

Town of Truro

Town Manager's Weekly Report

August 13, 2021

Announcements:

- **Town Offices Add More In-Person Service Hours**

Town Hall is now open to the public Tuesdays through Fridays from 8 am to 4 pm. Town Hall will remain closed to the public on Mondays, but will continue to provide virtual, remote and online services.

The Public Library offers browsing and other library services for the public from 12 pm to 6 pm on Tuesday and Thursday and from 10 am to 4 pm on Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. Contactless pickup continues to be available.

The Community Center is open for in-person programming and appointments to the public Tuesdays through Fridays from 8 am to 4 pm but are available by phone and email on Mondays.

Masks are required in all public buildings until further notice.

Masks are no longer required outdoors on Town property.

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

- The Truro Board of Health amended their Mask Order to require masking in all businesses and places of assembly regardless of vaccination status and provided clarifying information for specific industries. You can read the press releases related to these amendments [here](#) and [here](#). To view the Order, [click here](#). The Board of Health also provided guidance on meetings of Town Boards/ Committees/ Commission during their August 6th meeting. The Board of Health does not recommend indoor meetings at this time. Outdoor meetings are recommended in spaces that are accessible for individuals with disabilities, where the meeting is recorded, and where the board members and the public can maintain adequate space between each other. Continued use of remote meetings is encouraged.
- We received preliminary census results indicating that Truro's population has increased 9% since 2019 and 22.5% since 2010. There are significant increases in residents of color and a decrease in total housing units. The complete census data will be important as Truro addresses its housing crisis, labor shortages, and overall sustainability. This data will also inform many of Truro's planning processes that are starting or are underway, including efforts from the Local Comprehensive Plan Committee and the Walsh Property Community Planning Committee, as well as the regional emergency medical services analysis and future review of zoning bylaws.
- Truro's current case count reflects 5 positive antigen or PCR test results from tests administered by a healthcare provider. This count is representative only of people who have been tested and only those who have reported that they are residing at an address in Truro. We know that a portion of these cases are linked to the "Provincetown cluster" or are linked to contacts of the cluster. The case counts in the recent weeks are indicative of the viral load in our community. Please be safe and utilize personal protective measures as appropriate, even if you are vaccinated. If you are experiencing symptoms, even if you are vaccinated, please get tested. Outer Cape Health Services offers testing and vaccination appointments at their locations. <https://www.outercape.org/services/covid-information/>
Please note, if you test positive for COVID-19 you will need to isolate for 10 days even if you are vaccinated.
- Assistant Town Manager Clark and I virtually attended the Cape & Islands Managers Meeting. Discussion focused on local mask mandates, seasonal labor shortages and plastic bottle bans.
- Chief Calise, Chief Collins, Public Works Director Cabral, Assistant Town Manager Clark and I met with Allen Eyden of PanMass Challenge to debrief on this year's event and to begin planning for next year. We made verbal recommendations for a route change that would keep riders on Route 6 rather than traveling up Castle Road and would bring them down South Highland Road and Highland Road. This route change would help address public safety, traffic and access concerns and we will put those recommendations in writing to the PanMass Challenge Coordinators.
- The **2020 Truro Annual Town Report** is available on the [Town Website](#).
- The Walsh Property Community Planning Committee is looking for a high school Committee member. For more information on applying please complete the [Application to Serve](#).

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Upcoming Meetings:

- Tuesday, August 17, 2021-Board of Health at 4:30pm.
- Wednesday, August 18, 2021-Planning Board at 5:00pm.
- Thursday, August 19, 2021-Climate Action Committee at 10:30am.
- Thursday, August 19, 2021-Pamet Harbor Commission at 5:00pm.

Department News:

DPW

- The Transfer Station is open seven days a week, May 1, 2021, through October 31, 2021.
- **Reminder** Residents can check their Transfer Station license plate status on the Town website by viewing News & Announcements under the DPW/Transfer Station website and clicking Transfer Station Access – License Plate lookup. Just enter your plate number and view your expiration date.

Harbor Master/Shellfish Constable

- The basin mooring list has been updated.
- Moorings in the tidal mooring field have been adjusted.
- The flats in the inner harbor are being walked to check the green crab traps.
- There were several people clamming off Corn Hill beach this week.

Recreation and Beach

- **COA, and Recreation**, 7 Standish Way: Beginning July 2, 2021, COA/Rec will offer in-person programming and appointments to the public, Tuesday-Friday, 8-4. Virtual programming will be available on Mondays-please contact COA/Rec respectively to schedule. COA/Rec staff will continue to be available by phone and/or email on Mondays.
- **Online Sticker Sales** – To purchase a beach sticker online click [HERE](#).
- **Be Shark Smart** – Atlantic White Shark Conservancy continues the Be Shark Smart program at Head of the Meadow Beach to educate the public about the presence of sharks in the waters around Cape Cod. The program will run at Head of the Meadow on Fridays from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm until Labor Day.
- **Beach Fires** – Beach Fire Permits are available online. For more information click [HERE](#).
- **Youth Soccer** – The Department is preparing to open registration for the youth soccer season.
- **Lower Cape Recreational League** – Director Clements attends a virtual meeting with other Recreation Departments to discuss the upcoming fall season.
- **Summer Rec Youth Program** – Currently only working Truro residents are eligible for the program. For more information click [HERE](#). The program runs from July 6 – August 20. Activities this week included PJ & Movie Day, Science Day, and Water Day.
- **Pet Closures** – Truro Beach Rules and Regulations state: All Animals Are Prohibited Between the Hours of 9:00 am And 6:00 pm, from the third Saturday in June through Labor Day. In addition, beach restrictions for pets may be increased due to the presence of shorebirds. The QR code provides a detailed description of Truro Beach Pet Closures. If you have any questions as to whether pets are allowed, feel free to call (508)487-6983. Click [HERE](#) for an up- to- date listing.
- **ORV** – The purchase of an O.R.V. Beach Sticker grants access to the O.R.V. Corridor on beaches owned by the Town of Truro ONLY. The Town of Truro can neither grant nor prohibit access to beach areas owned privately. Entry onto private land may subject O.R.V. drivers to a claim of trespass by the property owner(s). Due to nesting shorebirds both access points at Corn Hill and Beach Point are closed.



SCAN ME

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- **Beach Clean-Up Bags** – Thanks to the efforts of Ellery Althaus this program concept has become a reality. Two Beach Clean-Up Bag stations have been installed by the DPW: one at Head of the Meadow Beach and one at Corn Hill Beach. As more stations are built, they will be installed. The goal is to have a station at each of the Town of Truro beaches.
- **The Truro Beach Office** (36 Shore Rd) (36 Shore Rd) The office is open 7 days / week from 9:00 am – 5:00 pm. Beach stickers are required starting Sat., June 19, 2021. 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.
- **Programs** – Director Clements is working to bring back programs like these and new ones to the Community Center.
 - **Zumba Fitness** – The following classes have started back up:
 - **Zumba Fitness with Julie:** Tues., Thur., Sat. 9:00 am -10:00 am. Truro Community Center
 - **Zumba Dance Fitness with Naya:** Weds., 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm. Truro Community Center.
 - **Zumba Strong Nation with Naya:** - Weds., starting, 7/21/21, 6:30 pm – 7:00 pm. Truro Community Center.
 - **Iyengar Yoga with Karin Stephan:** Classes to begin in August. More details to follow.
 - **Indoor Pickleball:** We are searching for volunteers to be Program Supervisors for our indoor Pickleball program. For more info. or to volunteer, contact Damion Clements at dclements@truro-ma.gov or call (508)487-1632.

Suspended Activities

- Walking Group
- Indoor Walking
- Community Indoor Pickleball
- Adult Indoor Soccer
- Community Volleyball

Council on Aging

- COA open to the public Tuesday-Friday 8-4. Virtual programming available on Mondays. Staff available by phone and/or email on Mondays 8-4. **Masks are required in all town buildings.** If you need one just ask. We will gladly provide one for you.
- COA welcomes back our Strength Training class Wednesdays and Fridays at 9am. Space is limited to 10-12 people.
- COA launches new drive through, take-out lunch program the 2nd and 4th Friday of the month beginning August 13th. Registration is required.
- COA Outreach offering home visit program. Call the Outreach Department to schedule.
- COA Director collaborating with Recreation Director to offer intergenerational programs.
- COA offering indoor and outdoor games on Tuesdays, 1-3. All ages are welcome.
- COA Transportation available for essential medical rides now on Tuesdays and Thursdays with continued safety protocols in place. Masks are required for driver and all passengers.
- COA offering virtual programming through Zoom, thumbnails for COA website, Facebook page as well as Channel 18 and 99.
- Director Briscoe facilitating virtual Psychoeducational Support Group.
- Director Briscoe offering LGBT group. If interested call the COA to register; 508-487-2462.
- Lower Cape Outreach Council Food Pantry will resume regular operations September 8, 2021. Contact LCOC for more information.
- COA Director conferencing with COAST (Councils on Aging Serving Together), Barnstable County Human Services, Elder Services, EOEA to coordinate efforts to meet the needs of Cape Cod's older adult

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population through virtual programing and to develop reopening plans with respective towns.

Assessing

- The Assessor's Office is accepting applications for the Residential and Statutory Exemptions for the Fiscal Year 2022. Applications are due April 1, 2022. If you are already receiving the Residential Exemption, there is no need to reapply. The Assessor's Office will notify you if requirements are not met.
- All Statutory Exemptions (Seniors meeting strict income & asset guidelines, Disabled Veterans, Blind, etc.) must reapply annually, and applications have already been mailed out to last year's Statutory Exemption recipients.
- **New** is the EXPANDED Rental Residential Exemption. It was passed at Town Meeting 2019, signed into law by the MA legislature in Feb 2021 and takes effect for FY2022. This assists in creating more year-round rental housing for residents of Truro and incentivizes owners to do so. It permits owners to receive an exemption off their tax bill provided that they rent their home to a tenant on an annual basis and the tenant establishes the property as their primary domicile as of the January 1st prior to the Fiscal Year. There must be a Year-Round Lease signed by both parties in effect annually. The expansion is based upon the Residential Exemption. If the Select Board elects to implement the Residential Exemption, the Expanded will be enacted and at the same rate. Each parcel may only qualify for either the Residential or the Expanded Residential Exemption and not both. Please contact the Assessor's Office for more information.
- Exemption Applications received by August 31, 2021 will receive reductions on the October Tax Bill.