preparing a new server environment for an ERP system upgrade. The department also secured funding for a new Executive Assistant position as part of its efforts to improve services both internally and with municipal partners, and

assisted with the move of the Cooperative Extension Department to its new offices.

Timeline of Regional IT Services

For more than ten years, Barnstable County IT Department has been providing IT services to municipalities in Barnstable County. The timeline below briefly summarizes the history of these services, and how the partnerships came into being:

In 2012 BCIT entered into an agreement with the Town of Wellfleet to provide IT services to the Town after its existing arrangements for IT support concluded. Since then, BCIT has acted as their full-time IT department, providing onsite support, 24/7 incident response, project management, and strategic advisory services.

Shortly thereafter, BCIT contracted with the Town of Truro to provide their sole IT staff person per-diem on-site support services, special project assistance, and email hosting for the Town. After assisting with a migration from County-hosted email to cloud-based email, the hosting role transitioned to cloud service management.

Two additional agreements followed; one with the Town of Falmouth for assistance with transitionary IT support services and the hiring of new IT staff, and one with the Town of Chatham to provide project assistance and consultation, as well as County-hosted services like email, phones, and virtual servers. As with the Town of Truro, these services were later migrated to the cloud.

As the economies of scale for the cloud services industry caught up with the long-term costs of maintaining and upgrading IT systems on the County campus, the decision was made to migrate from County-owned infrastructure to the Cloud. While BCIT did not expand its service offerings during this time, the shift to cloud services would later prove vital to the success of Barnstable County during the pandemic.

With this shift complete, BCIT restructured its regional service offerings to streamline engagements with towns. Under the new, more modular framework, BCIT would provide a tailored assessment—prior to the delivery of services—in the areas of cybersecurity, business processes, and staffing requirements. Such assessments were conducted for the towns of Harwich, Provincetown, Orleans, and Bourne. These included recommendations requested by the towns, the transition to cloud services being principal among them.

In 2018, the Town of Harwich contracted with BCIT to perform an IT assessment and assist with implementing additional components of their financial software. This work was

ongoing when staffing changes in the Town resulted in a need for BCIT to take on a general IT support role. Additionally, the Town adopted the recommendation of the IT assessment to pursue funding for a migration to cloud services, a project that is nearly complete. The Towns of Bourne and Brewster have since entered into agreements with the County; Bourne receives the full scope of IT services, while Brewster receives hourly consultation to assist with various aspects of cloud migration as needed.

Finally, the County has helped to facilitate informal meetings for the Cape Technology Managers, a regional collaboration affectionately referred to as the "CATMAN" group, which provides technology managers with a forum to gather, share notes, and gain knowledge from their collective experience.

Barnstable County IT continues to demonstrate the ability to provide technical support to towns region-wide in an efficient, cost effective, and mutually beneficial manner. Shared gains and revenue offsets have resulted in the formal support of these efforts by County Administration, providing opportunities for the future expansion of regional IT services.



Bourne Town Hall

Current Customers

The ITDepartment served the following customers in Fiscal Year 2023:

- Assembly of Delegates
- Cape Cod Commission
- Cape Cod Cooperative Extension
- County Commissioners
- · Children's Cove
- •• Dredge
- Facilities
- Finance
- Health and Environment

Current Customers continued...

- Human Services
- Registry of Deeds
- Town of Chatham
- Town of Harwich
- Town of Bourne
- Town of Truro
- Town of Wellfleet

Barnstable County IT is committed to ensuring the secure efficient operation of the County and its staff in addition to its regional customers.



Harwich Town Hall

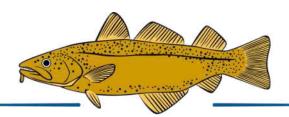


Wellfleet Town Hall

Report of

PUBLIC SAFETY TRAINING





BARNSTABLE COUNTY

CAPE COD CENTER FOR PUBLIC SAFETY TRAINING

Superior Court House P.O. Box 427 Barnstable, MA 02630 www.capecod.gov/publicsafety

REPORT OF THE CAPE COD CENTER FOR PUBLIC SAFETY TRAINING

For the Period July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023

Martin Greene, Cape Cod Center for Public Safety Training Program Director (onboarding 6/26/23)

marty.greene@capecod.gov

Jeff Holmes, Fire Training Lead Instructor Jeff.holmes@capecod.gov

Shawn Lahane, Fire Training Instructor shawn.lahane@capecod.gov



About the Cape Cod Center for Public Safety Training

The Cape Cod Center for Public Safety Training, a program within Barnstable County, is a crucial resource for municipal fire and police departments throughout Cape Cod. Our primary focus is to deliver specialized on-the-job training and essential resources that align with industry standards and best practices. Our commitment is to enhance the capabilities of local first responders, fostering a safer environment for our communities.



In Fiscal Year 2023, Public Safety continued steps forward in implementing mobile training to fire departments across Cape Cod.

During FY 2023 the Barnstable County Center for Public Safety Fire Training Program provided 1,337 hours of instruction to the following villages and towns.

Village/Town	Туре	Number of Students in FY23
Cotuit	Forcible Entry (Door)	16
Barnstable Village	Mobile Burn Trailer	28
Bourne	Forcible Entry Prop	47
Bourne	Roof Prop	28
Brewster	Gas Prop	8
сомм	Forcible Entry (Door)	42
сомм	Car Fire	37
Dennis	Mobile Burn Trailer	90
Dennis	Roof and Ceiling Prop	36
Dennis	Forcible Entry (Door)	34
Dennis	Car Fire	40
Dennis	Gas Prop	35
Eastham	Mobile Burn Trailer	32
Eastham	Forcible Entry (Door)	14
Falmouth	Forcible Entry (Door)	58
Falmouth	Roof Prop	52
Hyannis	Mobile Burn Trailer	3
Oak Bluffs	Forcible Entry (Door)	55
Orleans	Mobile Burn Trailer	18
Orleans	Forcible Entry (Door)	12
Orleans	Car Fire	11
Sandwich	Mobile Burn Trailer	39
West Barnstable	Mobile Burn Trailer	81
West Barnstable	Forcible Entry (Door)	29

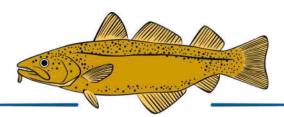
During FY23, a total of 148 firefighters completed the Mask Fit training from the following fire departments: Hyannis Fire Department, Centerville Osterville Marston Mills Fire Department, Cotuit Fire Department, Mashpee Fire Department, Sandwich Fire Department, Barnstable Fire Department, and the West Barnstable Fire Department.

At the end of FY23, the county successfully recruited a Program Manager for the Cape County Center for Public Safety Training.

^{*}Some departments hosted props more than one time during the fiscal year.

Report of the **PURCHASING DIVISION**





BARNSTABLE COUNTY

PURCHASING DIVISION

P.O. Box 427 3195 Main Street, Route 6A Barnstable, MA 02630

https://www.capecod.gov/purchasing
E-Bidding Site: https://barnstablecounty.bonfirehub.com

REPORT OF THE CAPE COD CENTER FOR THE PURCHASING DIVISION

For the Period July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023

Staff

Jennifer Frates, Chief Procurement Officer 508-375-6637 | Jennifer.Frates@capecod.gov

Established in 1979 by a vote of the County Commissioners, the Purchasing Department, maintains a centralized purchasing system of goods and services collectively not only for County departments, but also to serve the towns of Barnstable County. Through the coordination of bids, town and county departments can take advantage of the cost savings involved with the procurement of goods and services in large volumes.

The Purchasing Division adheres to the procurement policies for local governments set by the Massachusetts Legislature through Chapter 30B, Chapter 30,39M and Chapter 149 of the Massachusetts General Laws. These regulations were enacted to foster effective competition and to avoid price discrimination and unfair methods of competition. They also help to prevent "favoritism" in the awarding of contracts as bids are awarded to the responsive, responsible bidder offering the lowest price.

FY23 Department Highlights

Policy Implementation of the Supplier Diversity Program focusing on setting goals, performance measures and reporting of and Minority, Women & Disadvantaged Owned Businesses. Also implemented the Sustainability Procurement Policy focusing on the purchase of environmentally preferred products, recycled and meeting the goals of various "green initiatives" through purchasing sustainable products.

The Purchasing Division offered additional training in areas of "General Purchasing Policies and Procedures", "Buyer Training", "P-Card Training", "Bids & RFP's" and "Contract Administration and Management" to County staff.

Chief Procurement Officer had continuing education and/or professional development training in the past year, reinforcing the division's commitment to having a professional workforce and dedication to the "continuous improvement" value within the County.

Awarded the Innovation & Digital Transformation in Procurement at the National Institute for Public Procurement (NIGP) conference in Boston.



Jennifer Frates proudly displays the Innovation & Digital Transformation in Procurement award at the NIGP conference in Roston

Collective Bids

Many of the towns of Barnstable County partner with County Purchasing to solicit bids collectively. In Fiscal Year 2023, the Purchasing Division took the lead in the coordination of bids for the following goods and services:

#7989 – Shellfish Seed Supplier: These bids are procured on behalf of the Barnstable County Division of Marine Fisheries Municipal Shellfish Propagation Program. The product is distributed to participating towns within the county.

#7990 & #7991 – Road Construction Items and Materials and Road Resurfacing Projects: Twelve towns participated in the bids for various categories of roadway construction work.

#7992 - Golf Course Materials and Services: Municipal golf courses and other municipal departments receive discounted prices on materials such as fertilizers, fungicides, growth regulators and insecticides through this bid.

#7993 - Portable Toilets: This bid is for the lease and maintenance of portable toilets for use at special events, in beach or park areas and other applications where temporary or permanent portable units may be required.

#7997 - Trades Persons List: The Municipal Modernization Act which was enacted into law in 2016 allows for municipalities to establish a "blanket" list of pre-approved tradespersons to be used to procure construction projects that are estimated to cost between \$10,000 and \$50,000. Barnstable County Purchasing worked with the towns in the County and the Massachusetts Office of the Attorney General to establish a "blanket" list of pre-approved tradespersons. Since that time, the Purchasing Division has continued to issue Requests for Qualifications and has established a list of sixty vendors offering services in seventeen different trade categories. By requesting quotes from this list, municipal departments can save time procuring work for small projects. The Purchasing Division updated instructions for the Towns on how to utilize these contracts and remain in compliance. Twenty four vendors were added in fifteen trade categories.

#8001 - Supply and Delivery of Fuel Oil: The Purchasing Division organized a collaborative bid for the supply and delivery of fuel oil to thirty municipal buildings across the County for an estimated total of 78,250 gallons of heating oil.

#8002 - Supply and Delivery of Gasoline and Diesel Fuel: Various municipal entities, schools, fire districts, water districts across Barnstable County along with County Dredge participated in a collaborative bid for over 1,675,000 gallons of gasoline and diesel fuel.

#8014 - Bulk Purchase of Copy Paper: The Purchasing Division solicited bids for the purchase of 4,360 cases of copy paper for bulk delivery to eight school districts & municipalities in Barnstable County and Nantucket.

#8015 - Supply and Delivery of Caustic-Potash (potassium Hydroxide – KOH), Sodium Hypochlorite, Sodium Hydroxide, Hydrated Lime and Citric Acid: Twelve water departments participated in this bid for chemicals commonly used by water departments.

Collective Bids (Renewals)

The Purchasing Division is responsible for also exercising renewals extensions, if applicable, for good and services procured in a previous fiscal year.

#7935 - Elevator Maintenance and Repair

#7981 - Disposal of Construction and Demolition Waste

County Bids

Aside from the collective bids, the Purchasing Division also solicited the following bids on behalf of the County departments:

#7924 Fire Training Academy Burn Building

#7966 Freshwater Initiative

#7983 Sand Shifter Repairs

#7984 Pushboat Repairs

#7985 Tax Bill Printing

#7986 Rental of Pump and Treat Carbon System

#7987 Autonomous Survey Vessel

#7988 Low Lying Roads

#7994 Pond Monitoring

#7995 Regional Housing Strategy

#7996 Limnologist

#7998 Emergency Diesel Generator

#7999 Lab Services

#8000 Epoxy Floor

#8003 Auditing Services

#8004 Children's Behavioral Needs Assessment (ARPA)

#8005 Broadband

#8006 Shared Regional Housing Consultant

#8007 Water Quality Special Projects

#8008 On-Call Electrician

#8010 Courier Services

#8011 Supply and Delivery of Toner

#8012 Pond Data Analysis

#8013 Water & Wastewater Testing Supplies

#8016 Pushboat

#8017 Fusion Machine

#8018 Sectional Barge

#8019 Dredge Monitoring & Management System

#8020 Hydrographic Survey Equipment

#8021 Hydrographic Survey Boat

#8025 Model Housing Tools

Purchase Orders

The Purchasing Division processed 3,386 purchase orders for County departments during Fiscal Year 2023.

Cape Cod Association of Public Purchasing Officials

The Cape Cod Association of Public Purchasing Officials (CCAPPO) was established by the County in 2006 to provide education and networking for local officials who are involved in the procurement duties in their towns. Participants can earn credits toward re-certification for the Massachusetts Certified Public Purchasing Official (MCPPO) designation

through attendance at these meetings. CCAPPO met bimonthly with presenters on topics of interest to procurement officials.

Presenters from FY23

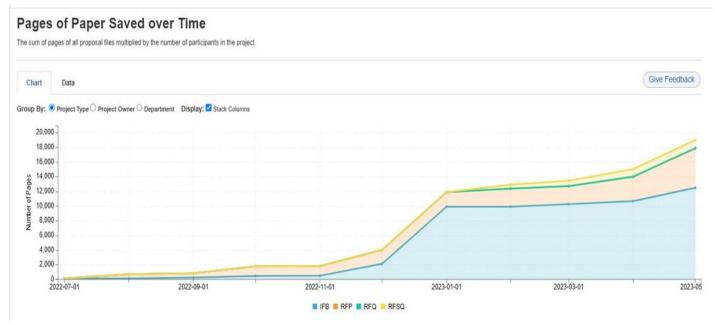
- · Massachusetts Office of the Attorney General
- Massachusetts Office of the Inspector General
- · Secretary of State
- · State Ethics Commission

Taking Procurement into the Future

The Purchasing Department over FY23 continued to transition from a transactional purchasing process to a more strategic procurement approach using data to drive decisions and efficiencies resulting in savings and value-added services. The foundation of any Purchasing operation includes fair competition, obtaining best value, compliance, and education. The development to a Procurement operation will build relationships with stakeholders, coordinate purchase needs in the early stages, identify suppliers, research market trends, standardization of products and services, train personnel, avoid duplication and waste, negotiate contracts, plan risk-mitigation and continually searching for alternative ideas and products to improve efficiency.

Initiatives

Technology - The Purchasing Department in FY23 continued the initiative to streamline previous procurement processes. This Green initiative eliminated the use of paper for bids and contracts which saved the County in postage and office supplies but also continued the overall mission of the County to be more sustainable and environmentally conscious.



This chart shows the amount of paper saved by migrating to a fully electronic procurement bidding system.

KPI's (Key Performance Indicators) and Metrics

The benefits of having better data will identify future bidding opportunities, provide transparency, ensure compliance with purchasing laws, policies, and procedures, and be a source of continuous improvement.

FY23 Data

• Bid Savings (Cost Avoidance) for FY 2022: \$1,991,056.76

Number of Bids: 46

Number of Request for Quotes: 1

• Purchase Orders: 3,386

State Contract Spend: \$1,758,527.87
Consortium Contract Spend: \$1,090,474.80

 $\bullet \textbf{ Surplus Revenue Through Government Auction: } \$7,004.00 \\$

• Number of Pages saved through E-Bidding: 19,006

Training Classes offered: 12Number of Participants: 135

Training Programs

The success of any organization is the proper training of its staff giving them the tools and resources needed to be able to perform their duties and comply with policy. The Purchasing Department will look to offer training programs on a variety of topics including bidding, contracting, general purchasing policy, p-card, state contracts and more.

- General Procurement Policies
- August 2022, January 2023
- Bids & RFPs September 2022, February 2023
- Contract Management September 2022
- P-Card (Various Trainings offered throughout the fiscal year)

New Trainings for FY 2023

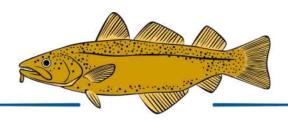
- Buyer Training September 2022, February 2023
- Drafting Bids & RFPs April 2023

In conclusion:

The Purchasing Division will continue its goals of encouraging fair competition, obtaining best value, ensuring the ongoing accountability of public funds, educating those who are involved in the public procurement process, and exploring new ways to help the county and towns save money through collective purchasing.

Report of the BARNSTABLE COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS





BARNSTABLE COUNTY

REGISTRY OF DEEDS

Railroad Avenue P.O. Box 368 Barnstable, MA 02630 508-362-7733

www.barnstabledeeds.org

info@barnstabledeeds.org

Recording Hours: Monday through Friday 8:00 am - 4:00 pm Research Hours: Monday through Friday: 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

REPORT OF THE CAPE COD CENTER FOR THE PURCHASING DIVISION

For the Period July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023

Administration

John F. Meade, Esq., Register of Deeds (508) 375-6931 | jmeade@barnstabledeeds.org

David B. Murphy, Esq., Assistant Register of Deeds (508) 375-6932 | dmurphy@barnstabledeeds.org

Kathleen J. Grenier, Executive Administrative Assistant (508) 375-6933 | kjgrenier@barnstabledeeds.org

Paula J. Esmond, Finance Assistant (508) 375-6934 | pjesmond@barnstabledeeds.org

Land Court

Frederick Sarkinen, Supervisor (508) 375-6940 | landcourt@barnstabledeeds.org

Jill Harris, Coordinator (508) 375-6941

Recorded Land

Rene Kelly, Supervisor (508) 375-6938 | recordedland@barnstabledeeds.org

Gwendolyn M. Brown, Coordinator (508) 375-6939

The Registry of Deeds is responsible for maintaining the records of property transfers within Barnstable County. This includes all deeds, mortgages, plans and other instruments which purport to affect the title to Real Estate on Cape Cod. The Registry is used daily by local attorneys, surveyors, title examiners, real estate professionals and members of the general public who are trying to determine the status of particular parcels of land. Our goal continues to be one of providing prompt, efficient and courteous service to all those who visit our facility.

FY 2023 by the Numbers

FY2023 saw over 78,327 documents and plans recorded at the registry. \$14,933,071.85 in County Excise Tax and \$1,744,596.63 in County Recording and Copy Fees were collected in the past fiscal year. This represents the Third highest combined amount of fees and excise tax collected in registry history.

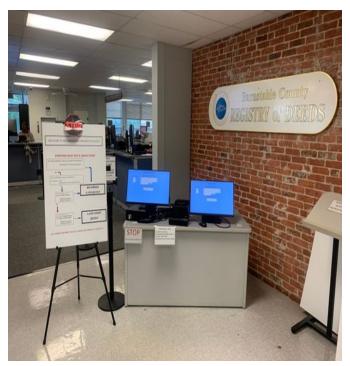
Electronic Document Filing

FY2023 marked our ninth full fiscal year of "eFiling" recorded land documents. We saw our monthly volume of "eFiled" documents continue to pull back from the prior fiscal years (85% in FY2021 and 80% in FY2022 to 77% in FY2023). This is the continuation of a trend started in June of 2021 as we opened our doors to the public post-pandemic. We continue to experience a rise in overall productivity and efficiency as the vast majority of our work is done via this innovative means of recording.

In August 2018 we rolled out electronic filing in our Land Court department. We started off slow with just 2% of filings in the first month but quickly saw adoption by our customer base. By the close of that first fiscal year over 26% of our Land Court recordings were being filed electronically. Fy2020 and FY2021 saw continued growth and peaked at 75% during the height of the pandemic. FY2022 saw continued utilization by our customers and by June 2022 we were holding steady at about 75% with no pull back from our pandemic highs. FY2023 continued to stay strong at 75%.

Registry Queueing System

Our Registry Queuing system, new at the close FY2021 and used to integrate live persons with eFile customers; saw an upgrade in FY2023. We added a new screen (and separate queue) to facilitate recording in our newly relocated Land Court (see below). This was a much-needed addition as our building continued to see saw an uptick in visits by



Land Court and Recorded Land Touch Screen Queues

customers throughout the year. Land Court staff handled the new Queue without missing a step. In person customers increased in volume as the year went on and the queueing system enabled us to streamline the process and to efficiently and effectively meet our customers' needs.

New Land Court

As COVID began to take hold in March of 2020 Register Meade turned his eyes toward moving our Land Court Department from the basement of Deeds and Probate to the Main Level. This project has been a challenge and required the assistance of both IT and Facilities. Our goal was to re-envision how we handle customers. Our old Land Court was designed for the 20th Century, we were looking to build one designed for the 21st! We have created individual workstations tailored to handle all parts of the workflow process. Land Court Staff can meet all of our customers needs from one spot. FY2022 was spent building out the new space, securing and deploying the new equipment and formulating new processes to increase efficiency. A side benefit of this move was our ability to relocate our employee lounge to the main level adjacent to the new Land Court. We opened the doors to the new Land Court in November 2022 and have never looked backed. The new format has led to significant rise in productivity and customer experience. Under the old system it would take weeks and sometimes months to issue Certificates of Title. We were able to close this backlog and now issue



Land court staff hard at work in their new space.

certificates within a handful of days after a deed is recorded.

New Server and Network Infrastructure

An offshoot of our Land Court move was to upgrade our server and bring our network cabling into the 21st century. We added a dedicated high-speed line to handle the high volume of traffic as a result of electronic filing and we worked with County IT and vendors to install new network switches, routers and latest generation cabling to go along with a new IBM Power 9 Server. All this equipment was installed in a secure server room located on our main level and away from public facing areas. While the vast majority of this work was completed in FY2023, the final stages are rolling out this Fall and we will reap the benefits of a faster and more reliable network ecosystem for years to come.



New registry server and network switches.

Capeview Access and Registry Website

The registry provides use of our internet access Capeview system to all towns within Barnstable County free of charge. The towns are exempt from are our \$50.00 annual fee and the \$1.00 per page copy fee. Capeview enables remote users to access the registry's over three hundred years of electronic records nearly 24 hours a day 7 days a week. Users can do title rundowns, search for liens or find records pertaining to any real estate transaction within the county. The system also provides users the ability to have documents printed in their home or office without involving registry personnel. All Assessors offices and many town departments in the county have free accounts with us. The savings to the towns has been significant since we began offering the service over 20 years ago.

Credit Card payment processing was introduced to our website in the middle of FY 2014. This has enabled account holders to fund their accounts for printing at nearly any hour of the day without having to mail or deliver a check It has also enabled casual users of our website to print a copy without having to open an account or mail in a copy request.

In June 2015 the registry, with the assistance of County IT, rolled out our new homepage. It was the first step in a process to update our online presence for years to come. We have used this updated medium to get registry news, changes in hours due to holidays and storms, and changes to excise tax or fee structure out to our customer base in a timely manner.

In FY2018 the registry completely overhauled our public search page. This new interface allowed compatibility across a wide range of browsers and smart phones. The registry search had gone mobile. Customers could now pull up document images wherever and whenever they wanted. This has resulted in a decrease in phone calls and the need for technical assistance when using our website.

Our website continued to be an indispensable resource in FY2023. As the new normal set in and the lion's share of our customers continued to work remotely our, up to the minute, online platform enabled customers to do quick rundowns and record electronically without delay. We were able to update our status in real time and keep interested parties informed of any changes to our hours or operations.

Declaration of Homestead Forms

The registry and its staff provide valuable assistance to all homeowners in Barnstable County with the preparation of declaration of homestead forms. These forms are available free of charge at our counters or online. The cost to record a homestead is \$35.00 in both our recorded land and our registered land (Land Court) departments. The Declaration of Homestead under Massachusetts General Laws Ch.188 gives persons up to \$500,000.00 protection on their primary residences. It can be a valuable last line of defense and it is recommended to all homeowners in Barnstable County.