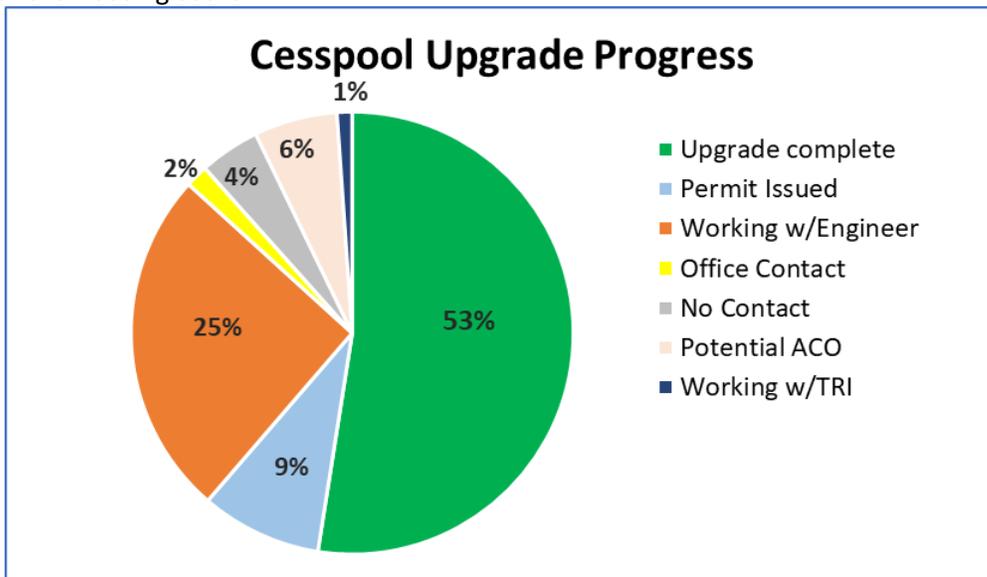


Memo to: Truro Board of Health  
 From: Emily Beebe, Truro Health & Conservation Agent  
 Date: February 20, 2024  
 Re: **Water Resources Update February 2024**



**Regarding cesspool upgrades to Title 5**

To date, 62% of the properties with cesspools have either completed the upgrade process or have permits issued to do so. 26% are working with engineers. Letters have been sent to these homeowners so they are aware of the deadline for plans and install permits. 6% will enter into an ACO (described below). The remaining 6% of properties that have made no progress will be issued notices of violation filed with the Housing court.



Bucket	Count	Deadline
1	16	Installation by 9/1/2024 or 9 months from date of permit issuance
2	11	Completion of ACO by 6/1/2024
3	48	Plan complete by 5/1/2024, install within 9 months
4	11	12/31/2023



**Regarding Administrative Consent Orders (ACOs).** The Board of Health has approved issuing draft ACO's to 10 property owners on Beach Point to allow time for a possible connection to the Provincetown Municipal sewer, based on the result of our feasibility analysis being conducted by GHD. (An ACO is the legal agreement between the Board of Health and a property owner regarding the timing of upgrades or connection to sewer facilities.) These draft ACO's must be finalized by June 1, 2024. Finalization includes approval of the variance that allows the agreement, by the Board of Health. The feasibility study is moving forward with an acceptable GPD value placeholder. Next steps will require development of the rough order of magnitude costs for Truro to connect to the existing treatment infrastructure which would be added to the collection costs. Grant funding sources need to be identified.

The Town and Engineers from GHD will be meeting with the DEP prior in Mid-March to review the use of the ACO process as part of our Comprehensive Wastewater Management planning strategy.

**Regarding stormwater management-** The Town has been working with the Horsley Witten Group, Inc. to design stormwater improvements along Pond Road. Stormwater management along Pond Road will provide treatment of the stormwater runoff for sediments, nutrients, and other pollutants prior to any discharge into Village Pond. At present the plans are at 30% of design completion. Funding to bring the plans to the bid-spec threshold of 75% will be sought at the 2024 ATM, putting us on target for implementation funding at 2025 ATM with construction planned for fall 2025. The designs will employ a variety of Best Management measures to treat the stormwater.

A proposed Stormwater and Sediment control Bylaw is on the Special Town Meeting warrant now scheduled for May 2024. It will be discussed by the Board again in late March/early April.

**Regarding changes to Title 5, and TMDL NSAs – (no new update)**

Changes to Title 5 became effective on July 7, 2023 and a new include watershed permit regulations, and new Nitrogen Sensitive Areas (NSA). Watersheds on Cape Cod with an EPA-approved Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) are now designated NSAs with timeframes for compliance with approved watershed plans.

It is important to note that Truro does not have a TMDL for nitrogen so the change in regulation has minimal impact on most of Truro. However, a portion of South Truro is in the Wellfleet Harbor Watershed. In October the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP), Watershed Planning Program (WPP), announced the approval of the Final Wellfleet Harbor Embayment System Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) For Total Nitrogen by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). You can find a copy of the permit at:

<https://www.mass.gov/doc/final-total-nitrogen-tmdl-for-wellfleet-harbor/download>

East Harbor and the Pamet River are both impaired water bodies, but neither have a TMDL for nitrogen, however, to protect these resources the Town is working proactively, to align our planning process with the new regulations. We have contracted with the engineering firm GHD to prepare our Comprehensive wastewater management plan which will guide our wastewater management activities across town. It is likely that we will be moving into a watershed permit application process within several years.

**Regarding Wastewater Management Planning/ Water Resources discussion with Provincetown:**

The Provincetown Water system IMA requires development of a Master Plan (to describe infrastructure improvements, upgrades, distribution, and expansion), and a Watershed plan, both to address the needs and concerns of both Communities. Staff from both Towns are discussing how we will develop a planning process for the development of these plans. It is anticipated that we will be meeting monthly to move the IMA projects forward.