

Political leaders show support for environmental projects

On a recent tour of the outer Cape, Senator Edward Kennedy and Congressman William Delahunt vowed their continued support of two environmental initiatives strongly advocated by APCC.

The two projects, which depend on the assistance of federal funding, are the National Seashore's acquisition of the North of Highlands Campground in Truro and the restoration of Wellfleet's 1,100-acre Herring River salt marsh system.

This summer, the U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee approved \$2 million as a down payment toward the purchase of the 57-acre campground, the largest privately-held land within the National Seashore. The appropriation awaits the approval of the full Senate.

The Herring River restoration project has already received \$500,000 in funding, with another \$1.5 million



APCC executive director Maggie Geist and Senator Edward Kennedy at a site visit to the Herring River in Wellfleet. Herring River is the focus of a planned restoration project seeking federal funding assistance.

pending. In addition to its advocacy for the federal funding of both projects, APCC is also coordinating a volunteer program to monitor the restoration of Herring River. (See below.)

Volunteers wanted for Herring River project

APCC seeks residents of Wellfleet and Truro who are interested in becoming involved with the effort to restore Wellfleet's Herring River. APCC is coordinating a volunteer program to monitor the planned restoration of the Herring River marsh system, which is suffering from significantly restricted tidal flow. Volunteers will be trained to collect water samples from monitoring stations along the river. The samples will be used to track changes in water salinity levels before and after restoration of the river and salt marsh. For more information about the Herring River volunteer program,

or for information about volunteer opportunities at other salt marshes, contact APCC staff biologist Tara Nye toll free at 1-877-955-4142 or tnye@apcc.org.

APCC's partners in the monitoring program are the Cape Cod National Seashore and the Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management's Wetlands Restoration Program (CZM). APCC receives funding for salt marsh restoration projects from CZM, the Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment/NOAA Partnership Grant and the International Fund for Animal Welfare.

APCC's Mass Bays position in full swing with new initiatives

The last issue of *Shore Lines* reported that the Massachusetts Bays Program, a federal/state partnership, recently contracted APCC to be its Cape Cod representative for regional outreach and coastal improvement initiatives. APCC's new regional coordinator for the program and senior staff scientist, Dr. Jo Ann Muramoto, has gotten off to a running start.

In August and September, Jo Ann helped the town of Brewster prepare two proposals to the Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management. One proposal is to assess stormwater inputs to the Paines Creek-Stony Brook watershed in order to prioritize them for stormwater mitigation. The second proposal is to clean up stormwater discharges onto three town beaches that receive untreated stormwater runoff from roads. Such runoff in developed areas often carries bacteria from animal wastes, pesticides, fertilizers, soil and other pollutants into coastal waters and can cause closures of shellfishing areas and swimming beaches.

Jo Ann will also help Brewster seek funding to restore the tidally-restricted salt marsh and improve the herring run at Paines Creek, where the stream passes through two culverts under Route 6A. The Stony Brook herring run attracts thousands of visitors each year and is one of the most successful and popular herring runs in the state.

Why the focus on Brewster? Brewster is one of the first towns to request assistance from the Massachusetts Bays Program. Any town on Cape Cod Bay can request assistance, however. For more information, contact Jo Ann Muramoto toll free at 1-877-955-4142 or jmuramoto@apcc.org, or visit www.massbays.org.

Beginning this autumn, Jo Ann will explore ways to help towns monitor herring for population estimates, which will in turn assist the planning of restoration work. She will also staff the county's Coastal Resources Committee (CRC). One important job for the CRC is to provide technical advice to the county on coastal issues, including

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Bourne residents urge town purchase of CanalSide Commons property

Due in part to the participation of APCC members, Bourne residents this October approved a nonbinding special town meeting article that called on the board of selectmen to purchase the CanalSide Commons property in order to prevent its development.

APCC sent out email action alerts and mailed a fact sheet to its Bourne members, urging them to weigh in on the town meeting vote. The mailings expressed APCC's longstanding concern over the amount of traffic the project would generate on area roads near the Bourne rotary, despite several changes to the proposal in the eight years it has been considered. The current proposal calls for 85,000 sq. ft. of retail, 300 residential units and a possible 220 additional residences. APCC also worked with local civic groups to help encourage a large town meeting turnout.

In response to the vote, the selectmen indicated they are studying options for the purchase of the land for municipal uses. This summer, the Cape Cod Commission approved the CanalSide Commons proposal, but the project must still gain approval at the local level.



APCC is assisting the town of Brewster in seeking funding for fish run restoration, stormwater remediation and salt marsh restoration of the Paines Creek-Stony Brook herring run. Pictured above is the existing culvert under Rt. 6A and a stormwater outfall pipe that empties into the stream.

Wastewater education workshops raise community consciousness

APCC believes that the lack of adequate wastewater infrastructure is the single most critical issue facing Cape Cod. To increase awareness about wastewater issues, and to explain the need for wastewater infrastructure on Cape Cod, APCC and other environmental, civic and government organizations are sponsoring a series of wastewater education workshops. The multi-session workshops were offered in Wellfleet in early October. Workshops in Yarmouth and Waquoit will begin in late October.

The impacts of wastewater on the environment and human health, the options available for treating wastewater, and the costs of addressing wastewater treatment and disposal are complicated and often

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Commission task force prepares recommendations

As *Shore Lines* goes to press, the Cape Cod Commission 21st Century Task Force, created by the county to review the Cape Cod Commission, is drafting its recommendations for future focus and policies of the regional planning and regulatory agency. APCC executive director Maggie Geist is a member of the task force.

A most significant recommendation under consideration—for which APCC has been advocating for a couple of years—calls for detailed mapping of Cape Cod land use. The maps would help the Commission and towns identify areas of the Cape that need to be protected from development, and pinpoint areas that are appropriate for growth. Such specific delineation would serve as a blueprint to guide planning and regulatory decisions on Cape Cod.

You have a say in Cape Cod's future...

Without the generous support of concerned individuals like you, APCC could not continue the important work we do every day—protecting Cape Cod's fragile environment. Please use the attached envelope to send in your donation today. Thank you!



Four new board members elected at APCC annual meeting

APCC's membership elected four individuals to the board of directors at the October 3 annual meeting. Newly elected are Vicky Cullen of Woods Hole, Jean C. Mangiafico of Chatham, Jonathan Moore of Orleans and Jean A. Young of North Chatham.

It was also announced at the annual meeting that six directors are retiring from the board. Retiring are Celine Gandolfo, Robert Gatewood, Carol Green, James Hinkle, Mark Robinson and Susan Shephard. Jane Harris and Chris Neill were each reelected to another three-year term.

APCC welcomes the newly elected directors. We also wish to express sincere thanks and appreciation to Celine, Rob, Carol, Jim, Mark and Susan for their years of service to the board, and for their dedication to the mission and work of the organization.

Environmental stewards recognized at APCC annual meeting

APCC honored two individuals and a neighborhood group for their contributions to the protection of Cape Cod's environment. The awards ceremony took place at APCC's annual meeting on October 3.

Mark Robinson, executive director of the Compact of Cape Cod Conservation Trusts and retiring APCC board member, received the Esther Snyder Award for Environmental Excellence in recognition of his two decades of work in Cape Cod open space preservation. The Esther Snyder Award is named after APCC's first executive director.

Members of the Pond Village Association of Barnstable were presented with the APCC Paul Tsongas Environmental Recognition Award for the grassroots movement they initiated to help protect the natural resources and rural character of Pond Village, a historic bayside neighborhood near Barnstable Village. Their efforts led to the designation of Pond Village as a District of Critical Planning Concern by the Barnstable County Assembly of Delegates.



Pictured in the photo: Front row, left to right: Susan Rohrbach (aide to Sen. Robert O'Leary), Compact executive director Mark Robinson, Edie Vonnegut Squibb (Pond Village), APCC volunteer Will Mason, APCC executive director Maggie Geist. Back row, left to right: APCC president Alan McClennen, Jr., Bill Cook (Pond Village), Barnstable town councilor Ann Canady, David Munsell (Pond Village), Barnstable director of regulatory review Tom Broadrick, Jack Clarke of Mass Audubon, and John Squibb, Steve Berglund and Roger Boocock (all Pond Village).

Will Mason, a volunteer for APCC's Salt Marsh Restoration Monitoring Program, was given the APCC Volunteer of the Year Award for the significant contribution he has made to the success of the program.

Wastewater

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misunderstood issues. The workshops provide an in-depth look at the above subjects, and have also led to the recruitment of a number of citizen speakers to help take the issue to the community.

Workshop funding was made possible by grants to APCC from the Cape Cod Foundation and the Massachusetts Environmental Trust. For more information, contact APCC toll free at 1-877-955-4142 or info@apcc.org.



Mass Bay

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restoration projects such as the proposed Cape Cod Water Resources Restoration Project. This Cape-wide project, proposed by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), would improve fish and shellfish resources by restoring up to 24 fish runs, remediating up to 26 stormwater discharges to open up 7,300 acres of shellfish beds, and restoring up to 26 tidally-restricted salt marsh sites covering 1,500 acres of salt marsh. The project would be one of the most comprehensive restoration projects ever proposed for the Cape. The NRCS is seeking Cape-wide support this fall.

APCC is pleased to house the Mass Bays Program, and is committed to help preserve and restore Cape Cod fish runs and shellfish habitat through clean water and environmental restoration and protection.

APCC

Association to Preserve Cape Cod

3010 Main Street
P.O. Box 398, Barnstable, MA 02630
TEL: (508) 362-4226
TOLL FREE: 1-877-955-4142
FAX (508) 362-4227
E-MAIL: info@apcc.org
WEB PAGE: <http://www.apcc.org>

The Association to Preserve Cape Cod is a non-profit corporation founded in 1968 "to foster policies and programs that promote the preservation of natural resources on Cape Cod."

APCC Staff

Margaret Geist, *Executive Director*
Don Keeran, *Assistant Director*
Tara Nye, *Staff Biologist*
Jo Ann Muramoto, *Senior Staff Scientist / Mass. Bays Program Regional Coordinator*
Janet Serman, *Development Officer*
Joan Bailey, *Executive Assistant*
Everett Kiefer, *Clerk / Receptionist*
Patrick Frye, *Membership Field Coordinator*

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*Shore Lines Edited by Don Keeran
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A bequest through your estate plan is a meaningful way to help ensure that Cape Cod will be protected for future generations.

The Association to Preserve Cape Cod provides opportunities for individuals to assist our work to preserve and protect Cape Cod's natural beauty and quality of life. Bequests from our members and friends help make it possible to continue our efforts to speak out for Cape Cod and fight for the protection of our environment, just as we have done since 1968. The sample language shows just how easy it is:

I bequeath to the Association to Preserve Cape Cod, Inc. (APCC), a charitable corporation established by law in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the sum of _____ dollars (or percentage of estate) to be a.) used for the general purposes of APCC at the direction of its Board of Directors or b.) added to APCC's permanent restricted endowment.

For more information, please contact APCC toll-free at 1-877-955-4142 or info@apcc.org.



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