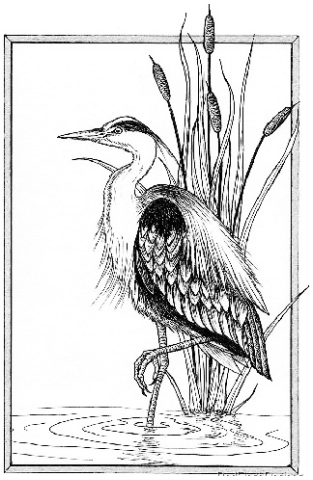


From the Board

Like many of you, my springtime chores from boat maintenance to yard work are in full swing. I take some pleasure in watching the renewal of my flower garden and looking forward to spending time on the Bay. Unfortunately, reality often intercedes, reminding us we have other work to do. An email from WBNERR in mid-May stated: "...staff observed that the northern ~1/3 of the Bay had massive, thick algal mats that had apparently floated up from the bottom. The mats were so large and thick, they were unavoidable while transiting from north to south. They caused two different boat engines to overheat, and it was like the Sargasso Sea." A quick check of the Childs River at Route 28 and the Moonakis River at Meadow Neck Road bridge/dam showed their usual springtime algae mats.



A few other items of interest:

As both Mashpee and Falmouth move slowly forward towards fixing the environmental mess that out bays, river, and ponds have become, it's no surprise that many people have strong views on the subject. Social media posts, letters to the Editor and opinion pieces published in the Enterprise, questions raised at Committee/Commission meetings, Town Meeting statements, and mass emails are a few of the places these views are expressed. Sewers and funding have become the newest hot topics. As I suspect you know, not everything you read and hear is always a full and accurate presentation – especially when there's money at stake. If a particular topic associated with fixing our water quality problems is of interest or concern to you, I urge you to do a bit of due diligence. Ask around, research different sources of information, question motivations, and decide for yourself. Not everything we all hear and read tells the full story.

As I've noted before, we're planning to create a Moonakis/Quashnet River Trust similar to the Coonamessett River Trust (www.crivertrust.org) to raise support the restoration and maintenance of the river. Board member Matt Raider is leading this effort and is planning an introductory meeting this summer with several other residents along the river. If you're interested in the future of this special place and want to participate, please contact us at cpwb1981@gmail.com - we need your help.We are rebuilding our website, so it's down for the moment.

We are rebuilding our website, so it's down for the moment. If you have suggestions and things you'd like to see, send an email to cpwb1981@gmail.com.

The Board is discussing the date for our annual meeting this summer along with looking for a speaker. If you have a topic you'd like to hear about and/or a suggested speaker, let us know. We'll let you know the date, time, and location in the coming months.

This will be my last writing to you as President. I've had the honor of leading CPWB for over three years and I'm a strong believer in term limits. I want to thank you and my fellow Board members for the opportunity to help grow the organization. We'll elect new leadership at the annual meeting.

This issue of our Newsletter contains a variety of articles I hope you find interesting. Much thanks goes to the authors, Sara Slaymaker for doing the layout, and Patty Waltner for making it all happen.

We have plenty of volunteer opportunities at CPWB and of course, we always welcome your financial support.

- Rick Otis, President

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram: Protect Waquoit Bay

CITIZENS FOR THE PROTECTION OF WAQUOIT BAY

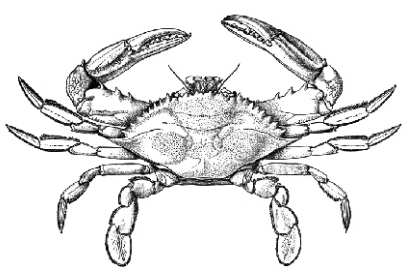
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Mashpee Town Update - Waquoit Bay

Mashpee's May 5, 2025 town meeting had another busy Clean Water agenda with four important articles passing by a wide margin. Three of those clean water articles were also passed on the May 10th Annual Town Election ballot.

Article 6 authorized the evaluation of a potential discharge location for a future wastewater treatment plant that will improve water quality in Ashumet Pond, John's Pond, the Quashnet River and Waquoit Bay. This article was important for the health of the bay as 44% of the Nitrogen load that reaches Waquoit Bay comes from Mashpee. A well-chosen discharge site is crucial for effective wastewater treatment and selecting a location will be a major milestone on the pathway for Mashpee's efforts to treat it's Waquoit Bay waste water flows. $200,000 for Phase 3 recharge evaluation was passed by a vote of 197 to 33. CPWB will continue to engage in and to monitor the discharge site selection process.
The three other articles focused on Mashpee/Wakeby pond which flows into the Mashpee River and Popponesset Bay.

Article 5 authorized Community Preservation Committee funds for stormwater control at the Mashpee/Wakeby boat ramp to implement a project that removes a major source of stormwater pollution to the pond. $350,000 was approved by a vote of 230 to 16.

Article 7 authorized the design and permitting for alum treatment of Mashpee Wakeby Pond as part of a more comprehensive effort to improve water quality and make progress on cleaning phosphorus out of the waters. $250,000 was approved by a vote of 204 to 23.

Article 11 authorized the expenditure of $2.5 million to complete final design of a cluster wastewater treatment system for properties north of Wakeby Pond to reduce the introduction of additional phosphorus from septic systems degrading the pond. This article passed 227 to 48.

The key race on the May 10th Annual Town Election ballot was for the 2-year Selectboard seat. Tracy Kelley won that election with 1,049 votes to her opponents 931 votes, and became the first Mashpee Wampanoag Woman to be elected to serve on the Town of Mashpee Select Board since 1960. The second Selectboard seat (3 year term) was secured by Mike Richardson.

Overall, May 5th was a good night for Mashpee's water and demonstrated that cleaning up its waters and waterways remains the top priority for the town.

- Glenn McCarthy

Falmouth Town Meeting and Update

In news of significance for our coastal waters, Falmouth's April 7, 2025 Town Meeting approved Article 15 to fund $60 million in Phase 1 construction costs for the Great Pond Sewer Project. Town Meeting members voted Article 15 forward 178-18, moving the question to Town voters who ratified the appropriation by a vote of 4,021-1,501 in the May 20, 2025 Town Election. Construction is expected to begin on the Great Pond Sewer Project this Fall and be completed by Fall of 2027.

If you are wondering whether sewers will ever come to Waquoit Bay, the answer is not yet known. Antler Shores, Seacoast Shores, and Seapit are slated to be sewered, though all plans are contingent upon approval by Mass DEP of the Town's planned Outfall Pipe, given that the existing sand beds at the wastewater treatment center will be at capacity once the Great Pond sewer comes online. Without the ability to discharge treated wastewater into Vineyard Sound through an Outfall Pipe, the wastewater treatment plant will have to find new sites for sand bed discharge. If the Outfall Pipe is approved by the DEP, current planning puts its completion in 2032, so any sewering of Waquoit Bay's watersheds will not come online until after that date.

Town Meeting also considered Petioners' Articles 16 and 17, related to Falmouth's exploration of Urine Diversion (UD) as a way of diverting Nitrogen and Phosphorus from our Title 5 septic systems, keeping them out of the groundwater, and recapturing those nutrients rather than flushing them away. Those who have been following this topic may recall that in November of 2023 the Town allocated $80,000 to fund research into the feasibility of UD as a residential wastewater option that might be lower cost than currently available Innovative and Alternative (I/A) Septic Systems. A second piece of funding in the amount of $106,000 was voted forward at the November 2024 Town Meeting, allowing the working group established by the Town Manager to continue the design and approval phase of the project. At April's Town Meeting, Article 16 proposed a third allocation of $48,500, providing funds to start assessments of fifty houses volunteering to participate in the pilot program once launched. This Article was passed by a robust voice vote, and did not require an actual count. Article 17, however, proposing a year-long study using “cubies” (portable urine collection jugs) to measure the effectiveness of UD, was voted down by a very narrow margin of 91-96.

Also of note in Falmouth news, voters re-elected Doug Brown and elected newcomer Colin Reed to the Select Board at the May 20, 2025 Town Election. Doug Brown has a strong record of supporting water quality remediation of Falmouth's estuaries, and Colin Reed identifies water quality as among his top three priorities. CPWB is pleased to see water quality mentioned by all candidates as an issue of greatest concern for the Town, and we look forward to seeing our representatives take concrete steps to address the degradation of our waters.

Urine Diversion Update:

In addition to the UD-related news from Town Meeting reported above, Bryan Horsely of MASSTC appeared at the May 7 meeting of the Water Quality Management Committee (WQMC) to provide an update to its members and a very full house of interested Town residents on the status of the planning process for the UD pilot project. Bryan reported that the working group is on track to advise the Town Manager, WQMC, and Select Board to place an Article on the Warrant for November's Town Meeting requesting funding for the pilot. The amount of the appropriation for the pilot and specific financial details remain to be hammered out, particularly regarding the amount of subsidies to homeowners. Other pieces of the pilot appear to be falling into place: the working group is confident that the Plumbing Board and DEP will approve plumbing plans for the UD system and believe that a UD fixture manufactured in the US will become available in 2026. Already the company Wasted has developed a fertilizer product using urine that is available in the marketplace. Overall, interest in UD has reached a high level at least as measured by letters to the Enterprise and sentiment at Town Meeting, and Falmouth's project is receiving a great deal of attention nationally as a model for other municipalities. CPWB joins in applauding the Town for taking a leadership role in finding new ways to address Nitrogen and Phosphorus pollution in Town waters.

-Maggie Megaw

Cape Cod Landscaping - Using a Vegetated Buffer

One of the biggest privileges of my life has been the opportunity to spend long summer months on the shores of Waquoit Bay alongside a myriad of cousins and extended family; sailing, swimming, catching crabs and learning how to make beach plum jelly like my grandmother did. But it was always the vegetation and the infinite variety of insects, birds and small animals that most interested me. My father, who has been tending the property for the past 60 years, has taught me about the native trees, bushes and perennials that have grown on the property over the past 3 generations. We talk every year about what the rabbits eat in early spring and he points out where different invasive species like to spread and how to best tame them. I also know what perennials come out when and how to protect the trees and bushes from inevitable caterpillar and moth infestations.

As the 4th generation gardener, it's now my turn to take over the stewardship of the property and, as I think about the responsibility I will have of protecting the amazing environment my great grandparents, grandparents, and parents established and have protected for the past 125 years, I am keenly aware that my desire to continue the work that has been done for generations while incorporating more native plants and establishing stronger ecosystems for the animals, insects and birds that live with us can no longer be my only goal. Waquoit Bay, along with wetlands across Cape Cod, have become more and more contaminated over the past 60 years and need our help if they are to survive. I can no longer look only outside my front door but will need to focus beyond the gardens to the vegetative buffers and bodies of water that surround our property and learn what it takes to protect them as well. This is now my new challenge.

In my quest for current information I recently met with Angela Tanner, Associate Landscape Architect and contributor to the **Cape Cod Freshwater Pond Buffer Guide**. I was blown away by both the breadth of information it holds, the ease with which I was able to assimilate the information, as well as the long list of extensively classified native plants accompanied by pages of color pictures. I was immediately driven to share what I had learned in the CPWB newsletter in hopes that it will inspire readers to learn more about vegetated buffers and the use of native plants in creating them.

This article will not summarize the **Guide** for you but is meant to show you the type of detailed information in it and to entice you to go to the Cape Cod Commission website and download it, read it, use it for you own personal landscaping projects and to share it with any of your friends, family members and neighbors you think might be interested.

The **Guide** is free for all and was created for public use.

Here are the key points you will find in the guide

- Vegetation buffers; definition of, establishment and maintenance
- Native plants
- invasive species
- Maintaining eco-friendly yards near wetlands
- Soil resources
- Lawn alternatives
- Erosion
- Site plans with lots of examples
- An comprehensive and extensively categorized list of trees, bushes, grasses, and perennials native to Cape Cod and Massachusetts

The **Guide** can be found on the Cape Cod Commission's website:
capecodcommission.org/our- work/cape-cod-freshwater-pond-buffer-guidance

WHAT IS A VEGETATED BUFFER?

“The vegetated buffer is a natural area of vegetation composed of trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants that provides numerous benefits including uptake of excess nutrients, filtering out pollutants and sediment, reducing erosion, providing wildlife habitat, and helping control stormwater… A fully functioning vegetated buffer contains native plants and contributes to the resilience and ecological health of the adjacent pond and its watershed.”

Vegetated buffers are located adjacent to wetlands and have a specific measurement. The buffer is just that, a buffer between the wetland and the elements of development including buildings, driveways, and parking areas, etc.

ADVANTAGES OF VEGETATED BUFFERS

Erosion Control
Vegetated buffers help prevent erosion. The deep roots of healthy, dense populations of plants prevent topsoil from eroding and help hold soil particles in place. A diversity of species creates a complex matrix of different types of roots, for maximum erosion control.

Stormwater Control
Dense populations of plants within a vegetated buffer increase the soil's water holding capacity. The network of foliage and roots slows the velocity of stormwater runoff, allowing water to soak into the ground, rather than run directly into the pond.

Better Water Quality
Densely vegetated buffers provide a critical line of defense in filtering excess nutrients and pollutants from stormwater runoff, effectively preventing these contaminants from entering our wetlands and groundwater.

Habitat and Species Diversity
Buffer plantings provide nesting sites, food and cover for insects, birds, mammals, reptiles and amphibians. Vegetated areas with a wide range of plant species can support a diversity of wildlife whose presence is an important part of a functioning freshwater ecosystem.

Temperature Control
Vegetated areas near ponds provide shade and help lower water temperatures, reducing occurrences of harmful algal blooms.

Aesthetics and Views
Planted buffers enhance the visual appeal of freshwater ponds by attracting wildlife, adding seasonal interest and color, and preserving the cleanliness and beauty of the water.

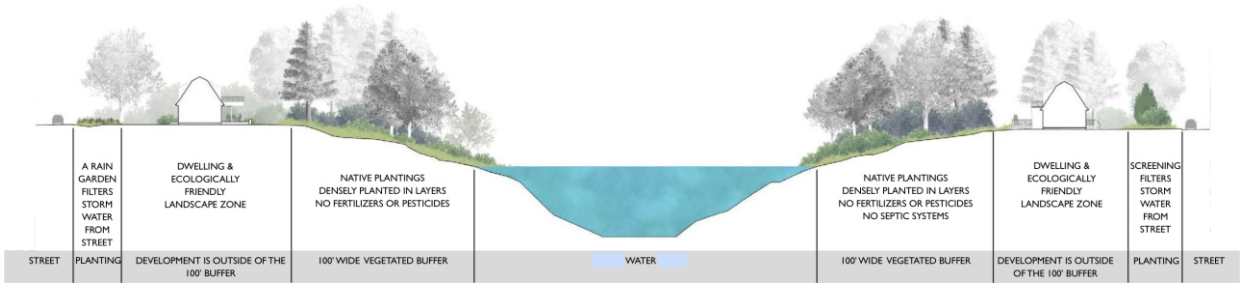
A HEALTHY VEGETATED BUFFER HAS:

No Development
Ideal buffers are devoid of structures, impervious surfaces, non-biodegradable materials, and other site disturbances.

Dense Layers of Native Plants
Overstory (Canopy Trees)
Understory (Small Trees and Shrubs)
Groundcovers & Herbaceous Plants (Low Shrubs, Ferns, Perennials & Grasses)

Species Diversity
A range of native plants that provide flowers, seeds, and fruit at different times to support wildlife throughout all four seasons.

A mix of evergreen and deciduous plants (deciduous plants lose their leaves in winter; evergreens have green leaves all year round).



HOW DOES THIS APPLY TO MY SALTWATER BUFFER?

According to Angela Tanner, most of the concepts in the **Guide** can be applied to other types of wetlands. However, there are a few differences that are important to consider before making plans to create before beginning your planting project.

Cont'd on Page 8

Watershed Restorations in Our Back Yard

Sometimes we are fortunate enough to go to a play, a concert, or some type of event where we leave feeling uplifted. And connected. And maybe even inspired. This happened on Saturday, May 3rd to the crowd of community members who attended the half-day event that kicked off the Source to Sea community engagement initiative. Held at the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Headquarters and led by the Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve (WBNERR) and the Association for the Preservation of Cape Cod (APCC) with close collaboration with the Wampanoag Tribe Natural Resources Department, this event's goal was to inform the attendees about the multi-year planning that went into the restoration projects presented for the three local watersheds and more importantly, to encourage community members to become involved with these upcoming multi-year projects. All the years of advance work made this a well-planned and well-attended event, one that definitely met its goals.

Attendees signed in, visited the project tables and displays, and filled up all the rows of seats in front of the podium, spilling over into the risers behind. The three local watershed project tables were the Mashpee River, the Upper Quashnet River, and the Red Brook area. Neighbors greeted neighbors; people who had previously worked on environmental issues and committees in both Mashpee and Falmouth renewed their connections. The group was welcomed by Tribe member Dale Oakley and Tonna-Marie Rogers of WBNERR who gave an overview of the morning and explained the display tables and three presentations. She then brought the group up to date on the years and support that had gone into the event, thanking all the partners and attendees.

All the watershed sites face the challenge of compromised ecology. Once healthy environmental areas, they now each suffer with sand-filled channels of water flow and greatly reduced habitat quality. Each project had the common goals of restored water quality and habitats, but each also had factors making it unique. One over-arching commonality was the years of groundwork from a large coalition of supporting partners – from the huge NOAA Restoration Center multi-million-dollar grant to all the local town, state, and federal agencies with their long-term commitments of restoration. These funds and the broad range of supporting agencies gave the Source to Sea event a collaborative strength in moving forward with taking the planning into action time lines.

The presentation started with words from the two sponsoring agencies. APCC Restoration Ecologist Mike Palmer explained APCC's role in ecosystem restoration – their project funding from the NOAA grant and the partnering organizations making these projects possible. Tonna-Marie of WBNERR then explained the community engagement process that would enable individuals to work with each team at their own level from their shared interests, values, and areas of expertise. She explained the two tiers of involvement; one tier was being a Community Partner with a commitment to the on-going work team and the other tier was being an Interested Support Partner to keep informed and attend their public meetings. She spoke of each tier having the goal of "enhancing the long-term stewardship" of the areas and the need for prioritizing community involvement in planning.

Drew McManus of Mashpee explained the first group, the Upper Quashnet River, with their consulting agents and partners and their objective of removing the residue of a former cranberry bog and restoring it to a cold-water fishery with the river's natural flow. When asked afterwards if other projects like this had been done, he referred to the Falmouth Coonamessett River and the Falmouth/Mashpee Childs River projects which both had display areas in the room; he said the end results were "beyond words and transformational".

Ashley Fisher of Mashpee and Dale Oakley of the Wampanoag Tribe gave the Mashpee River project overview; he drew applause when he stressed the value and rights of all forms of life. Its Problem Statement was unique with the river having upper, middle, and lower areas of concern, each with their own needs. With the active engagement with the Tribe, the project goals include supporting a fish passage, restoring a cranberry bog to wetlandss, the training of Tribal staff in restoration management, and the assessment of the Route 28 crossing and further needs.

The final watershed area was the Red Brook area and was presented by Catherine Laurent of Mashpee and Betsy Gladfelter of Falmouth. This Project Problem started with a severely damaged water control structure, resulting in the need for a culvert replacement, an elevated road, and new storm run-off infrastructure. Current design plans include restoring the entire river and thus creating the river path, a pond, and a vernal pool. In speaking of a potential access trail, Betsy evoked applause by all with saying that "all ages, all abilities should have access to nature."

After the presentations of the watershed areas with their similarities and differences were finished, in closing April Wobst of APCC spoke of the years, efforts, partners, and funding that led to this event, saying that all had happened "in a very integrated way" and thanking all those involved. Tonna-Marie summarized by highlighting the values for the potential involved community members: the training, the exposure to new technology, opportunities for growth, and the collaboration with both experts and neighbors. She humorously added that "restoration can look ugly for a while in the middle but always has a beautiful end."



Source to Sea Kick-off event, information sharing tables
WBNERR Staff Photo

This event showed the years of planning and collaboration that went into it; it was informative, well-run, and yes, very inspiring. Even the handouts of each watershed were top quality. Surprisingly, most of the attendees did not rush out into the sunshine of a beautiful May Saturday but stayed to sign up, ask questions, and chat with others. Their actions demonstrated their enthusiasm and the success of the morning. Please feel free to join in that success; the website is waquoitbayreserve.org/source-to-sea.

-Bobye Anderson

Cont'd from Page 5

"Maintaining a thick buffer composed of dense layers of native vegetation is important and don't plan to use fertilizer and pesticides. One key difference between the fresh water and salt water buffers is that you have a more limited planting palette when you are near saltwater wetlands. They may need to withstand frequent or occasional flooding with salt water. If they are in higher areas that don't experience flooding, their foliage is still likely to be exposed to salt spray or harsh winds. You'll want to evaluate your site conditions and choose plants that can tolerate wind, salt and possibly salt water flooding. Unfortunately, this narrows your choices down quite a bit."

She also suggests checking with the conservation commission staff to make sure any work you are planning within a buffer zone is permissible.

For a list of saltwater tolerant plants, see the list of helpful links at the end of this article.

NATIVE PLANTS AND INVASIVE SPECIES IN YOUR BUFFER

*"**Native plants** are species that have naturally evolved within a particular region, ecosystem, and habitat without direct or indirect human involvement. They are adapted to their local climate and soil conditions and provide food and shelter for our native fauna."*

Why choose Native plants?

Adapted to Their Regions
Native Cape Cod species have adapted to their unique environment, including cold winters, poor soil conditions, strong winds, salt spray and periods of drought and flooding.

Low Maintenance
Since our native plants are adapted to this region, as long as they are located in places best suited for their needs, they require less attention than many exotic plants. Once established, native plants require:

- **Little or no fertilizer and pesticides**
- **Minimal maintenance**
- **Little or no irrigation**

Aesthetics & Cultural Value
Native plants are an integral part of the historic and natural aesthetic of our local landscapes. They provide woodland flowers in spring, wildflower meadows in summer, and brilliant color in fall. The abundance of berries and fruit native plants produce are critical food sources for local and migratory birds.

Erosion & Stormwater Control
The deep and complex roots of our native plants are well-designed to co-exist with other native plants to form a dense matrix of root systems that can retain soils, as well as filter and absorb stormwater runoff more efficiently than a monoculture of non-native plants.

Critical to Native Wildlife
Native plants are essential components of local wildlife habitats.

- **Host plants for native pollinators**
- **Support for the entire food web**
- **Shelter for a variety of wildlife**

*"**Invasive plants** are non-native species that have spread into native or minimally managed plant systems. These plants cause economic or environmental harm by developing self-sustaining populations and becoming dominant and/or disruptive to those systems."*

Negative impacts of Invasive species

Compete with Native Plants
Invasive plants take up soil nutrients, water, and sunlight that would otherwise be available for native plants.

Reduce Species Diversity
Some non-native plants become invasive because they likely have no natural predators or competitors in their new environments, causing them to rapidly crowd out less competitive species and form monocultures (large areas consisting of mostly one species).

Destabilize Soils
Monocultures of invasive plants lack the diverse matrix of different types of root systems that exist in native plant communities, causing them to be less effective at holding soil in place.

Degrade Water Quality
Invasive plants can obstruct water flow of water bodies and increase water pollution and erosion by de-stabilizing soils and allowing sediments to move.

Adversely Affect Soil Health
Monocultures of invasive plants can alter habitats by changing soil chemistry and water availability.

Fail to Support Wildlife
Invasive plants do not offer the same critical life-stage resources as plants that evolved within the same ecoregion as our local wildlife, causing insect and animal populations to decline in invaded areas.

Cause Economic & Public Harm
The effects of invasive plants on landscapes degrade property values and impede recreational and conservation activities, causing economic and ecological harm to the environment and human health.

MANAGING INVASIVE PLANT SPECIES

Invasive Plant Management typically includes a combination of various methods to be effective. Some common management techniques include:

Cultural Control
Involves providing education and increasing awareness of the detrimental effects of invasive species and how they can be managed.

Physical or Manual Removal
Involves activities such as hand-pulling, digging, etc.

Mechanical Control
Techniques involve activities such as mowing, girdling, etc.

Chemical Control
Involves the use of pesticides, herbicides, fungicides, or insecticides.

Biological Control
Introduces a natural predator that targets only the identified invasive species, while generally causing no harm to native species. Natural predators typically used are insects, nematodes, or mites.

- Lisa Bonneau

HELPFUL LINKS:

Download a pdf copy of the Cape Cod Freshwater Pond Buffer Guide from the Cape Cod Commission website
capecodcommission.org/our-work/cape-cod-freshwater-pond-buffer-guidance

Download a complete list of invasive species.
www.mass.gov/info-details/massachusetts-prohibited-plant-list

Resource for choosing plants near saltwater wetlands (includes some non-native plants)
www.mass.gov/info-details/coastal-landscaping-in-massachusetts-plant-list

List of saltwater tolerant plants (references plants from the US, not just Cape Cod)
grownative.org/salt-tolerant-native-plants



WAQUOIT BAY
NATIONAL
ESTUARINE
RESEARCH
RESERVE

The Waquoit Bay Reserve holds programs daily for families throughout the summer months, for a full listing please visit: www.waquoitbayreserve.org.

Some highlights include:
Catching Critters in the Bay every Wednesday and Saturday at 10:00AM;

Seaweed Pressing, On Wednesday, July 9th at 6:00PM local seaweed expert Gil Newton will give an in depth look at the local seaweed, then lead us in making beautiful art with what we find;

Nature Gel Printing Workshop on Tues, August 5th at 1:00PM creating gel prints with materials collected around the Reserve

The Friends of Waquoit Bay & the Reserve host the third annual Block Party and Cookout on the Bay Sunday August 3rd from 3:00PM-6:00PM

The Reserve Education Team and the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Educators have been teaching school groups how a mishoon (traditional dug out canoe) is made. The Reserve and Tribe members are planning on launching the mishoon this August along with a celebration. Date to be announced.

The Reserve also has several volunteer opportunities, we are seeking visitor greeters, trail monitors, and education/field trip volunteers. Please reach out to laurie.tompkins@mass.gov for additional information.

Kristen Weir, WBNERR's CTP (Coastal Training Program) Coordinator and CPWB Liaison is out on leave after baby girl Lena arrived on April 9th! We are happy to report Mom and baby are healthy and doing wonderfully at home. Laurie Tompkins, WBNERR's Event, Volunteer & Communication Coordinator, is temporarily stepping into the Liaison role. Thank you, Laurie and Welcome!

419 Waquoit Highway Project

Anyone driving through Waquoit over the past few months is likely to have seen the first tangible signs of change at 419 Waquoit Highway, land formerly owned by the Milton Servis family. The parcel was jointly purchased by The 300 Committee for land conservation, and the Falmouth Housing Trust for attainable housing. In February and March, the old Servis house was demolished and now the acre for attainable housing has been cleared. (If you ever wondered how big an acre is, the accompanying photo is a perfect visual!) The Falmouth Housing Trust will begin construction on five units of housing-- each of which will have a KleanTu NITroe I/A septic system, designed to reduce Nitrogen to 11mg/l--that will be priced from $235,000 - $340,000 for potential homeowners earning 80% - 120% of Falmouth's Adjusted Median Income. With respect to the almost three acres of conservation land, the Department of Conservation and Recreation has had the property surveyed and will begin trail design over the coming months. There will be parking available at the trailhead, and the trail will lead through the woods from Route 28 to Bourne Pond, as well as across adjacent properties by easement to connect to the State Forest bordering Metoxit Road.



- Maggie Megaw

Citizens for the Protection of Waquoit Bay is a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit organization dedicated to the preservation and protection of Waquoit Bay and its estuaries.

- - - - - - - - - -(Tear here and send to: P.O. Box 3021, Waquoit, MA 02536) - - - - - - - - - -

Yes, *I want* to *help restore Waquoit Bay!*

_____$250 _____$100 _____$50 _____$35 _____Other $_____

Please make checks payable to: Citizens for the Protection of Waquoit Bay (CPWB)
OR Donate securely online at *ProtectWaquoitBay.org*

Name: _____

Company/Organization: _____

Local Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Email:_____

Please send me more information on: _____Volunteering _____Planned Giving

Thank you for your support!

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM

Vinland in Waquoit Bay

In early April, the Falmouth Historical Society sponsored a talk at the Museums on the Green by Falmouth resident Neil Good, sharing research he has pursued for forty-four years into the question of whether Waquoit Bay might have been the site of Vinland or "Leifsbudir," Leif Ericsson's first settlement in the Americas, dating to sometime around 1000-1200 CE.



While no archaeological evidence has yet been found to conclusively prove or disprove Good's theory, his reading of the Greenlander Sagas, research into Wampanoag oral history, and his years on Waquoit Bay have led him to consider this theory as plausible. He cites descriptions in the Sagas of a "small river leading to a large lake" and of shoals offshore where the Vikings went aground, as neatly matching Waquoit Bay and the very shallow Horseshoe Shoals in the Sound.

He also cites an encounter described in the Sagas between the Vikings and native peoples that matches an episode in Wampanoag oral history, and says that details of local flora match plants that grow around the Bay. We take no position on Mr. Good's theory, but thought you'd enjoy daydreaming about this the next time you are gazing out on the Bay!

PO Box 3021
Waquoit, MA 02536

"The ultimate way to recycle this newsletter is to share it with someone who hasn't read it yet."
- Anonymous

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