



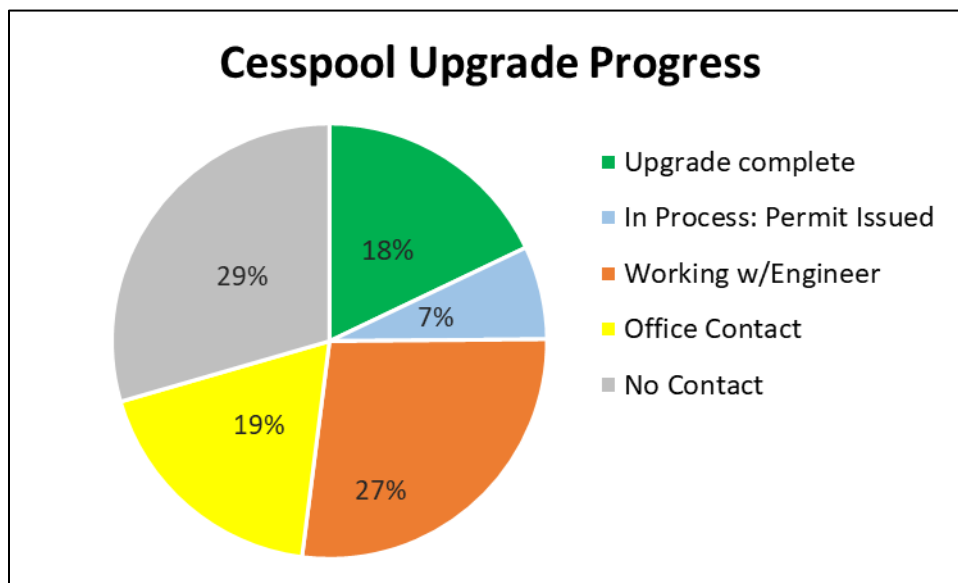
**TOWN OF TRURO**  
**HEALTH & CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT**  
24 Town Hall Road, Truro 02666  
508-349-7004 x119

Memo to: Truro Board of Health  
From: Emily Beebe, Truro Health & Conservation Agent  
Date: October 14, 2022  
Re: **Water Resources Update: October 2022**

**Regarding cesspool upgrades to Title 5**

To date, 25% of the properties with cesspools have either completed the upgrade process or have permits issued to do so. 27% are working with engineers and 19% have contacted our office with questions but may not yet be under contract with an Engineer/designer.

Our current challenge is making direct contact with the 51 homeowners who we have not yet heard from, so that we may assist them in their efforts to comply.



**FINANCING:**

The Barnstable County Health department has secured grant funding to enhance their septic loan program. They have not yet updated their program. We will be meeting with them in early November about their program changes and will report out once the information is released.

Loans are still available with a 5% interest rate.

The Truro regional Housing Rehabilitation grant Program is now being administered by TRI, the Resource Inc. This program provides income-based assistance for homeowners needing to make critical home repairs including septic system upgrades. Call 508-694-6521 with questions, or go to their website: <https://www.theresource.org/truroeasthampvincetown>

**Regarding Administrative Consent Orders (ACO's)** On 10/18/2022 the Board of Health will considering the adoption of language to bring the use of ACO's into their local title 5 regulations. The ACO is a tool that the Board of Health will use to form legal agreements with property owners regarding the specific

circumstances about a septic upgrade process. Once an understanding with a property owner has been forged, we will schedule a hearing with the Board of Health to discuss the situation that may trigger the use of an ACO. ACO's will have the authority to allow agreements to include establishing an escrow account, and also will typically include a compliance schedule that is specific and unique to a single property.

#### **Regarding the Massachusetts Estuaries project (MEP)**

We have no additional information about the MEP since our September report was submitted but we continue to reach out.

#### **Regarding stormwater management**

H&C staff have completed our first round of stormwater sampling at several locations on the Pamet, the Bound Brook area, Great Pond, the Village Pond and East Harbor/Pilgrim Lake. Sample analysis will give us a picture of what is moving into our surface waters from our roads and highways.

Mapping the data is underway.

#### **Regarding Pond water quality:**

As the cyanobacteria monitoring season ends, Pilgrim/Village Pond remained in acceptable condition after regular testing through the summer by the APCC cyanobacteria bacteria monitoring program.

The public Health advisory for Snow pond issued 9/8 by the Cape Cod National Seashore was lifted on September 23; a PH advisory for Ryder Pond was issued on 9/19, and just released 10/14.

#### **Regarding Private well water quality:**

Water testing kits are available at the Truro Health Department. Please call for a kit on Mondays, as the building is closed to the public on that day. A courier from Barnstable County lab picks up water samples on Tuesday and Thursday mornings each week at the Wellfleet Health Department at 220 West Main Street in Wellfleet. Please refer to the Truro Health department web page for more information on water testing your private well.

#### **Regarding MA DOT:**

The Outer Cape Conservation Agents are discussing a coordinated approach to engage the DOT about stormwater management.

#### **Upcoming Water Resources discussion:**

The Select Boards of both Truro and Provincetown will meet jointly on **October 24 at 6 PM** in Provincetown, and the meeting will be available virtually as well. The Boards will meet to hear an update about the Municipal Water Supply, the activities of the Municipal Water department, and future joint efforts regarding Water Resource Management.