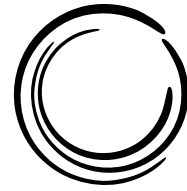




Serving Barnstable County
Since 1990

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CAPE COD
COMMISSION

REPORTER

Groundwater Levels Reach Record Highs

Several of the 61 wells that the Cape Cod Commission staff monitors for groundwater levels each month indicated record high water during March 2010. Monitoring wells in Barnstable, Bourne, Falmouth, and Sandwich reached all-time highs since monitoring began (for some wells, in the late 1950s or early 1960s). Wells in those communities and Mashpee also reached record highs for the month of March.

On average Cape wide, 9.2 inches of precipitation fell last month, nearly triple the usual monthly average of 3.5 inches. Wells rose a foot and were 2.3 feet above normal for the period of record. According to Commission Hydrologist Gabrielle Belfit, the levels to be measured at the end of April “may climb higher still and more records may be set.”

Freshwater ponds and vernal pools reflect the height of the water table. With levels this high, stormwater systems may be subject to flooding, and basements and septic systems that were installed during much drier times may be affected. Data from nine of the monitoring wells, published by the Commission each month as “index wells” (see www.capecodcommission.org/wells.htm), help engineers and others predict high groundwater levels for construction and land use planning. The new data should now be used to design developments that avoid future flooding situations.

Cape Land Bank Data Updated

Recently the Cape Cod Commission staff worked closely with The Compact of Cape Cod Conservation Trusts (www.compact.cape.com) to create a comprehensive dataset of all properties purchased with Land Bank funds across the Cape. The data are available in a PDF file and a compressed (.zip) GIS data file on the web at www.capecodcommission.org/landbank. Contact Commission Natural Resources Specialist Heather McElroy, Commission GIS Manager Anne Reynolds (both at 508-362-3828), or Compact Executive Director Mark Robinson (508-362-2565) with questions.



EARTH DAY • 2010

Personnel Notes

Goodbye, Elizabeth Hude

The Cape Cod Commission said farewell to staff member Elizabeth Hude in late January 2010. She had served as special projects coordinator since March 2009. In that role, Hude worked with Commission management on organizational strategic planning, and with staff on regional economic development, transportation, and solid waste disposal issues. Hude relocated to Michigan to be closer to her family.



Hello, Tabitha Harkin

In late March, the Commission hired Tabitha Harkin as special projects coordinator, replacing Elizabeth Hude. Harkin will assist with projects such as landscape design and computer-aided design and visualizations.



Before joining the Commission staff, she worked as a park planning assistant for the City of Pasadena (California) Parks and Natural Resources Division; as a summer intern for the Association to Preserve Cape Cod; as an architectural office assistant in Montrose, California; and as an advocacy project director for the Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness.

Harkin earned a master's degree in landscape architecture from the California State Polytechnic University, and a dual bachelor's degree in fine arts (painting and visual communication design) from the Hartford Art School of the University of Hartford.



20 Years Ago This Month...

The Cape Cod Commission held its "initial organizational meeting" on Wednesday, April 25, 1990. Robert O'Leary, then-chair of the Barnstable County Commissioners, opened the meeting. The following appointees made up the first board of the new agency:

Sumner Kaufman.....	Barnstable
Thomas Barlow.....	Bourne
Donald Near.....	Brewster
Andrew Young.....	Chatham
Donald LeBlanc.....	Dennis
David Humphrey.....	Eastham
Richard Armstrong.....	Falmouth
Shirley Gomes (later that year, James Falla).....	Harwich
Carol Jacobson.....	Mashpee
George R. Christie Jr.	Orleans
Alix Ritchie.....	Provincetown
Judith Koenig.....	Sandwich
Richard P. Keating.....	Truro
David Ernst.....	Wellfleet
David Kellogg.....	Yarmouth
Victoria Lowell.....	County Commissioner
Rev. Jaymes Taylor.....	Minority Representative
Vacant (later that year, Joan Avant-Tavares)....	Native American Representative
Vacant (later that year, Shirley Gomes).....	Governor's Appointee



Keeping a Special Place Special



First Cape Cod Commission
Chair Richard Armstrong

The board elected officers: Armstrong (Falmouth) as chair; Ritchie (Provincetown) as vice chair; and Near (Brewster) as secretary. The board also established the Executive, Regulations, and Planning committees.

Attorney Donald Connors, who helped draft the Cape Cod Commission Act itself, briefed the new board on procedural matters, open meeting law, and conflict of interest law.

Executive Director Armando Carbonell, director of the predecessor agency, Cape Cod Planning and Economic Development Commission, and now hired by the County Commissioners to head the new agency, discussed the staff's initial work to develop the regulatory program. Interim Commission Clerk Patty Daley summarized the projects (called Developments of Regional Impact, or DRIs) referred by the towns since the end of March. They included 20 referrals, four requests for DRI exemptions, two requests for hardship exemptions, three requests for jurisdictional determinations, and three municipal projects.

CCC Regulatory Status Report

DRI Project Reviews:

BARNSTABLE

- ✓ • **Barnstable Municipal Airport**—proposed major modification to access and egress. The scope of CCC review is limited to transportation issues.
- ✓ • **Hyannisport Club/2 Irving Avenue**—proposed demolition of the 18th century “Marchant House” on the grounds of the Hyannisport Golf Course. On 12/3/09, CCC accepted the project as a discretionary DRI referral from the Barnstable Historical Commission. The review is limited to historic preservation/community character issues.

BREWSTER

- **Windrift Acres**—proposed 22-lot residential subdivision on 55 acres of land in West Brewster. CCC denied the proposal on procedural grounds without prejudice on 3/18/10.

FALMOUTH

- **The Golf Club at Cape Cod/Ballymeade**—proposed construction of an 18-hole golf course on approximately 183.41 acres within Ballymeade Estates. Extension agreement to 9/29/13.

MASHPEE

- **Mashpee Watershed Plan**—proposed watershed nitrogen management plan.

ORLEANS

- **Orleans Stop & Shop Gasoline Station**—proposed 10-pump gas station on the site of an existing commercial plaza (“Cranberry Plaza”) near the Orleans traffic rotary. On 1/7/10, CCC accepted the project as a discretionary DRI referral. The review will address water and coastal resources, wetlands, transportation, solid waste/hazardous materials, economic development, and heritage preservation/community character.

PROVINCETOWN

- **Waste Treatment Telecommunications Monopole**—proposed construction of a wireless telecommunications facility in a 40x40-ft. compound.

SANDWICH

- ✓ • **Forestdale Village**—proposed 80,000-sq.ft. commercial development on Route 130.

YARMOUTH

- **Cape Wind Energy Project**—proposed wind energy facility in Nantucket Sound, with 130 wind towers transmitting power via an underground cable with a proposed Yarmouth landfall. Joint MEPA/CCC review. MEPA issued FEIR certificate on 3/29/07. CCC denied the project without prejudice on procedural grounds on 10/18/07. Cape Wind Associates petitioned the state Energy Facilities Siting Board (EFSB) for a “Certificate of Environmental Impact and Public Interest” on 11/21/07. EFSB held a hearing in mid November 2008 and granted the certificate on 5/27/09. CCC filed a petition to appeal that decision on 6/12/09. The matter is before the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court.
- ✓ • **Siddharth Siddharth Lot Clearing**—more than two acres of land in Yarmouthport cleared without a clearing permit.

DRI Reviews Pending Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) Certificates:

- **South Coast Watersheds Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan/Falmouth**—proposed Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan to address water quality problems of Little, Great, Green, Bournes, and Eel ponds, and Waquoit Bay.
- **Holland Mills Well and Pumping Station/Mashpee**—proposed installation of new public water supply well/pump station.
- **Orleans Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan**—proposed draft Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan that identifies and evaluates three alternative plans for wastewater treatment and disposal.
- **Provincetown Airport Capital Improvements Plan**—proposed safety and facility improvements to the Provincetown Municipal Airport.
- **Sandwich Beach Nourishment and Dredging**—proposed beach nourishment and maintenance dredging.
- **Herring River Tidal Restoration Project**—proposed reestablishment of tidal flow to the 1,100-acre Herring River estuary and floodplain.
- **Parker’s River Marine Park/Yarmouth**—proposed marine park on the 22-acre site of the former Yarmouth drive-in theater.

Developments of Regional Impact (DRIs) and other regulatory matters currently under review by the Cape Cod Commission are listed here. A check mark (✓) in front of a project’s name indicates that Commission regulatory activity is scheduled for that project in the next month. Details about activities listed here and in the calendar on the back cover may be found online in the Regulatory section of the web site: www.capecodcommission.org

Proposals with Approved “Notices of Intent to File a Development Agreement”:

Dates shown are deadlines for anticipated filings.

- **Mashpee Commons Master Plan/Mashpee** – 2/18/11
- **Red Jacket Resorts Development/Yarmouth** – 8/20/10
- **The Villages of Barnstable/Barnstable** – 12/17/10

Active Districts of Critical Planning Concern (DCPCs):

- ✓ • **Ocean Management Planning DCPC/Capewide**—CCC voted on 3/11/10 to recommend that the Barnstable County Assembly of Delegates designate the district by regional ordinance. The Assembly was scheduled to vote on the designation on the day of this publication (4/22/10).
- **Craigville Beach DCPC/Barnstable**—The town has prepared draft “implementing regulations” for the district. On 4/1/10, the Barnstable Town Council voted to send the regulations to CCC for review.

Commission Meetings and Events

Cape Cod Commission meetings and hearings are open to the public. Call (508) 362-3828 to confirm times and check for last-minute changes.

Standing Committees

Regulatory, Planning, and Executive committee meetings held at the Commission offices. Call for times.

Monday, April 26

Monday, May 10

Regulatory Calendar

• **April 27:** HEARING OFFICER: Hyannisport Club (Barnstable project), 10 a.m., CCC

• **April 29:** CCC MEETING: 3 p.m., Assembly of Delegates Chamber, Barnstable. Agenda tentative; please call to confirm:

- Forestdale Village/Sandwich DRI
- Proposed amendment to the Sandwich Land Use Vision Map
- Proposed amendments to Sections 13 and 14 of Chapter A, Enabling Regulations
- Proposed technical amendments to the Regional Policy Plan

• **May 5:** HEARING: Barnstable Municipal Airport (Barnstable project), 5:30 p.m., CCC

• **May 13:** CCC MEETING: 3 p.m., Assembly of Delegates Chamber, Barnstable. Agenda tentative; please call to confirm.

Full Commission Meetings

Held at the Barnstable County Assembly of Delegates Chamber at 3 p.m., unless otherwise noted.

Thursday, April 29

Thursday, May 13

Other Events

• **Massachusetts Housing Partnership (MHP) Workshop on Municipal Affordable Housing Trusts:** Thursday, April 29, 2010, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon at CCC. Contact MHP's Connie Kruger at 617-330-9944 ext. 281 or 413-253-7379 x11.

• **Cape Cod Joint Transportation Committee (CCJTC) Meeting:** Friday, May 14, 2010, beginning at 8:30 a.m., at CCC.

• **Cape Cod Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Meeting:** Monday, May 24, 2010, at 12 noon, at CCC.

Cape Cod Commission

• FISCAL YEAR 2010 OFFICERS •

Chair:

John D. (J.D.) Harris

Vice Chair:

Royden Richardson

Secretary:

Elizabeth Taylor

• REPRESENTATIVES •

Barnstable:
Royden Richardson

Bourne:
Michael Blanton

Brewster:
Elizabeth Taylor

Chatham:
Lynne Pleffner

Dennis:
(vacant)

Eastham:
Joyce Brookshire

Falmouth:
Mario DiGregorio

Harwich:
Robert Bradley

Mashpee:
Ernest Virgilio

Orleans:
Peter Monger

Provincetown:
Austin Knight

Sandwich:
Sue Pommrehn

Truro:
Peter Graham

Wellfleet:
Roger Putnam

Yarmouth:
Jack McCormack

County Commissioner:
Sheila Lyons

Minority:
John D. (J.D.) Harris

Native American:
Mark Harding

Governor's Appointee:
Herbert Olsen

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