

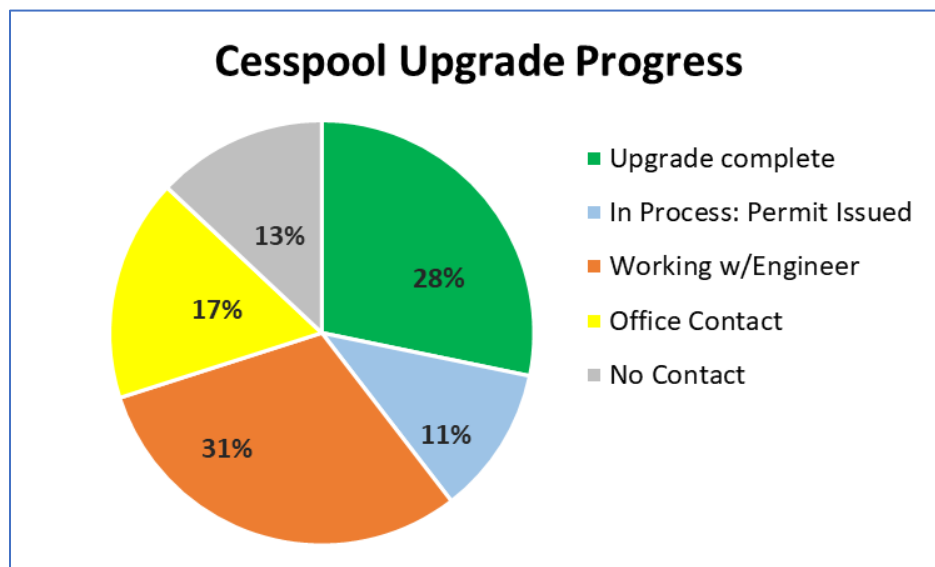


TOWN OF TRURO
HEALTH & CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT
24 Town Hall Road, Truro 02666
508-349-7004 x119

Memo to: Truro Board of Health
From: Emily Beebe, Truro Health & Conservation Agent
Date: June 14, 2023
Re: **Water Resources Update May 2023**

Regarding cesspool upgrades to Title 5

To date, 39% of the properties with cesspools have either completed the upgrade process or have permits issued to do so. 31% are working with engineers and 17% have contacted our office with questions but may not yet be under contract with an Engineer/designer. Our challenge remains making direct contact with the 23 homeowners who we have not yet heard from, so that we may assist them in their efforts to comply.



Regarding Administrative Consent Orders (ACOs) The proposed revisions to the Board of Health regulations that incorporate the use of ACOs to form legal agreements between the Board of Health and property owners regarding the specific circumstances about their septic upgrade process was approved at their meeting of June 6, and will be effective July 1. ACOs will be processed as variance requests to title 5 as part of the CWMP process.

Regarding stormwater management- Stormwater and Sediment control regulations will be advanced to the Fall Town Meeting in October, for which the warrant closes August 10. An updated draft of the revised bylaw (comments made to date are incorporated) will be discussed at the July 3 Conservation Commission meeting, and the July 18 Board of Health meeting. We also intend to schedule a public meeting following the BoH meeting for additional discussion and comment opportunities.

Regarding Wastewater Management Planning:

On May 25 we met with GHD and Scott Horsley to review the CWWMP process with our planner, DPW Director, assistant Town Manager, and assistant Health & Conservation Agents. The plan will have a 20-year planning horizon. Ultimately, the Needs Assessment portion of the plan will help us determine how much wastewater needs to be managed. A difficult aspect to quantify are wastewater flows, in a Town with only a small percent of the population is connected to the municipal water system. However, GHD has been working with Wellfleet, and they have similar infrastructure, similar land-use and the same patterns of seasonality. So, there are some assumptions that we can hold in common with Wellfleet, and GHD will apply the State projections for population growth.

The recommendations will likely provide us with some short-term objectives, as well as medium to longer term goals. Targeting fertilizers and stormwater are two actions that will help us reduce nutrient contribution. Developing metrics for monitoring the effectiveness of fertilizer reductions and stormwater treatment benefits *must be* built into any bylaws or regulations.

GHD will provide us with types of stormwater techniques that we may begin to use, and possibly recommend to homeowners. They will be working with us to help us with any SRF loan applications, which can provide up to 25% forgiveness on the principal loan. We are scheduling an update meeting with Provincetown after July 4th for us to provide the BoH with a more detailed assessment of our progress working with Provincetown on the concept of the shared sewerage.

Water Resources discussion with Provincetown:

The Provincetown-Truro staff/consultant team met on 6/12 to discuss the demand forecasts. The discussion was about how to determine safe yield, with an agreed upon methodology. Wastewater and salt water intrusion, and the return flow concept were also discussed. Both Towns are reaching out to their engineers to initiate a peer review of past and present modeling that has been used, and for each engineer to review material recently published by Sole-Source Consulting in regard to the aquifer under the Walsh property. Following the peer review work we can then move forward into the joint Watershed Management Plan.