



# 2022 Annual Impact Report

ASSOCIATION TO PRESERVE CAPE COD

A Look at the Past  
Year's Achievements  
and Initiatives

Photo: Coonamessett River Restoration, Falmouth





## Association to Preserve Cape Cod

### APCC Staff

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### APCC Board of Directors

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Steve Koppel, Vice President  
Robert Ciolek, Treasurer  
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\*Retired from the board in 2022

\*\*Elected to the board in 2022

## MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I have come to enjoy pulling this report together as it forces reflection on what we at APCC did in the past year. While admittedly biased, I continue to be remarkably impressed by what the dedicated professionals at APCC achieved in the year. As you review the year in the pages that follow, know that the successes were staff driven. As we faced down the significant threats to the environment posed by the Massachusetts National Guard's ill-conceived proposal to build a multipurpose machine gun range on the Upper Cape Water Supply Reserve, Holtec International's irresponsible plan to discharge radioactive wastewater to Cape Cod Bay, and the ongoing nutrification of our waters, APCC staff brought tenacity, creativity and an unwavering environmental ethic to bear every day.

In addition to the three big picture engagements mentioned above that consumed much of our time and attention, we continued to build and expand upon our cyanobacteria monitoring program, invested in broadening our resource restoration program, issued the fourth State of the Waters: Cape Cod report and continued to convey Cape-friendly landscape practices to a broader audience. APCC led a coalition to promote improvement and support to a once-in-a-generation proposal by the state to improve the regulations governing septic systems and to create new watershed permitting rules. These new rules and the ongoing success of the Cape and Islands Water Protection Fund reflect the fruit borne from years of labor by APCC to maintain focus on long-term improvement in our water resources. APCC eagerly anticipates being a key participant in the new Freshwater Initiative, an APCC recommendation to the Barnstable County Commissioners back in 2021 that was funded in 2022 and will be launched in 2023.

As we have discussed in the past, APCC takes a long view on dealing with our environmental challenges. We are also nimble enough to alter our tactics in response to the unique needs and challenges of the day. To that end, we engaged legal support to help us effectively intervene against Holtec to prevent their plans from becoming a reality. While lawyering up is not standard practice for APCC, we will do what is required to stand up for Cape Cod's environment.

None of what we have done, and will do, for Cape Cod can be separated from the support we receive from our members and those who believe in our mission. Judging by our run of impressive financial growth, it is our belief that we are doing what our members want and expect from us. People love Cape Cod, and so do we; your growing support is evidence that we are on the right track. I assure you that we will not become complacent, nor will we take you for granted. APCC closed 2022 with the board of directors approving a budget that builds and expands our program capabilities so that we will do significantly more in 2023 and build on the successes of the last few years.

Thank you for supporting our work, and rest assured that we are motivated by the challenges of the coming year. It is our intention to do the hard work to deliver for the Cape's environment. We are proud of our record and hope that you share that pride as the ones who make it all possible.

Andrew Gottlieb  
Executive Director





## OUR WORK

Through advocacy, science, education and partnerships, APCC's efforts have earned us the reputation as Cape Cod's preeminent environmental organization. Since 1968, APCC's mission has been to protect, preserve and restore natural resources in every Cape town. We have successfully pursued the adoption of more effective environmental policies for the region, stood up to threats that would adversely impact our natural resources, and have helped instill a greater sense of environmental stewardship,

awareness and commitment among Cape Cod citizens and visitors. Our advocacy efforts are grounded in science and are strengthened by our ability to work collaboratively with partners and policy makers on the local, regional, state and federal levels to achieve real results. Our work has led to landmark achievements that help protect the essence of Cape Cod: our coastal estuaries, salt marshes, freshwater ponds, drinking water and sensitive upland habitats and open spaces.

### • ADVOCACY

## Protecting Cape Cod Bay from Pilgrim Radioactive Wastewater Dumping Plan

In response to threats to contaminate Cape Cod Bay through the discharge of an estimated 1.1 million gallons of radioactive wastewater from the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station, APCC retained legal counsel in 2022 to assist in efforts to block Holtec International, the owner of the plant, from following through on its plans.

It is APCC's position that any discussion about a discharge of radioactive water into Cape Cod Bay by Holtec is a nonstarter, and that the bay must never be the dumping ground for Holtec simply because it's the cheapest of several options available to the company for disposal of wastewater during the decommissioning process. APCC is therefore determined to challenge any attempt on Holtec's part to follow through with its plan, which has created concerns that it would

compromise the environmental quality of the bay, pose human health risks, and adversely impact the Cape's coastal economy.

Holtec backed down from its initial announcement to perform the radioactive discharge in 2022, but is still stating its intention to follow through with its plans at a later date, presumably after it has secured an amended discharge permit from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. However, APCC maintains that a new discharge by Holtec violates state law known as the Ocean Sanctuaries Act, which prohibits the release of industrial pollutants into the designated Cape Cod Bay Ocean Sanctuary. APCC pledges to continue the fight against this threat. Visit [APCC.org](https://APCC.org) for the latest updates on this evolving issue.



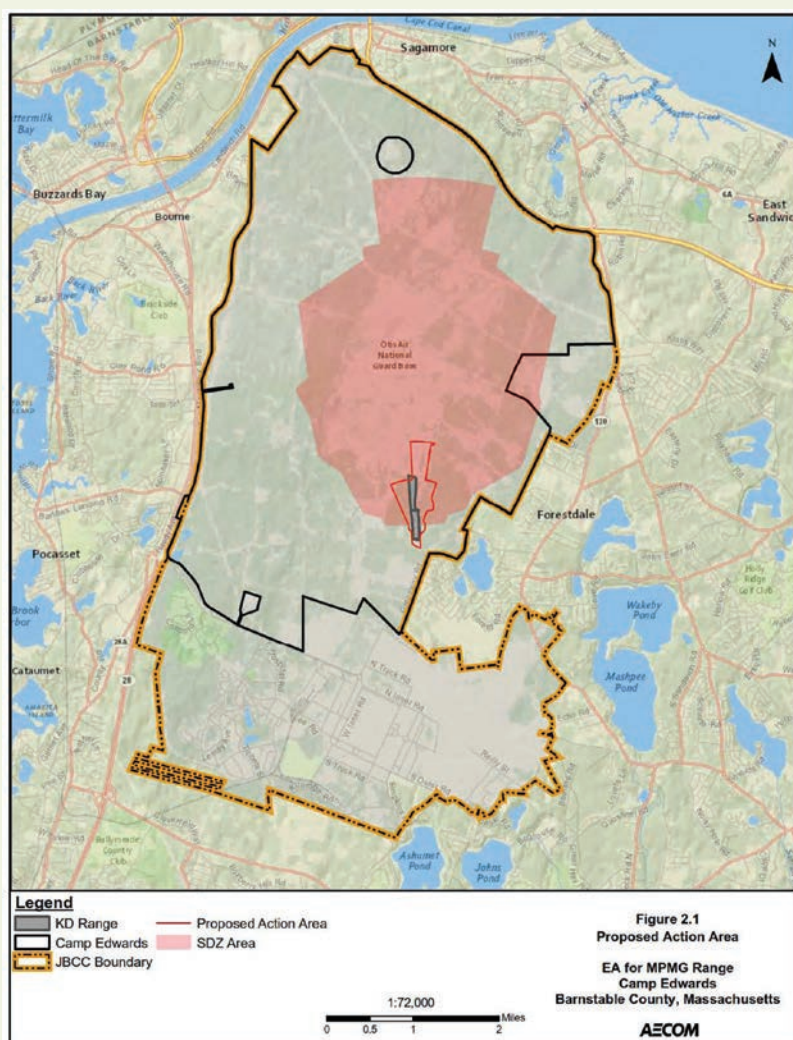
Cape Cod Bay oyster farm.

Photo: Gerald Beetham

# Continued Opposition to the Multipurpose Machine Gun Range

Since 2021, APCC has been a leading regional voice against the multipurpose machine gun range proposed by the Massachusetts Army Guard on the Upper Cape Water Supply Reserve at Joint Base Cape Cod. The water supply reserve was established in 2002 to protect drinking water and wildlife habitat and to only allow military training compatible with those uses, yet the machine gun range project calls for clearcutting 170.5 acres of pine barren forest and designating over 5,000 acres as a Surface Danger Zone where projectiles would land. Impacts from the project pose a direct threat to rare species habitat and drinking water supplies and would compromise regional climate mitigation efforts by diminishing the carbon sequestration capabilities of the clearcut forest.

A decision by the state's Environmental Management Commission on whether to allow the project to move forward was delayed while the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency completes its sole source aquifer review in a narrow study of the range's potential impacts on drinking water. The EPA's draft findings are to be released in 2023. Meanwhile, APCC continues to engage our members and the media, and to voice our grave concerns to state and federal officials about the machine gun range's environmental threats and the



Guard's indifference to the public's overwhelming opposition to the project. Visit [APCC.org](http://APCC.org) for the latest updates on this evolving issue.



#### APCC/HAC - Identifying Priority Housing Production and Natural Resource Protection Areas

##### Details

Please pan and zoom around the map.

Layers can be turned on and off with the Layer

List

Search for a specific location using the Search

Tool

Basemap can be switched with the toggle in the lower right corner.

##### Priority Areas for Affordable\* Year-Round Housing

Moderate Priority

High Priority

Potential for Housing if Municipal Sewer is Constructed

(Purple hatched represents areas suitable for inclusion of housing that is appropriately scaled to the neighborhood. Priority is based on three factors: wastewater infrastructure, activity centers, and development potential.)

\*Affordable refers to both dual restricted "Costal A" Affordable Housing and "lower cost" affordable housing that is unregulated but at a price point that is affordable for local residents.

##### Priority Natural Resource Protection Areas

DEP Approved Wetland Protection Areas

Combined Natural Landscape - Unprotected & at Risk

(BioMap2 Core Habitat and Critical Natural Landscapes and NRES Priority and Estimated Habitat)

Protected Open Space

FEMA FIRMs A and V Zones

Certified Vernal Pools with 350ft. Buffer

Wetlands with 100ft. buffer



Esri, Community Maps Contributors, Esri, HERE, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, US Census Bureau, USDA, MassGIS, Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs | Na



GROW SMART  
CAPE COD

## GrowSmart Cape Cod Project Maps Priority Areas for Natural Resource Protection and for Affordable Housing

APCC and Housing Assistance Corporation launched GrowSmart Cape Cod in the spring of 2022. The project identifies areas in each Cape town where natural resource protection is a priority and priority areas most suitable for affordable housing.

The project features a dedicated website—[GrowSmartCapeCod.org](https://GrowSmartCapeCod.org)—that includes an interactive regional map, individual town maps, and a set of recommendations that encourage towns and other stakeholder groups to focus affordable housing efforts away from the Cape's more sensitive natural resource areas and to locations where new development can be supported by wastewater infrastructure and other community services.

GrowSmart Cape Cod calls for the adoption of

more effective land use policies by communities that will reduce competition between natural resource protection and affordable housing interests by embracing conservation and regulatory efforts that protect drinking water, wetlands, sensitive watersheds and critical habitats, and that direct housing investments to locations where those resources are not impacted.

Since the launch of the project, APCC and HAC have conducted numerous presentations to town boards and other relevant organizations across the Cape.

Funding for GrowSmart Cape Cod was provided by Barnstable County and its Economic Development Council License Plate Grant Program through the Cape Cod Commission.



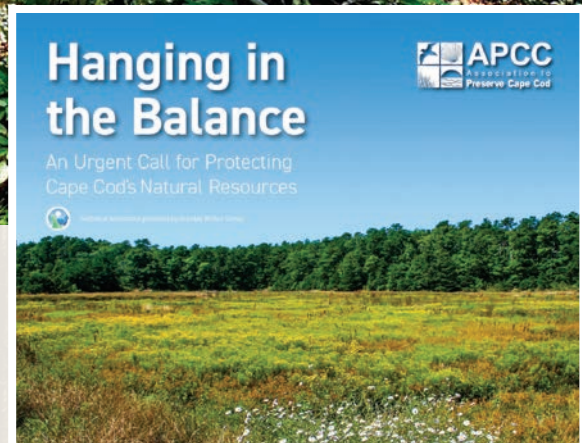
Photo: Sue Machie

# ***Hanging in the Balance***

## Natural Resources Report

As a companion piece to the GrowSmart Cape Cod project, APCC released “Hanging in the Balance: An Urgent Call for Protecting Cape Cod’s Natural Resources.” The report provides a comprehensive analysis of key natural resources on Cape Cod. It examines past and present impacts to those resources, identifies current threats, offers a selection of key case studies, and makes recommendations on actions that promote protection, preservation and restoration of the region’s most important resource areas. The analysis found that the Cape’s marine waters,

freshwater ponds and wetlands, groundwater, iconic natural landscapes and critical habitats are still under assault by the same land use practices that have failed us in the past. With only an estimated 14 percent of the Cape’s land remaining as undeveloped and unprotected, the report stresses that the actions we take now to protect what we have left—including seriously rethinking where and how we choose to grow—will decide what kind of Cape Cod our future generations will inherit. The report and interactive StoryMap are available at [APCC.org/resources/reports/natural-resource-assessment](https://APCC.org/resources/reports/natural-resource-assessment).







## Support for Responsible Offshore Wind Development

There is an urgent need to address the world's growing climate crisis by replacing our dependence on fossil fuels with clean, renewable energy. Offshore wind promises to become one of the most viable sources for commercial-scale green energy production, and APCC strongly supports its responsible development to meet the energy demands for the Northeast region and the nation.

In 2022, APCC submitted written comments to state and federal regulators for wind projects proposed by two developers, Avangrid and SouthCoast Wind (formerly Mayflower Wind), that would both use Cape Cod as a location for cables from offshore wind turbines to come onshore and connect to the existing electric power grid. In addition to recognizing the importance of these renewable energy projects and the many benefits that would result from their development, APCC also called on the developers and the permitting authorities to commit to the highest standards and best management practices that avoid adverse impacts to marine and land-based environmental resources and, where impacts are unavoidable, to sufficiently mitigate those impacts.

## Advancing Environmental Legislation and Policies



### Legislation

Each year, APCC closely follows key environmental legislation proposed by the State Legislature and Congress. In 2022, we submitted written testimony in support of several bills that would improve environmental protections on Cape Cod and across the Commonwealth. APCC's submittals included testimony advocating the adoption of bills that would institute state-coordinated drought management policies, create protections for pollinator habitat, establish a law to ensure a no net loss in public conservation lands, fund the Conservation Land Tax Credit Incentive Program, and provide supplemental budget funding for climate resilience and for Cape Cod water and sewer infrastructure projects.

### Septic Code Update

APCC also weighed in with strong support for the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection's proposed update to the state's Title 5 septic code and companion rules governing watershed permits. The old septic code, in effect for nearly three decades, has failed to protect Cape Cod's coastal embayments from wastewater-generated nitrogen pollution. MassDEP's proposed regulations significantly strengthen the rules governing the use of septic systems and incentivize towns to obtain watershed management permits that allow them to craft the best mix of solutions suited to their community. A final decision on the proposed rule change is anticipated in 2023. Visit [APCC.org](https://www.apcc.org) for 2023 updates.





## Revisions to the Barnstable County Community Septic Loan Program

In 2021, APCC proposed revisions to the Barnstable County Community Septic Loan Program that would reduce interest rates for lower-income households seeking loans to pay for new sewer connections and septic system upgrades. Those recommendations became reality in 2022 when the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust approved a request by the Barnstable County Commissioners for a 0 percent loan that would allow the county program to charge a sliding scale interest rate from 0 percent to 4 percent, based on the borrower's income. Borrowers with incomes up to 120 percent of Area Median Income—or AMI—are eligible for a 0 percent loan. Borrowers with incomes between 120 percent and 180 percent AMI are eligible for a 2 percent loan, and borrowers whose incomes exceed 180 percent AMI are eligible for a 4 percent loan. These revisions promise to assist thousands of Cape Cod homeowners in upgrades that are necessary to restore the Cape's water resources.

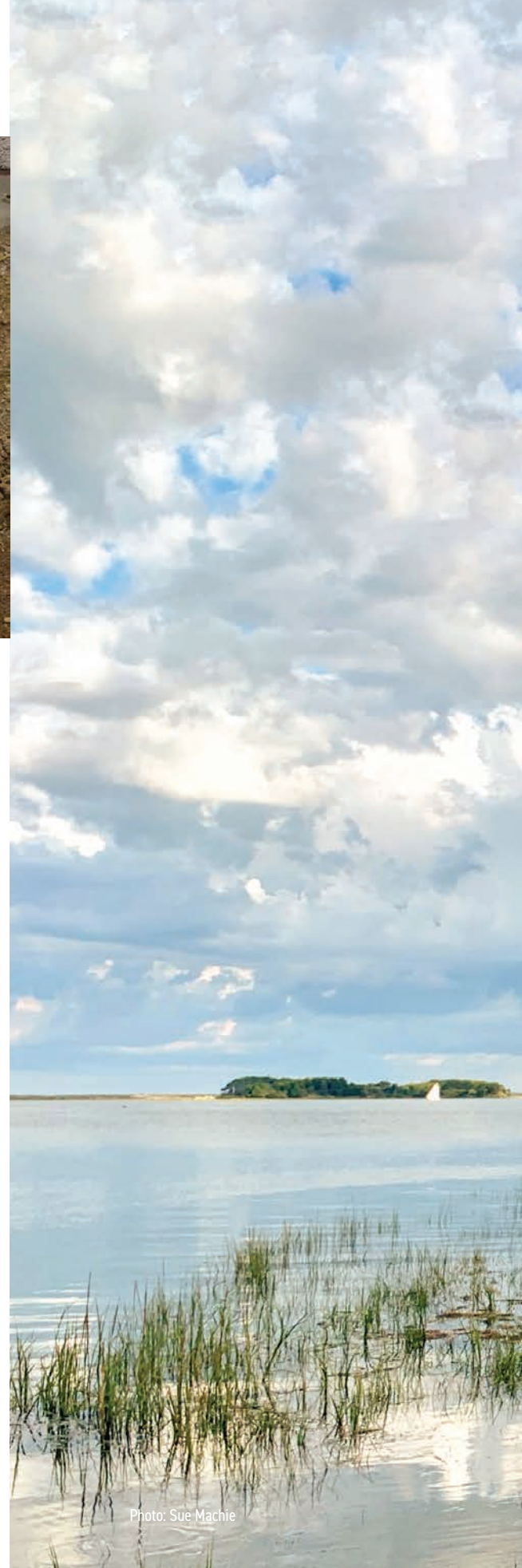


Photo: Sue Machie





# 2022 State of the Waters: Cape Cod

APCC released the fourth annual State of the Waters: Cape Cod report. The 2022 report evaluates water quality data from the previous year, translates the data into easily understood grades, and provides a report on water quality in coastal embayments, freshwater ponds, and public water supplies. The report's purpose is to raise awareness of the Cape's overall water quality and to advocate for action in adopting water quality improvement measures.

The results in the 2022 report showed that the number of coastal embayments with unacceptable water quality increased from the previous year to 90 percent of coastal embayments. The percentage of graded ponds with unacceptable water quality was similar to previous years: approximately one-third of graded ponds. Water quality for coastal embayments and ponds continues to be impacted by excess nutrients, with the greatest source being wastewater from septic systems. Stormwater runoff and fertilizers are additional sources.

Sixteen Cape public water supplies had "excellent" grades, including 10 that had detectable levels of six

state-regulated per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS6) below the state standard. However, several public water supplies did not meet existing water quality standards. Two municipal public water supplies had one or two violations of temporary exceedances of the standard for total coliform bacteria and were graded as "good." One public water supplier located on Joint Base Cape Cod had several violations of two drinking water standards. E. coli bacteria and total coliform bacteria—requiring issuance of a boil-water order that resulted in a "poor" grade. Another municipal public water supplier had several violations of two different drinking water standards—Enterococci and exceedance of the state standard for PFAS6—resulting in a grade of "poor."

The 2022 State of the Waters: Cape Cod report includes an updated State of the Waters Action Plan for restoring and protecting the Cape's water quality. Maps with water quality scores for embayments, ponds and drinking water, along with the full report, action plan, Atlas of Water Restoration Needs and Solutions, and a primer on PFAS, are posted at [capecodwaters.org](https://capecodwaters.org).

## Science & Restoration



## River Herring Count Program



Photo: Gerald Beetham

APCC provides training, coordination, data management, and reporting for groups and organizations that conduct herring counts on Cape Cod. APCC's river herring count program is the only Cape-wide program of its kind. In spring 2022, all volunteer groups resumed herring counts after the 2020 hiatus caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. APCC partnered with 11 towns and eight organizations to conduct herring counts along 19 runs. This regional citizen science program has raised public awareness of threats to river herring while collecting valuable data for herring protection and management. Cape Cod's volunteer herring counts account for approximately half of the 32 herring runs in the Commonwealth where counts are conducted.

The counts and resulting run size estimates indicate that

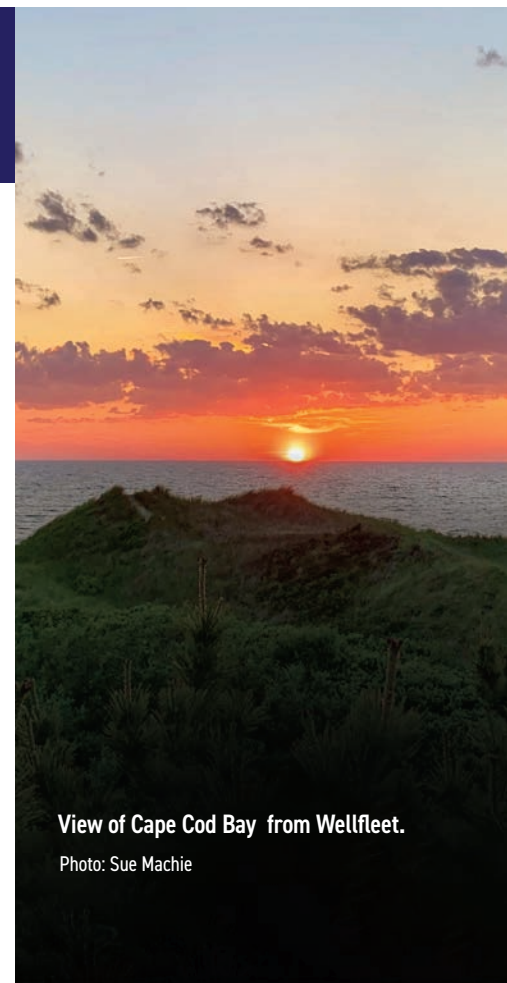
2022 was once again not a good year for Cape Cod runs. APCC's analysis indicates that as of 2022, the highest run sizes had all occurred in the past, and a few runs continued to decline steadily over time. The persistent low abundance of herring despite a ban on fishing since 2006 points to larger problems affecting river herring.

River herring are in decline due to overfishing, barriers to fish passage, pollution, and other causes. Fisheries managers have now added eutrophication, climate change, invasive plants, and water withdrawals to the list of threats. The widespread occurrence of eutrophic ponds on the Cape, many of which serve as the birthplace for juvenile herring, suggests our nutrient problem may be one important cause. Cyanoabacteria may be another threat.

## Massachusetts Bays National Estuary Partnership

Since 2006, APCC has served as the regional service provider for the Cape Cod region of the Massachusetts Bays National Estuary Partnership (MassBays). MassBays is one of 28 National Estuary Programs (NEPs) nationwide, designated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to protect estuaries of national significance. MassBays mission is to “empower 50 coastal communities to protect, restore, and enhance their coastal habitats. To fulfill this mission, MassBays engages local, state, and federal entities to advance the use of scientific information and provide technical support for decision making.”

The Cape Cod region is one of five regions in this large NEP, which includes communities along Cape Cod Bay and Massachusetts Bay. At APCC, MassBays work is led by the regional coordinator who manages projects to achieve APCC and MassBays joint goals, e.g., the State of the Waters: Cape Cod, River Herring Volunteer Count Program, Cyanobacteria Monitoring Program, and others. Throughout the years, projects have included restoration of salt marsh and fish runs, monitoring, grant writing assistance to communities, formation of a Cape Cod stormwater managers group, No Discharge Area designation for the Cape's coastal waters, and projects to restore and protect water quality and coastal resources.



View of Cape Cod Bay from Wellfleet.

Photo: Sue Machie





Photo: Sue Machie

## Freshwater Initiative and Pond Monitoring Program

In August 2022, Barnstable County authorized \$2.5 million from ARPA funds for a Cape-wide Freshwater Initiative to monitor and protect freshwater ponds. Funding represents a significant milestone for pond protection.

Most of the 890 Cape Cod ponds have not been studied for water quality or habitat. The dearth of data hampers development of suitable pond protection and restoration measures. To address this data gap, the Freshwater Initiative included funding to establish a Cape Cod Pond Monitoring Program. Following a competitive bid process by Barnstable County, APCC won the contract to conduct the monitoring.

The program will involve monitoring 50 ponds seven times per year for three years to obtain data on seasonal changes in water quality. This will help to inform the development of pond protection and management strategies. For more information, visit [capecodcommission.org/our-work/cape-cod-freshwater-initiative/](https://capecodcommission.org/our-work/cape-cod-freshwater-initiative/) and APCC's websites at [APCC.org/our-work/education/freshwaterponds/](https://APCC.org/our-work/education/freshwaterponds/) and [capecodwaters.org](https://capecodwaters.org).



APCC intern Leah Stucke collects a pond sample to test for cyanobacteria.

## 2022 Cyanobacteria Monitoring Program

In 2022, APCC's Cyanobacteria Monitoring Program monitored approximately 140 ponds in all 15 Cape Cod towns on a biweekly basis from May through October. Over half of the ponds experienced moderate levels of cyanobacteria and approximately 10 percent experienced high levels, prompting municipal officials to post nearly 70 advisories.

APCC collaborated with Dr. James Haney of the University of New Hampshire and Nancy Leland of Lim-Tex, Inc. to conduct a proficiency test to compare APCC's ability to correctly identify cyanobacteria genera with identifications performed by the University of New Hampshire and two commercial labs. The results confirm that APCC's program has the necessary skills to correctly identify cyanobacteria taxa and to predict cyanobacteria toxicity.

APCC continued to utilize a rapid reporting system to translate monitoring data into an interactive website and map ([APCC.org/cyano](https://APCC.org/cyano)), resulting in much faster reporting times than conventional water quality reporting. It has raised public awareness of cyanobacteria and fostered improved coordination and appreciation of risk among local, regional and state health officials.

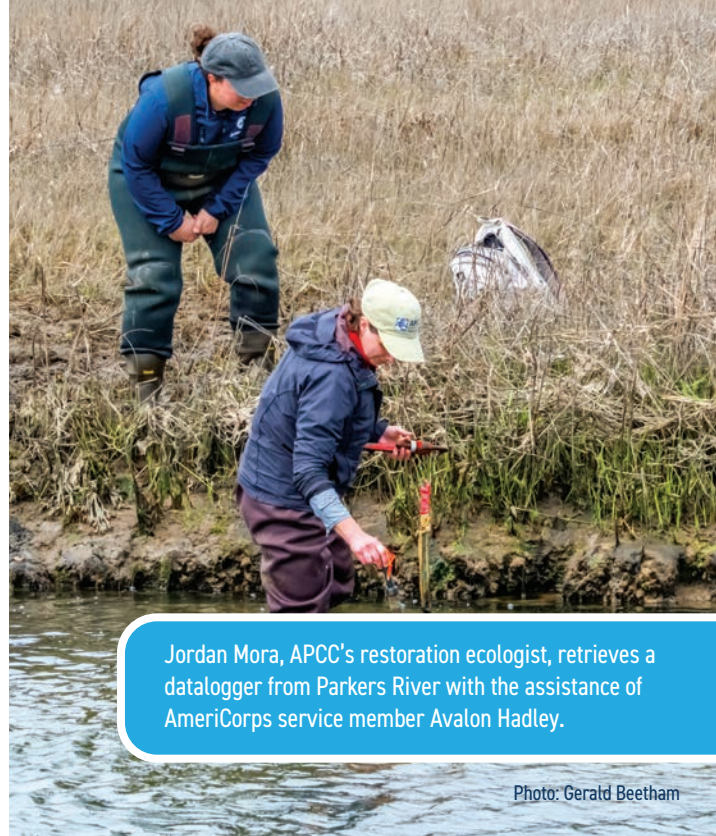
Our work is increasingly recognized as a scientifically rigorous program, generating requests for APCC to support scientific research on cyanobacteria. APCC provided data to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, which is developing a system to detect harmful algal blooms from space.

APCC's program was made possible through participation by interns, partners and volunteers. Barnstable County Department of Health and the Environment provided a new regional capability for cyanobacteria toxin testing as well as assistance in sample collection.



## Parkers River Successfully Restored

Construction of the new, wider 30-foot bridge where Route 28 crosses the Parkers River was completed by the town of Yarmouth in 2021. APCC has been involved in planning for the project since 2015 and completed monitoring of the marsh before and after restoration in 2011, 2017 and 2022. The project has restored tidal flow to 60 acres of salt marsh supporting increased flushing of the nutrient-impaired Seine Pond (also referred to as Swan Pond), improved fish and shellfish habitat, and increased resilience of the system to coastal storm surge and flooding, including replacement of the aging and degraded bridge infrastructure.



Jordan Mora, APCC's restoration ecologist, retrieves a datalogger from Parkers River with the assistance of AmeriCorps service member Avalon Hadley.

Photo: Gerald Beetham



Photo: Gerald Beetham

APCC, Horsley Witten Group and town of Yarmouth staff conduct assessment of potential stormwater improvement sites.

**With success in acquiring new grants and contracts to support our work, APCC's Restoration Coordination Center kicked off the following new projects in 2022.**

### Stormwater Assessment and Planning • YARMOUTH

With funding from the Office of Coastal Zone Management, APCC is managing a project for Yarmouth to complete assessment, concept designs and prioritization of potential green infrastructure stormwater sites across the south side of town. The work is being completed with Horsley Witten Group as the subcontracted stormwater engineer. This partnership is based on the successful model the RCC has developed partnering with towns and engineering firms to provide funding and capacity to address our water quality improvement needs across the Cape.

## Kicking Off New Projects

### Weir Creek Tidal Restoration • DENNIS

APCC was awarded \$417,888 from the EPA Southeast New England Program Watershed Implementation Grants in collaboration with Restore America's Estuaries and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation National Coastal Resilience Fund. This funding will support feasibility studies, planning and design for replacement of two undersized culverts at Lower County Road to restore tidal flow to the upstream marsh, improve water quality within the system, and increase resilience to the impacts of climate change, including sea level rise and storm surge flooding.

### Chase Garden Creek • DENNIS/YARMOUTH

With support from the Lavori Sterling Foundation, APCC is kicking off a five-year project to assess, monitor and plan for restoration efforts to improve the health of the Chase Garden Creek salt marsh. Work on this project will include coordination with the towns of Dennis and Yarmouth, as well as other local and regional partners.



# Childs River: One Year Post- Restoration Report

With support from EPA Southeast New England Program grants and in collaboration with the Falmouth Rod and Gun Club, MassWildlife, and Woodwell Climate Research Center, APCC developed a one-year post-restoration report in 2022 for the Upper Childs River Restoration Project in Falmouth. Construction of the restored bogs and river channel ended in late summer 2021. However, monitoring of sea run brook trout populations, wetland vegetation, and water quality, including temperature, nutrients, dissolved oxygen, pH, and conductivity, continued through 2022.

Based on the data analysis and reporting, the restoration effort has shown promising results, leading



Photo: Falmouth Rod and Gun Club

Childs River restoration improved habitat for native brook trout.

the partners to conclude that the project was an overwhelming success. First, the restoration successfully reduced summer water temperatures in the Childs River, resulting in improved dissolved oxygen levels and habitat for brook trout. Additionally, by removing fish passage barriers, the restoration created habitat for brook trout spawning, causing the young of the year numbers to nearly double in 2022 compared to 2019, 2020, and 2021. Native wetland plants quickly recolonized the restored bogs within one growing season.

## Public Boat Ramp Stormwater Project

In 2022, APCC restoration staff devoted considerable time to the Public Boat Ramp Stormwater Project, funded by the EPA Southeast New England Program Watershed Grant and the Coastal Zone Management Coastal Habitat and Water Quality Grant. The project goal is to improve water quality by implementing green system infrastructure best management practices for stormwater runoff at prioritized public boat ramps. APCC worked closely with town and state staff to identify 20 high priority ramps in need of improved stormwater management in the towns of Barnstable, Bourne, Brewster, Dennis, Falmouth, Harwich, Mashpee, Orleans, Sandwich, and Yarmouth.

APCC hired the Horsley Witten Group in the spring of 2022 for field assessments, concept stormwater engineering designs, and further prioritization for all 20 ramps. Prioritization was based on key criteria, which included potential to remove pollutants, cost estimates, feasibility, improvement to other natural resources such as shellfish beds, and human use benefits that include enhancing environmental justice communities and public education. By November, all concept and field

visit reports were complete and APCC held two public meetings to share the concepts with the public and interested stakeholders. The feedback from the meetings was overwhelmingly supportive. APCC chose seven of the top-ranking sites to advance to 25 percent and 75 percent design by November 2023, with plans to continue progress on these designs as well as the remaining sites through permitting and construction.



The Lonnie's Pond boat ramp in Orleans is one of the sites studied by APCC for improved stormwater management.



The background of the page is a photograph of several potted plants. The plants have bright green, serrated leaves. Some of the pots are black, and others are grey. A wooden label with the text 'S. flexicaulis' is visible in the foreground, and another similar label is in the background. The text is overlaid on a semi-transparent green box.

## *Second Annual* Native Perennial Sale

On the day APCC's plant sale opened online, the orders came in fast and furious, and the plants were almost sold out by that afternoon. For the second year in a row, our business sponsor, BlueFlax Design, LLC, purchased the plants for us. Hardworking volunteers spent several hours repotting the plants, and many more hours caring for them until they were sold. The plant sale has been a great way to get more native perennials into Cape Cod gardens, as well as making many wonderful connections with native plant enthusiasts. We had over 100 buyers and sold over 800 plants.

## Education & Outreach



# Educational Webinars

APCC held several free webinars on topics that included stormwater management, the nature connection in our landscapes, designing with native plants and how to diversify lawn, and the natural histories of wild bees and oak trees. Funding for the speakers' honorariums was through grants and membership donations. The six webinars were well-attended, and the programs were recorded and are available for viewing at [APCC.org/news-events/events](https://apcc.org/news-events/events).



## Rain Barrels for Cape Cod

APCC's rain barrel program, in partnership with Upcycle Products for the sixth year, continued to be popular. The barrels are repurposed food barrels. Rain barrels help APCC in our effort to speak about sustainability and water conservation. In 2022, 153 barrels were purchased by Cape Cod homeowners. APCC receives a portion of the sale price of each barrel.



APCC's cyanobacteria program summer interns pose with APCC staff. Pictured are Chiara Nava, Brooke Withers, Meribeth Ratzel, APCC Ecologist Kevin Johnson, APCC QA/QC Officer Lenny Pitts, APCC Water Quality Lab Manager Rebecca Miller, Leah Stucke, and Taylor Lanxon.

## APCC's Interns Meet the Challenge

APCC was fortunate once again to host a team of talented interns during the summer and fall who assisted with our Cyanobacteria Monitoring Program. These interns provided critical support for the program through pond water sampling and lab analysis during the 2022 monitoring season. Their efforts were instrumental to the success of the program, which, because of their work, enabled APCC to expand the number of ponds monitored across the Cape. The 2022 interns were Lynn Francis, Taylor Lanxon, Chiara Nava, Meribeth Ratzel, Leah Stucke, and Brooke Withers. We are truly appreciative of their hard work and dedication, which contributed greatly to the program's objectives of protecting human health and the environment.



# Natural Landscape Brochure

APCC continues to develop print materials as well as online resources. The Natural Landscape brochure gives an overview of the value of looking at our managed landscapes with regard to the health of the Cape's environment and provides five examples of steps a property owner can take to have a more ecologically friendly landscape. We distributed these brochures to libraries, places of business, and at our in-person events.



## Speakers Bureau



APCC staff provided numerous presentations throughout the year, given both online and in person. We were invited to address civic and church groups, town committees, neighborhood associations, pond associations, and professional conferences. We speak on a variety of topics that include pond health, native plants and ecological landscapes, pollinators, climate change, wastewater and water quality, stormwater management, and current and past APCC projects.





## APCC Enewsletter

Our weekly enewsletters are delivered to over 7,000 people. On average, there is over a 50 percent open rate and greater than 12 percent click rate—well above the industry standard.



APCC makes a concerted effort to use all media to relay our advocacy for the Cape's environment. Our staff members have frequently been invited guests on local radio talk show—including the local NPR station—and podcasts. APCC remains the go-to source for information and commentary on the Cape's environment for reporters, legislators, teachers, students, and the public.



Kathy Warburton, Mary Noonan and Janet Chakarian, three of APCC's many volunteers, assist with preparation of the annual native perennial plant sale.

## Our Volunteers— We Appreciate You!

APCC's valued volunteers count herring in the cool spring weather, transplant and care for plants and help with our annual native plant sale, plant APCC's edible garden, and mow the grass and weed the walkways at our office. They fold, stuff and seal envelopes. They collect pond water samples. They take photos and share them with us, create APCC videos, write poems, stories and book reviews. They help collect and share pond stories from pond lovers all over the Cape. They help edit, proof and enter data. They assist with literature research and curate news articles about cyanobacteria. Our volunteers offer advice, expertise, and time. For all these things and more, we thank you, our volunteers, for your support!





APCC Fiscal 2022 finances reflected another year of strong performance. APCC again realized both an operating surplus and an increase in our net assets. APCC's solid fiscal performance reflects continued adherence to management initiatives that have increased the percentage of staff costs that are grant and contract funded. APCC experienced another year of growth in our fundraising base across the board, and especially in major gifts captured in our Giving Societies. APCC has realized success on all fundraising fronts, and these are reflected in our improved bottom line, which positioned APCC for growth in 2023. APCC maintained its commitment to building reserves and, at least in the short term, has transitioned into a period of fiscal stability. Policies and objectives provided by management and adopted by the board of directors emphasized growth of fundraising revenue to support expanded programs. APCC is financially well positioned to grow and continue its focus on the most critical environmental challenges facing Cape Cod.

Respectfully submitted,  
Robert Ciolek, Treasurer  
APCC Board of Directors

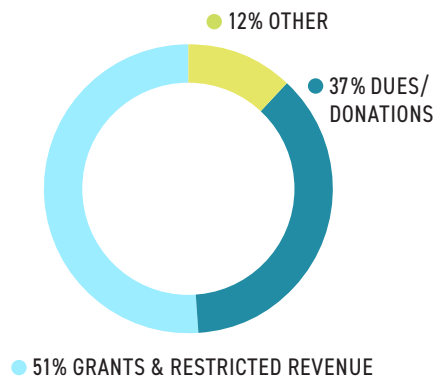
# Our Finances

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

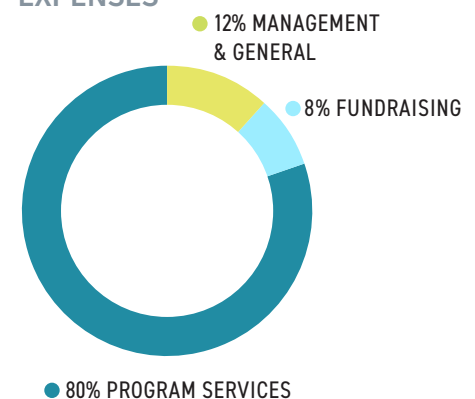
FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021

	2022	2021
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash and equivalents	\$ 1,002,491	783,630
Grants and contracts receivable	149,413	90,221
Prepaid expenses	6,299	6,506
Long-term investments-unrestricted	227,127	—
Long-term investments-restricted	258,123	308,189
Property & equipment, net	727,058	742,061
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 2,370,511</b>	<b>\$ 1,930,607</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>		
Accounts Payable	\$ 96,965	12,448
Payroll liabilities	1,499	1,799
USDA mortgage	361,817	368,284
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$ 460,281</b>	<b>\$ 382,531</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
Without Restriction	1,375,748	1,054,613
With Restriction	534,482	493,463
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 1,910,230</b>	<b>\$ 1,548,076</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 2,370,511</b>	<b>\$ 1,930,607</b>

## INCOME



## EXPENSES





# Fiscal Year 2022

## STATEMENT OF ACTIVITY

FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2022

	WITHOUT RESTRICTION	WITH RESTRICTION	TOTALS
<b>SUPPORT AND REVENUE</b>			
Membership dues	\$ 365,535	\$ —	\$ 365,535
Contributions	504,766	—	504,766
Grants and contracts	863,622	121,000	984,622
Merchandise sales	12,498	—	12,498
Investment income	(24,149)	(50,064)	(74,213)
Other income	7,084	—	7,084
Net assets released from restrictions:			
Satisfaction of restrictions	29,917	(29,917)	—
<b>TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE</b>	<b>\$ 1,759,273</b>	<b>\$ 41,019</b>	<b>\$ 1,800,292</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Program Services	\$ 1,155,663	—	1,155,663
Management and General	165,337	—	165,337
Fundraising	117,138	—	117,138
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>1,438,138</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1,438,138</b>
<b>CHANGE IN NET ASSETS</b>	<b>321,135</b>	<b>41,019</b>	<b>362,154</b>
<b>ASSETS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR</b>	<b>1,054,613</b>	<b>493,463</b>	<b>1,548,076</b>
<b>ASSETS AT END OF YEAR</b>	<b>\$ 1,375,748</b>	<b>\$ 534,482</b>	<b>\$ 1,910,230</b>





# Supporters

To publicly acknowledge the people, foundations and businesses who support APCC's work, we are once again listing all donors who made gifts of \$250 and above in 2022. Please let us know if your name is not correct or if it is missing and we will make the correction.

## Giving Societies

We are grateful to the following Giving Society members for their generous contributions, which allowed APCC to increase and enhance our program efforts in environmental advocacy, science and education.

### Vanguard Society

*\$25,000 and above*

Anonymous (2)  
Michael Corrigan  
Hermann Foundation  
Terese & Dan Heintzelman  
Steven and Paula Koppel  
Domenic Narducci IV  
& Adam Narducci

### Founders Society

*\$10,000 to \$24,999*

Philip Bentley  
& Michele Ferenz  
Rigney and Robert Cunningham  
Horizon Foundation  
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Peter Kreittler  
Nora Lavori  
Victoria Lowell  
Ian Nisbet, Nisbet Family Foundation  
Anthony and Karen Pierson  
Robert Summersgill

### Advocates Society

*\$5,000 to \$9,999*

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Jonathan and Amy Fleming  
Steven and Mary Gulrich  
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Glenn McCarthy  
Eliza McClennen  
and Herb Heidt  
Patrick Otton  
Barbara Panora  
Laura Winston

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*\$1,000 to \$4,999*

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Edmund and  
Rose Marie Woollen  
Robert Zarembo and  
Danielle Jeanloz  
Naomi and Michael Zigmond



## The following Friends includes donors of \$250 to \$999. We thank them all.

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# Scallop Society

APCC is extremely fortunate to have a very loyal group of supporters. Our Scallop Society members have been donating to APCC for 25 years or more. This year, we've added 10 new members. We are very grateful for their ongoing support! **Bold** denotes new Scallop Society member.

Ronald and Judith Ablow  
Jane Abromowitz  
Donald and Barbara Abt  
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Judith Ziss

Photo: Sue Machie

## Recurring Donors

The following individuals make yearly pledges to APCC that are fulfilled through monthly credit card payments. This steady stream of income makes our program planning easier, and we wish to recognize those donors with our special thanks.

Abbott Fragrance  
Kristin Andres  
Rachel Asher  
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Judith Wilchynski  
Jason Young



# Gifts to Memorialize and Honor

Throughout our 54-year history, APCC's work has been supported by many gifts made to honor or memorialize loved ones and other special individuals. We are proud and grateful to be the recipient of gifts from the following people to honor others. **(Honoree/Donor)**

Darcy Addison Diane O'Dowd	Carol Dansky Mary Nicolini	Clark A. Griffith Suzanne Lyons Judy and Marvin Gulotta Amy Lesen	Hal Minis Robert Bullard, Jr. Evelyn Mullen Tom Mullen	Scott Peerman, an environmental advocate and a fan of Cape Cod Rosemarie Noonan Jimmy Prevett Karen Mankes	Barbara Sears Tessmer Mary and Gene Hornsby Hyannis Park Civic Association Sachiko Leahy Clinical Cancer Research Editorial Office (Kim, Chris, Bill, Kate, and Brendan) Ashley Tessmer Jennifer Trakas
Ann, who loved the Cape and all beaches everywhere Susan Tomlinson-Dykens	Caroline Dealy Ben Swisher  Lila Fagin Robert M. Fagin	Amy Littlefield Handy Edward A. Handy	Jo Ann Muramoto Susanne Goodman Hallstein	Ron Reed Barbara Reed	James B Trask Elizabeth Trask
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## APCC's 2022 Business Members

APCC greatly appreciates our Business Members, who help to demonstrate that caring for the Cape's environment is also good for the Cape's economy.

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A.R.C. Hatchery  
BlueFlax Design, LLC  
Cape Cod Five Cents Savings Bank  
Expressions Gallery  
Sunpower by E2 Solar

### BUSINESS LEADERS 2022

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BizChecks Payroll  
Cape Air  
Cape Cod Coffee  
Cooperative Bank of Cape Cod  
Crawford Land Management  
Horsley Witten Group, Inc.  
Hy-Line Cruises  
Utility Contractors' Association of  
New England, Inc.  
West Branch Capital

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Allium  
Baskin's Ace Hardware  
Blossoms Of Cape Cod  
Bookstore & Restaurant  
Botanica  
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