

Town of Truro

Town Manager's Weekly Report

April 17, 2020

Announcements:

- **A Special Note from the Truro Health Department:**
Please help in slowing the spread of the COVID-19 virus by limiting movement outside of your homes beyond what is absolutely necessary to take care of essentials. We expect to see an increase in community spread, especially over the next two weeks. If you do need to go out, we advise you to wear a mask, maintain 6 feet social distancing, and follow good hygiene practices. While there is no need for panic, we want to highlight the seriousness of the pandemic. Our community WILL benefit from your decision to take precautions.
- *To the Truro Community – please do not hesitate to contact the Town if you need assistance. All phones are being monitored during normal business hours. Thank you for practicing social distancing, together we will get through this. Be well, stay safe and healthy. While Town Hall is closed to the public, you can still call or email staff. For information about how to conduct Town business, [click here](#).*
- *Travel Guidance released by Governor Baker directs that, beginning March 27, all travelers arriving to Massachusetts are instructed to self-quarantine for 14 days. Visitors are instructed not to travel to Massachusetts if they are displaying symptoms. Health care workers, public health workers, public safety workers, transportation workers and designated essential workers are exempt from this requirement.*
- *Town Board and Committee Meetings will be broadcast live on Channel 18 for Truro residents. We are now successfully live streaming on the Town Website. If you click to live stream the meetings on the Town website, we will announce when that is available. Please note that the meetings are held remotely, and you may only hear audio. For more information on remote meetings, please [click here](#).*
- *The Town of Truro posts updates about the COVID-19 pandemic on the Town website. Please [click here](#) for our COVID-19 Information Page. The COVID-19 Information Page button is now more prominent on the home page of the Town of Truro website.*

This week's activities of note from the Town Manager's Office:

- *Beach Parking areas and beaches remain open for all Town and CCNS beaches. Please continue to social distance and please do not litter.*
- *Assistant Town Manager Clark and I met virtually with various department heads to discuss preliminary plans for re-opening Town buildings. Pending guidance from the State, we are currently developing new procedures and evaluating programs and buildings to help minimize risk to our citizens and staff when Town buildings re-open in the future.*
- *The Truro Select Board voted to extend 2020 second half real estate and personal property tax payment and exemption deadlines to June 1, 2020 due to COVID-19. For more information, [click here](#).*
- *Please remember: **Short-term rentals of any kind are non-essential and are not allowed until at least after May 4 (unless the rentals are for healthcare workers or other essential workers)**. This is actively being enforced. Non-compliance will result in issuance of a Cease and Desist Order, non-criminal violation citations and fines. See Health Dept guidance [here](#).*

Upcoming Meetings:

- Tuesday, April 21-Board of Health Remote Meeting @ 4:00 pm.
- Tuesday, April 21-Select Board Remote Meeting @ 2:00 pm.

Department News:

Police Department

- In light of this week being National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week, Truro Police Department would like to recognize our Communications Division staff for their exceptional work, especially during this unprecedented and challenging time. Our dispatch members provide our community and town staff with a critical service, and they do so in a way that is second to none. Each member works very hard on a daily basis. Thank you for your deep commitment to our community!
- Members of Truro Police took part in the town's weekly birthday caravan on Wednesday, 04.15.2020.

Town of Truro Town Manager's Weekly Report

April 17, 2020

This was a wonderful event that celebrates members of our community.

- A few reminders:
 - If you contact the police department, for your safety and the safety of our officers, please let the call taker know if you or anyone in your household is experiencing any of the emergency warning signs of the COVID-19 virus. Common symptoms include difficulty breathing, fever, persistent pain or pressure in the chest, confusion or inability to arouse, loss of taste or smell, and bluish lips or face.
 - The meeting and training room at the Public Safety Complex remains closed due to local and state restrictions on public gatherings.
 - Due to temporary protocol changes and the need to limit facility visitors, the prescription drop-box remains closed.

DPW

- The Transfer Station will be closed on Monday, April 20, 2020 for Patriots Day.
- To address COVID-19, custodians continue to take special care of all entry ways and commonly used areas. Additional surface and hand sanitizer products have been ordered. We also expect additional supplies to arrive soon. The DPW will continue throughout the emergency event with standard staffing levels in all areas. DPW Highway crews will continue with routine springtime clean up and beach and park setup.
- In response to the circumstances related to the COVID-19, we have implemented modified operations at the Transfer Station. We will only be accepting solid waste (trash) and single stream recycling at this time. All other services will be closed. We respectfully request that residents hold onto items until normal operations resume. **Please note: to avoid large crowds, we recommend avoiding the Transfer Station during the following peak hours of traffic. Weekdays from 11AM to 2PM, and Weekends from 11AM to 2PM.** These modified operations will remain in effect until further notice.
- In addition, the following precautions/procedures have been initiated and will be maintained throughout the emergency event:
 - The Transfer Station will extend the off-season schedule and will continue to be closed Wednesdays and Thursdays until June 1, 2020.
 - The Transfer Station will be open Wednesdays from 8:00am-10:00am to accept yard waste only.
- Catch basin cleaning has been completed. Hot spots will be monitored through the summer season.
- To comply with a quarterly requirement, and as part of disaster preparedness, all dirt town roads have been regraded. This task will be completed again in July.
- Signs have been installed at the following locations reminding the public to maintain social distance; Pamet Harbor and all Town beaches.

Health Agent

- There continues to be many questions from the public about the increasing population in town, especially on Beach Point. Most of these questions pertain to Governor Baker's Order assuring continued operation of essential services in the Commonwealth, closing certain workplaces and prohibiting gatherings of more than 10 people which is in effect until May 4. We continue to message condominium associations and individuals who offer short-term rentals. The ban on short-term rentals is being enforced by our office.
- On April 10, DPH issued a formal advisory to the public to wear a face covering mask when in a situation where they may not be able to maintain social distancing. Guidance for when to wear a mask, and for using a mask can be found at <https://www.mass.gov/news/advisory-regarding-face-coverings-and-cloth-masks>
- The highlights from this week's DPH conference call included: 1. Roll-out of the Community Tracing Collaborative (CTC), which will provide support to each Town and develop a collaborative relationship to

Town of Truro Town Manager's Weekly Report

April 17, 2020

address the effort to stop the spread of Covid-19; 2. DPH has provided guidance to address non-health care essential workers that have had a possible exposure to Covid-19 and how they may continue to work/return to work; 3. DPH reported that antibody testing is being developed and coming on board; they have no date yet, but it is a priority, as is the push to expand testing. 4. Supplies of PPE continues to be an issue.

- This week Wellfleet Health Agent Hillary Greenberg-Lemos and I held another virtual meeting with our "DPH Communication Volunteers", and we have named our team the "Spokespersons for Health". Our Graduate student assistants, Salima Taylor and Marjorie Merisierre, are helping us to develop our communication strategy as we move forward into the season using the "Truro and Wellfleet Health Department" Facebook page. We are currently working on a piece to discuss the safety of take-out food, that will also provide citizens with an overview of the establishments providing takeout, curbside or delivery services. We will also provide information about how our establishments are adhering to the social distancing requirements, and how citizens can best access these local businesses.

Harbor Master/Shellfish Constable

- Harbor Master Jackett has been working in the Tidal mooring field replacing chain and shackles when needed.
- Harbor Master Jackett identified basin moorings and began placing some of them in the basin mooring area.
- Harbor Master Jackett took phone calls and answered questions about application fees and other boating questions.
- Several people were clamming off the bay beaches in areas where people can spread out.

Recreation and Beach

- We would like to remind the public to continue to practice social distancing while visiting parks, trails, and beaches.
- The department would like to thank everyone that participated in the QR Code Easter Egg Scavenger Hunt (Picture attached) and the Birthday Caravan on 4/15/20.
- The Truro Community Center is closed but staff can still be reached by phone (508) 487-1632 or email at dclements@truro-ma.gov
- Department organized a Truro Birthday Caravan on Wed., 4/15/20, to spread some birthday cheer to local children. To view this caravan click [HERE](#). Contingent on registrations, this event will be held every Wednesday in April. For more information or to sign up, visit www.trurorec.com
- Recreation staff have been meeting daily online via Microsoft Teams.
- Department is working on organizing an online Bingo. More details to follow.
- Puma Park Playground is currently closed to stop the spread of the Coronavirus.
- The Recreational League determined to cancel the Spring Softball season due to the COVID-19.
- Department staff have been taking webinars and online trainings.
- All programming is suspended to stop the spread of the Coronavirus.
- Department is working with Fire Department to schedule CPR / 1st Aid / Stop the Bleed training for seasonal staff.

Suspended Activities

- Walking Group
 - Tuesdays 9:00 am
- Indoor Walking
 - Various times at the Truro Community Center
- Zumba Fitness
 - Tuesday & Thursday, 8:30 am – 9:30 am at the Truro Community Center
 - Saturday 9:00 am – 10:00 am at the Truro Community Center
- Community Pickleball
 - Mondays: 4:00 – 6:00 pm, Truro Community Center

Town of Truro Town Manager's Weekly Report

April 17, 2020

- Thursdays: 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm, Truro Community Center
- Fridays: 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm, Truro Central School
- Saturdays: 10:30 am – 1:30 pm, Truro Community Center
- Adult Indoor Soccer
 - Monday 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm, Truro Community Center
- Community Volleyball
 - Wednesday 6:30 pm – 9:30 pm, Truro Community Center
- The Truro Beach Office is currently closed and is tentatively scheduled to reopen on June 13, 2020.
- For inquiries about the beaches, please call (508)487-1632.
- Beach stickers are not currently required to access Truro beach parking lots. Beach stickers will be required on June 20, 2020.
- 2019 Truro ORV stickers can be purchased by contacting the Rec & Beach Office at dclements@truro-ma.gov or calling (508)487-1632.

Council on Aging

- COA staff continuing to handle all incoming calls and emails remotely.
- COA staff are calling all elders of concern, center participants, and responding to all requests for help/information.
- COA staff working on May only newsletter to be posted online and delivered with food delivery programs.
- COA staff planning to continue our monthly birthday celebrations via online and telephone contact.
- COA staff are connecting with other COAs to collaborate on programs and activities offered online during this crisis.
- COA Director and outreach coordinator acting as liaison for older adults in need and Community Neighbor-Truro volunteer group.
- COA Director continuing Live Facebook Dialogue with the Director M, W, F @ 10:00am.
- Participating in Lower Cape Outreach Council Food Pantry delivery project and have distributed 35-60 bags of food per week.
- COA Director conferencing with COAST (Councils on Aging Serving Together), Barnstable County Health Department, Elder Services, SHINE, and CCRTA to coordinate efforts to meet the needs of Cape Cod's older adult population.
- COA staff working with Community Kitchen to provide hot meal to older adults on Sundays.
- Transportation currently suspended, working with CCRTA on potential for on demand "super dart" to help people with grocery pickup, prescription pickup and medical appointments.
- COA Director working with Library staff to coordinate possible joint online programming.

Library

- Library staff is continuing to collaborate with each other and perform the services they can from home.
- Discussions among staff and trustees are starting to adapt procedures and activities to our new reality.

Town Planner

- The Town Planner continues to work on compliance for approved projects under construction, coordination of current and future applications to the regulatory boards, and research on zoning and legal matters relevant to the Town.

Town of Truro Town Manager's Weekly Report

April 17, 2020

Assessing

- Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, this week the Select Board adopted local options that allows bills due to the Town with a due date of March 10, 2020 or later to be due on June 1, 2020. This includes 2nd half Real Estate Tax bills and Motor Vehicle Excise Tax bills with a due date of 5/1/20, which are now due June 1, 2020. Also, FY20 Statutory and Residential Exemption Applications-previously due 4/1/20 are now due on June 1, 2020. Please feel free to contact the Assessor's Office with any questions at 508.349.3004 x 116 and we will be happy to assist.

Attachments

QR Easter Egg Hunt

