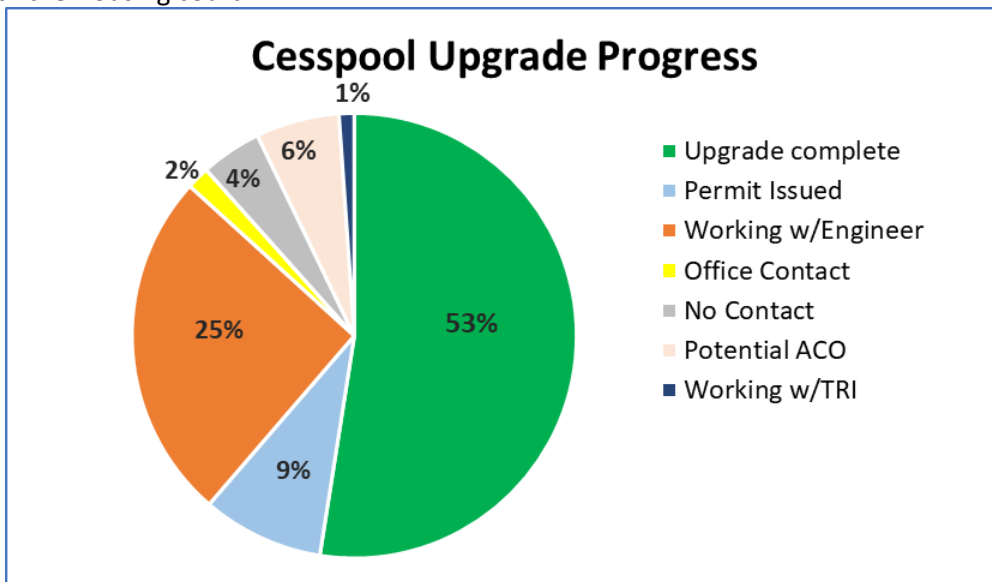


Memo to: Truro Board of Health
 From: Emily Beebe, Truro Health & Conservation Agent
 Date: February 20, 2024
 Re: **Water Resources Update February 2024**



Regarding cesspool upgrades to Title 5

To date, 62% of the properties with cesspools have either completed the upgrade process or have permits issued to do so. 26% are working with engineers. Letters have been sent to these homeowners so they are aware of the deadline for plans and install permits. 6% will enter into an ACO (described below). The remaining 6% of properties that have made no progress will be issued notices of violation filed with the Housing court.



Bucket	Count	Deadline
1	16	Installation by 9/1/2024 or 9 months from date of permit issuance
2	11	Completion of ACO by 6/1/2024
3	48	Plan complete by 5/1/2024, install within 9 months
4	11	12/31/2023



Regarding Administrative Consent Orders (ACOs). The Board of Health has approved issuing draft ACO's to 10 property owners on Beach Point to allow time for a possible connection to the Provincetown Municipal sewer, based on the result of our feasibility analysis being conducted by GHD. (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.) These draft ACO's must be finalized by June 1, 2024. Finalization includes approval of the variance that allows the agreement, by the Board of Health. The feasibility study is moving forward with an acceptable GPD value placeholder. Next steps will require development of the rough order of magnitude costs for Truro to connect to the existing treatment infrastructure which would be added to the collection costs. Grant funding sources need to be identified.

The Town and Engineers from GHD will be meeting with the DEP prior in Mid-March to review the use of the ACO process as part of our Comprehensive Wastewater Management planning strategy.

Regarding stormwater management- The Town has been working with the Horsley Witten Group, Inc. to design stormwater improvements along Pond Road. Stormwater management along Pond Road will provide treatment of the stormwater runoff for sediments, nutrients, and other pollutants prior to any discharge into Village Pond. At present the plans are at 30% of design completion. Funding to bring the plans to the bid-spec threshold of 75% will be sought at the 2024 ATM, putting us on target for implementation funding at 2025 ATM with construction planned for fall 2025. The designs will employ a variety of Best Management measures to treat the stormwater.

A proposed Stormwater and Sediment control Bylaw is on the Special Town Meeting warrant now scheduled for May 2024. It will be discussed by the Board again in late March/early April.

Regarding changes to Title 5, and TMDL NSAs – (no new update)

Changes to Title 5 became effective on July 7, 2023 and a new include watershed permit regulations, and new Nitrogen Sensitive Areas (NSA). Watersheds on Cape Cod with an EPA-approved Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) are now designated NSAs with timeframes for compliance with approved watershed plans.

It is important to note that Truro does not have a TMDL for nitrogen so the change in regulation has minimal impact on most of Truro. However, a portion of South Truro is in the Wellfleet Harbor Watershed. In October the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP), Watershed Planning Program (WPP), announced the approval of the Final Wellfleet Harbor Embayment System Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) For Total Nitrogen by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). You can find a copy of the permit at:

<https://www.mass.gov/doc/final-total-nitrogen-tmdl-for-wellfleet-harbor/download>

East Harbor and the Pamet River are both impaired water bodies, but neither have a TMDL for nitrogen, however, to protect these resources the Town is working proactively, to align our planning process with the new regulations. We have contracted with the engineering firm GHD to prepare our Comprehensive wastewater management plan which will guide our wastewater management activities across town. It is likely that we will be moving into a watershed permit application process within several years.

Regarding Wastewater Management Planning/ Water Resources discussion with Provincetown:

The Provincetown Water system IMA requires development of a Master Plan (to describe infrastructure improvements, upgrades, distribution, and expansion), and a Watershed plan, both to address the needs and concerns of both Communities. Staff from both Towns are discussing how we will develop a planning process for the development of these plans. It is anticipated that we will be meeting monthly to move the IMA projects forward.

Minutes of the Truro Board of Health, Tuesday February 6, 2024

This was a hybrid meeting held in person at Truro Town Hall in the Select Board chambers and via Zoom.

Board members in attendance: In person: Chair Tracey Rose; Board Members Helen Grimm & Brian Koll; Remote: Board Member Tim Rose; Absent: Vice Chair Jason Silva and Alternate Member Candida Monteith; Also Present in person: Health Agent Emily Beebe, Assistant Health Agent Courtney Warren.

The meeting was called to order at 4:31 pm by the Chair, who described the remote meeting procedures and the process for public participation.

Public Comment: Clinton Kershaw was present to describe a petitioned article he is drafting for the 2024 Annual Town Meeting warrant. The topic is to have the town plow private roads. He described his proposal as a benefit to health & safety. He asked the Board to provide an opinion letter to accompany his proposal and left his documentation with the Agent for inclusion in the next packet.

Proposed addition of Manager- Harborview Village, Peter DeAndrade. Peter De Andrade is a full-time resident at Harborview Village and has volunteered to be the third co-manager for the facility. Chair Tracey Rose confirmed that he understood the expectations of the Board of Health for a manager. **Motion:** Board member Helen Grimm moved to approve the addition of a manager; **Second:** Board member Brian Koll; **Vote:** 4-0; the motion carried.

Discussion on PFAS:

The Agent informed the Board that the most recent round of testing at the transfer station has come back with reportable concentrations of PFAS. The Town is working closely with Bryan Massa our LCP/consultant, and the DEP. Letters have been sent to three private properties downgradient of the site to arrange for testing of those private wells. DPW Director Jarrod Cabral noted that the DEP has not yet mandated testing for PFAS as part of the monitoring of landfills and transfer stations. This testing was done preemptively and self-reported to the DEP. Investigations will include a parcel file review, testing of all Transfer station monitoring wells along with the three private wells. Results of these activities will determine further action. Chair Tracey Rose commended Jarrod Cabral for being proactive with the testing. The Chair read a portion of a memo from the Health Agent to further describe what PFAS compounds are. Consultant Bryan Massa pointed out that the concentration dropped 50% between the two wells that were tested. The secondary investigation will work to determine whether the source could be leachate from the septage beds at the old landfill or some other background sources not related to the landfill. Board member Helen Grimm pointed out that PFAS is everywhere. Board member Brian Koll also commended Jarrod Cabral for his forethought in doing this testing. He also asked if PFAS was part of the reason for the carpet ban in the trash hopper. Jarrod Cabral confirmed that carpet was part of the waste ban, but small pieces can still go in the clothing trailer. Brian Koll also asked whether the dilution would be linear or more related to the soil. Bryan Massa explained that the big open, unpaved area allows precipitation to continually dilute the groundwater. He also noted environmental forensics will use the chemical fingerprint of the PFAS to help determine its source. The first step is to determine whether PFAS is in the private wells or not and then investigate/evaluate where it came from. The Chair stated that PFAS is in a

wide variety of products that we use every day. She also mentioned Stones Throw Condominiums who had PFAS tests exceeding the MCL in their public water supply well. The Chair asked the Agent if the source had been identified in that case. The Agent replied that the DEP had investigated the area for a source, and the Town did not yet have results. The Chair also asked about the disposal of filters from any filtration system. Bryan Massa stated that the typical treatment is either granulated activated carbon or organoclay filters. Some of these materials can be regenerated in a special facility under extreme heat and pressure. Other types of filters would need to be disposed of as hazardous waste. These are big units (500-10,000 lbs), not something small that a homeowner would throw in their own trash. Clint Kershaw asked about what was happening with determining the source of the Stones Throw contamination. The Agent reported that it does not appear that Stones Throw was the source. Karen Ruymann pointed out that PFAS is not going away, it's still in the soil. She is interested in ways to filter her own water since the chemicals are so ubiquitous and pointed out that the public will be looking to the Board of Health as a source of information and guidance. The Agent noted that groundwater is continually moving and that this is not a static situation. Board member Tim Rose remembered there being fires at the old landfill that were extinguished using firefighting foams. The Agent suggested putting PFAS on the future agenda when more information is available. The Chair also suggested including the topic in the monthly Water Resources report.

Transfer Station Update: Jarrod Cabral reviewed the budget and detailed fluctuations in both recycling and solid waste tonnage. The contract with SEMASS expires at the end of this year and contract negotiations are ongoing. Recent third-party inspections have found no discrepancies. The Chair commended Jarrod Cabral on the efficient transfer station operations and added that the Climate Action Committee's Talking Trash presentation was very good and recommended that citizens watch the video. The CAC has asked if this presentation can be repeated in the spring when more people are able to attend.

Discussion on Barnstable County Public Health Excellency Grant Memorandum of Understanding. – This shared services grant from DPH was awarded to Barnstable County, and Barnstable County is the fiduciary entity. The Agent explained that the draft MOU provided to the Board members would require both Board of Health and Select Board approval. Further, the Outer Cape towns are already working closely together, and this MOU does not in any way replace the intermunicipal agreement that is already in place between the four towns. This grant will unify access to training, credentialing, resources, and data reporting to the State and one of the main benefits is the access to training. A few towns on the Cape are not participating (Barnstable, Falmouth, Sandwich, Yarmouth) but most are. The Chair asked how training had been done in the past. The Agent explained that since Truro is so small, we often go to other towns for training. The Agent handed out the final version of the MOU and asked to discuss it again at the next meeting.

Minutes: January 19, 2024; **Motion:** Board member Brian Koll moved to approve the January 19, 2024 meeting minutes.; **Second:** Board member Helen Grimm; **Vote:** 3-0-1 with Board member Tim Rose abstaining.

Report of the Chair :

Chair Tracey Rose stated that the next meeting of the Provincetown Water & Sewer Board will be Thursday February 8th. She is continuing to work on goals and objectives for the Board of Health for the year. Since this is a new activity, it is taking a little longer than anticipated. She would like to discuss the proposed storm water by-law again as well as the proposed senior pass program and how that would impact the budget and tax rate.

Health Agent's Report:

Nalox boxes have been installed at the Library and Community Center. More boxes have been ordered and the Aids Support Group will make sure they are maintained. Narcan trainings are being scheduled, maybe even at future Board of Health meeting. Additionally, the Aids Support Group has a mobile unit that establish a set route going through each Outer Cape Town. Future locations of Nalox boxes were discussed and Board Member Brian Koll suggested that beaches might be a good place for Nalox boxes providing that the temperature control issues can be solved. Some could be stocked seasonally outdoors; he also suggested that the condo complexes should have Nalox boxes available, and the managers trained.

The Climate Action Committee will present a Climate Anxiety talk at the library on Saturday Feb 10th. As part of the ongoing CAC series on water, the Health Agent and Provincetown Water Superintendent Cody Salisbury will give a talk on March 7th at the library on Provincetown and Truro's shared freshwater resources. It was also noted that the First of the 3-part series of talks about Water Resources is now available on the town website.

Board member Helen Grimm moved to adjourn the meeting; Second: Board member Brian Koll; Vote: 3-0-0 (Board member Tim Rose had left the meeting), the motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Courtney Warren



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

To: Truro Board of Health
From: Emily Beebe, Health & Conservation Agent
Date: February 20, 2024
Re: Agenda Items- notes

Local Title 5/Variance Request: 258 Rte 6, Christyne Avila: The design for this upgrade to title 5 from cesspools shows the location of components as far from the wetlands on the south & west sides of the property as possible. This 2-bedroom dwelling will be served by a standard title 5, as it meets the upland area requirements for nitrogen loading. Although the lot area exceeds 2 acres, only 23,000 square feet are “upland” as defined by the Truro Board of Health regulations, which is sufficient area for the 2- bedroom design.

The variances are to allow reduction in the required setbacks from wetland resource areas. In this case the wetland area is noted on the plan as LSTCSF, which stands for Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage- aka the FEMA flood zone, which is classified by DEP as a wetland resource area. The elevation of the flood zone in this location is denoted on the plan as elevation 12’ (NAVD 88 flood datum).

Due to the location of the proposed well, and wetland resource areas, there is no place on the lot where the local setbacks can be met.

The standard of review for the Board of Health is to determine if the design showing reductions to the requirements of TBoH regulations will provide as much environmental and public health protection as would a plan without variances. A determination (such as a statement of finding) or a motion should be made to declare whether the proposed project meets this standard of review.

The property is within the watershed of the Little Pamet /Pamet River.

To be consistent with past actions, the Board should discuss their expectations to see a future requirement for use of I/A with Nitrogen removal below 10 mg/l in the Pamet Watershed

Condition of approval: Install *I/A with Nitrogen removal below 10 mg/l* when ordered to do so as part of a Pamet River Watershed Management Plan.

Extension Recommendation: 522 Shore Rd Septic System Inspection Report (4 months). This property has six separate systems, installed in 2012. They are inspected every 3 years. This year, they were due to be pumped (previous maintenance pumping was done in 2018), and that was completed this winter.

The sale of one of the units has triggered the need for the new septic inspection to be completed prior to the sale of the property. However, the system cannot be inspected at this time as it was recently pumped. The last septic inspection was completed 2-13-2021, however, a new inspection cannot be performed until the property is opened for Spring and normal wastewater flows can be observed.

Factoring in the seasonal use, and relatively newer date of construction of the septic system, coupled with satisfactory reports to date, and pumping maintenance, there is no evidence of any signs of failure.

We therefore recommend that the Board approve the expiration date of the septic system inspections for Sutton Place be granted a 4-month extension, and that all of the systems be inspected by a DEP licensed inspector prior to June 13, 2024. Further we recommend that the systems are pumped again in 2026, and every 3 years thereafter, so as not to interfere with the timing of the inspection schedule in the future.