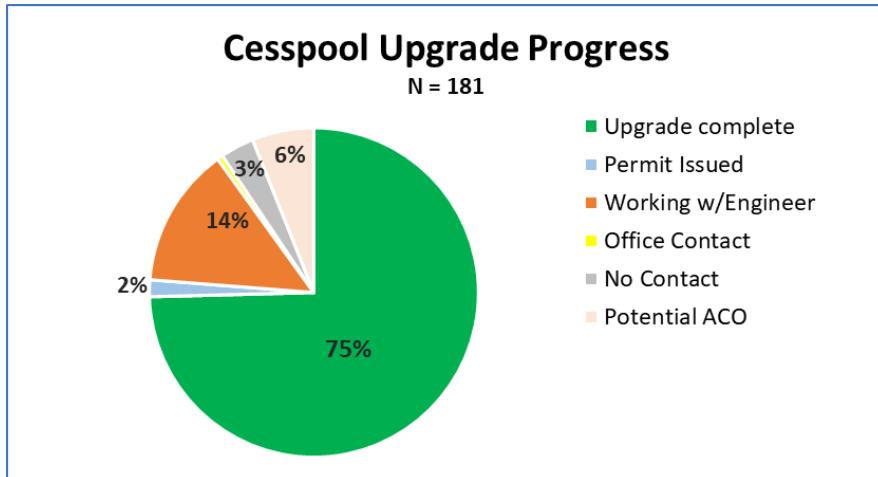


Memo to: Truro Board of Health
From: Emily Beebe, Truro Health & Conservation Agent
Date: June 17, 2025
Re: **Water Resources Update**



Regarding cesspool upgrades to Title 5

To date, 77% of properties with cesspools have either completed the upgrade process or have permits issued to do so. 14% are working with engineers and installers.



Regarding Administrative Consent Orders (ACOs)

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. 7 properties still need to come before the Board to have the ACO variance approved. Discussion on feasibility (costs/approach) of sewerizing the Beach Point area are anticipated for October 2025.

Regarding stormwater management At the 2025 Annual Town meeting, borrowing authorization was granted for the Pond Road stormwater improvement project, and supported at the ballot on May 13.

Regarding changes to Title 5, and TMDL NSAs

In 2023, Title 5 was amended to include watershed permit regulations and include newly defined criteria for estuarine watersheds that are Nitrogen Sensitive Areas or, NSA's. The amendment only addresses watersheds on Cape Cod with an EPA-approved Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) assessed for nitrogen. These new NSAs must come into compliance, by submitting watershed plans.

The Wellfleet Harbor Embayment System has an approved TMDL. The Wellfleet Harbor watershed public notice, and the Wellfleet Harbor Watershed Milestone Schedule are both available on the Health Department web page under the Wastewater Management tab.

You can find a report of the final Wellfleet Harbor Embayment System Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) For Total Nitrogen at: <https://www.mass.gov/doc/final-total-nitrogen-tmdl-for-wellfleet-harbor/download>

Water sampling of the Pamet has begun. The Center for Coastal Studies is working with our Harbormaster to ensure that the 7 stations of the 2010 604b sampling program are sampled 2x month.

Regarding Wastewater Management Planning/ Water Resources discussion with Provincetown

The next joint staff meeting will be held June 26 to continue the planning work on the Watershed management plan and the water system master plan.

Working with Scott Horsley and GHD to develop permittable wastewater treatment options for the Walsh property will continue in July.

PFAS (Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances) Update

Water sampling in homes downgradient of the DPW facility and a few more homes near the transfer station was completed this winter. Additional sampling is occurring as property owners return to open for the season. Several homes downgradient of the DPW facility had detectable levels of pfas and one home exceeded the standard. One home downgradient of the transfer station had detectable levels of pfas.

As an immediate temporary measure at homes where pfas have been detected, bottled water has been supplied. Long term and more permanent measures include equipping these homes with carbon filtration systems to remove the pfas from the water as it comes into the house.

The Barnstable County Water Quality Lab now offers PFAS testing, and bottles are available for pickup from our office. Pfas analysis cost is \$265. For more information visit the lab's webpage:

<https://www.capecod.gov/2025/02/27/new-pfas-monitoring/>

Truro Pond WQ testing-HABS and Cyanobacteria:

The pond water quality sampling program for Standish pond is underway for the season.

A map of Truro's Ponds can be found at:

<https://www.truro-ma.gov/conservation-department/pages/ponds>