

Town of Truro Town Manager's Weekly Report

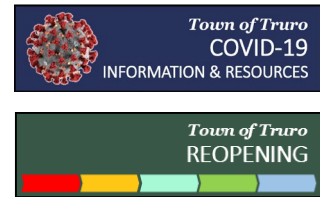
October 23, 2020

Announcements:

- Masks are required in public areas where social distancing is not possible (per Governor Baker's Order) and in public areas of Town at all times (per Truro Board of Health). Exceptions include children under the age of 2 and those unable to wear a mask or face covering due to a medical condition. View the Truro Board of Health Regulation [here](#). View the Governor's Order [here](#).
- Citizens can view virtual meetings on Channel 18 in Truro and on the web on the "Truro TV Channel 18" button under "Helpful Links" on the homepage of the Town of Truro website. Click on the green "Watch" button in the upper right of the page. Please note that the meetings are held remotely. For more information on remote meetings, please [click here](#).
- Truro has one active COVID case and 16 resolved cases. Please remain vigilant. Wear a mask, wash your hands and practice social distancing.



Quick Links



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

- I attended an informative virtual training session sponsored by the Massachusetts Municipal Management Association. The topic was municipal investigations involving discrimination.
- In-person early voting began on Saturday 10/17/2020 at Town Hall and there has been a steady stream of voters this week. Please [click here](#) for a complete list of days and times for early voting. To request a ballot by mail, simply [apply](#). Don't forget that in addition to mailing early voting and absentee ballots, you can also drop them in our new Official Ballot Drop Box at Town Hall. Questions may be directed to 508-349-7004 x126.

Upcoming Meetings:

- Monday, October 26-Zoning Board of Appeals Remote Hearing @ 5:30pm.
- Tuesday, October 27-Select Board Remote Meeting @ 5:00pm.
- Wednesday, October 28-Planning Board Remote Work Session @ 1:00pm.
- Thursday, October 28-Truro Housing Authority Remote Meeting @ 4:15pm.

Department News:

Police

- There has been an uptick in statewide fraudulent unemployment claims. The Department of Unemployment Assistance has reported that criminal enterprises have attempted to use stolen personal information from earlier national data breaches as part of a country-wide unemployment scheme. If you believe that a fraudulent unemployment claim has been filed on your behalf, please contact the Truro Police Department. Additionally, you can take the following steps to protect yourself against the effects of these types of claims:
 - Change passwords on your email, banking, and other personal accounts.
 - Contact your credit card companies, banks, and other financial institutions to report the attempted fraud. You can also place alerts on your account.
 - Get a copy of your credit report and dispute any fraudulent transactions.
 - Place a credit freeze with each of the three major credit reporting agencies.
 - Contact the DUA customer service department at 877-626-6800.
- Members of the Truro Police Department will again take part in the Home Base "No-Shave November" campaign. Funds donated by our members are used to support veterans and their families as they heal from invisible wounds, such as post-traumatic stress and traumatic brain injury. If you are interested in learning more about this campaign, or wish to contribute, please visit the following link:

Town of Truro

Town Manager's Weekly Report

October 23, 2020

<https://because.massgeneral.org/fundraiser/2990018>.

- This week, we experienced widespread power outages in town. During these periods of lost power, our 911 emergency system was not impacted and remained fully operational.

DPW

- The opening of the Swap Shop will be evaluated at COVID – 19 Reopening Phase 4.
- DPW Director Cabral prepared a status report of Truro's various environmental projects. You can view it [here](#).
- As the fall approaches, the DPW will begin to inventory and service all snow removal assets and review Department call-in procedures.
- We have scheduled the bell technician to adjust and test the bells along with the DPW at the end of October.
- The annual third-party inspection of the Transfer Station has been completed. Initial feedback from the inspector was that we have no discrepancies regarding operational and regulatory functions. We look forward to reviewing the formal report.
- Fall brush cutting of all Town roads will begin next week, along with catch basin inventory and cleaning. As part of disaster preparedness, we will continue to take a more aggressive approach to brush cutting roadsides.
- As we head into the winter season, all culverts and waterways will be evaluated for any obstructions and sediment buildup. As was done last year, we will clean and jet culverts as needed.
- Resurfacing the apparatus bay at the Safety Facility started this week. We anticipate the work taking up to four weeks.

Harbor Master/Shellfish Constable

- Shellfish Constable Jackett took water and shellfish samples with DMF for testing at State Lab prior to opening shellfish beds in early November.
- Harbor Master Jackett started taking out basin floats and storing them at the edges of the parking lot as some of the fleet has hauled out for the season. Removing the moorings in the tidal mooring field continues.
- There have been fewer boats fishing as the weather has begun to shift toward more frequent windy days.

Recreation and Beach

- We would like to remind the public to continue to practice social distancing while visiting parks, trails, playgrounds and beaches and wear a face covering when in public. For more information concerning COVID-19 click [HERE](#)
- **Youth Soccer Instructional Program** is currently running. For more information click [HERE](#). To sign up call (508)487-1632 or email dclements@truro-ma.gov
- **You Trick, We Treat: A Reverse Halloween Experience.** As a collaboration between Provincetown and Truro, community members can participate in a reverse trick or treating event "You Trick we Treat" on October 29th, 2020. Due to the current pandemic, Provincetown's and Wellfleet's 'Trunk or Treats' have been cancelled and replaced with this safe, yet fun alternative. Community members that live in either of the two towns will be required to sign up online and on October 29th to have a treat bag delivered to their household by the Fire and Police Department. Deliveries of treat bags will be contactless so please provide a treat bucket or an area clearly marked where you would like us to leave the treats. Although we are requiring drop off to be contactless, we encourage all to get dressed up in their costumes and wave to the first responders upon drop off from a safe distance! For more information or to sign up, please visit: www.trurorec.com

Registration Deadline: 10/27/20

Town of Truro

Town Manager's Weekly Report

October 23, 2020

- **Pumpkin Carving Contest.** The Truro Recreation & Beach Department would like to invite Truro residents (and TCS students), of all ages, to participate in our Pumpkin Carving Contest. This is a free event with trophies awarded in 3 categories: scariest, funniest, most creative. Carve your pumpkin at home, name it, and bring it to the Truro Community Center at a scheduled day and time, between 10/26/20 and 10/29/20. No carving will be permitted at the event. Pumpkins will be on display at the Truro Community Center between 10/26/20 through 11/6/20. Battery operated candles will be provided for illumination. Real candles or open flames are not permitted. Judging will begin on Friday, 10/30/20, and the winning pumpkins will be announced at 4:00 pm via Facebook and the department's website.
Registration Deadline: 10/28/20
- **The Truro Community Center** is closed, but staff are still in the office. Staff can still be reached by phone (508)487-1632, email dclements@truro-ma.gov, or via Facebook, and Twitter.
- **The Truro Beach Office** (36 Shore Rd) is closed and beaches are no longer protected by lifeguards. Currently beach stickers are not required to visit Town of Truro beaches or park in Town of Truro beach parking lots. ORV stickers are still required to access the bayside, off-road corridor. To order online click [HERE](#). For inquiries about the beaches, please call (508)487-6983. Truro beach fire permits are currently suspended.

COVID – 19 Beach Safety Rules:

- Stay home if you feel sick.
- Practice social distancing. Maintain at least 6 feet of distance between you and others.
- Practice beach distancing. Maintain at least 12 feet of distance from your nearest neighbor in any direction.
- Masks are required when 6 feet of distance cannot be maintained for ages 2 and up. Masks are not required to be worn while swimming or sunbathing.
- **Puma Park Playground** is open. We remind the public to practice social distancing and wear a face mask in public. The playground is cleaned weekly and hand sanitizing stations are present. Portable restrooms are no longer available.
- **Shark Warning** – Great White Sharks are still active through October. Practice shark safety.
 - Don't swim where seals are present.
 - Don't swim too far from shore.
 - Swim in groups.
 - Avoid wearing shiny jewelry or other accessories (which look like fish scales to a shark).
 - Avoid surfing alone.
 - Avoid areas with signs of baitfish or fish feeding activity – watch for diving seabirds.
 - Be aware that sharks may be present between sandbars or near steep drop offs.
- Except as indicated, programming/activities are suspended to stop the spread of the Coronavirus.

Health Department

- On Thursday, October 15th, the Town and Truro Central School conducted our pilot sampling program to test asymptomatic Town and School staff members for SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. The clinic went smoothly, and 44 volunteers participated. Results were emailed to participants about 36 hours after sampling was completed. The samples were analyzed at a lab affiliate of the Broad Institute in Cambridge. We achieved our goals with this pilot, which facilitated development of a relationship with the Cambridge Innovation Center; we are now an active client. Should we need to implement testing within the school or specific Town Departments, we can quickly and easily mobilize a sampling program.
 - As an informative aside: The sampling procedure used obtained a specimen from the front of the nose-this is an anterior nasase specimen. This differs from the long swab sampling technique most people are familiar with-and squeamish about-and obtains a nasopharyngeal

Town of Truro Town Manager's Weekly Report

October 23, 2020

- specimen. In discussing the sampling with staff, several participated due to the type of specimen that would be collected and were much more comfortable with the idea of the short swab procedure. It is our hope that future work with CIC will include different sampling techniques, such as saliva, as well as surveillance testing.
- Our 2020 seasonal influenza vaccine clinic will be held on Thursday, October 29th. We have just changed the hours of the clinic, which will be held from **10 to 1 PM** at the Truro Community Center. This will be a drive-thru clinic, for pre-registered citizens only. We are re-opening registration this week as an additional 100 doses, (including additional senior doses) have been made available. Register at: clinics@barnstablecountyhealth.org
 - We have set up additional influenza vaccine clinics in coordination with the Truro Central School, Wellfleet Health Department and the Wellfleet Elementary School. These 2 clinics will be for families and teachers and will be held on December 4th in Wellfleet in their gymnasium and in Truro on December 11th as a drive thru. Participants from each school can attend either clinic. The details on these clinics are still coming together, but pre-registration will be required.
 - In September, the Town signed a contract with the Cape Cod Commission to conduct a watershed analysis of Standish/Pilgrim Pond. Part of this study will include an evaluation of the nutrient loading to the Pond. We will sample private wells in the watershed to determine the water quality. The development of a sampling strategy/sampling plan will be a part of this project and will be transferrable to other areas of town. The study will also focus on evaluating the stormwater inputs from Route 6. We are optimistic that this project will provide direction for future wastewater management in the area, as well as sound mitigation recommendations to address the health of the Pond.

Library

- A Story Walk is basically taking a book outside and reading it as you walk – it's a fun way for families to enjoy a book while enjoying some fresh air and exercise. Until the end of October, Small's Swamp Trail in the Pilgrim Heights features the story "Hiking Day" about a diverse New England family, getting out of the city and onto the trail just as fall arrives.
- Halloween Give Away: Grab bags with a book, activity sheets, stickers, and some not-too-sweet treats! Please sign up for one by calling 508-487-1125 or emailing trurocurbside@gmail.com to arrange a pick-up time on Saturday, October 31st between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.
- Make Your Own Monsters in a STEAM workshop for children aged 10 and up will run for 6 sessions. Supplies are provided at the library. Please register at fullsteamaheadcc@gmail.com and a link will be sent to you.

Assessing

- FY2021 tax bills were mailed Friday, October 9th and are due November 10, 2020. If you have not received your tax bill, please feel free to contact the Assessor's Office so we can assist.
- Real Estate and Personal Property Abatements are due by November 9th @ 4pm. If you have a question on your assessment, please contact the Assessor's Office or see the information on our website.
- The deadline for exemptions for FY21 is April 1, 2021. This includes all Residential (Truro is your Primary Domicile) and Statutory Exemptions (Seniors meeting strict Income and Asset guidelines, Disabled Veterans, and the Blind).
- Please feel free to contact the Assessor's Office with any questions at 508.349.7004 x116 and we will be happy to assist.

Attachments

Town of Truro
Town Manager's Weekly Report

October 23, 2020

