



**Mashpee
Environmental
Coalition**



Environmental News

Upcoming Events

Friday, November 15, 2024 – 4pm to 6pm

**Managing Flooding from Sea Level Rise and Storms, In Person and Streamed Online
Woodwell Climate Research Center, 149 Woods Hole Road, Falmouth, MA**

As described on their website, the Yale Club of Cape Cod is presenting a free lecture by Professor Robert O. Mendelsohn on his recent research on climate adaptation and future flooding, and how we can reduce urban flooding damage. For additional information and to register, go to:

<https://www.woodwellclimate.org/?event=managing-flooding-from-sea-level-rise-and-storms>.

Monday, November 18, 2024 - Starting at 6:30pm

Select Board Meeting, Mashpee Town Hall, Online, and Local Cable Channels 8 and 1072

Agenda topics include the Public Hearing Continuation Regarding the Proposed Reclassification of the Southern Portion of the Great River Family Shellfishing Area; Discussion of the Hamblin Pond Oyster Restoration Project; and a Santuit Pond Preserve Trail Improvement Project Proposal. The full meeting agenda and viewing instructions are available [here](#).

November 19-21, 2024, Recycling Webinars – 12noon to 1pm

Tuesday, November 19: Food Rescue in Massachusetts

Wednesday, November 20: Batteries are Everywhere, Handle with Care

Thursday, November 21: Ask Me Anything About Recycling in MA

These online webinars are presented by Recycle Smart. Register for one, two, or all three.

The link for additional information and to register may be found at:

<https://recyclesmartma.org/2024/10/reduce-reuse-recycle-palooza-2/>.

Thursday, November 21, 2024 – 12noon to 4:30pm

Taking Care of Cape Cod Summit, 204 Sisson Road, Harwich

Co-sponsored by CARE for the Cape and Islands, Cape Cod Anti-Litter Coalition, and Center for Coastal Studies, the theme of this summit is **“Stemming the Tide of Wastefulness: We Can Make it Happen!”** The program will focus on tangible ways to reduce waste and engage in environmental stewardship for individuals, businesses, municipalities, and organizations. Ticket Price: \$35. Additional information and the registration link may be found at: <https://www.capecodchamber.org/event/2024-taking-care-of-cape-cod-summit/48849/>.

Saturday, November 23, 2024 – 9am to 12noon

Styrofoam and Polystyrene Collection, Morse Pond School, 323 Jones Rd, Falmouth

Co-sponsored by the Falmouth DPW and Solid Waste Advisory Committee, this event aims at keeping these bulky items out of the landfill. Per their website, contrary to popular belief, Styrofoam is fully recyclable and can be repurposed into a variety of useful items. The list of acceptable and non-acceptable items may be found at: <https://www.falmouthma.gov/1504/EPS-Foam-Recycling>.

Friday, November 29, 2024 – 10am to 12noon

Go Green Hike: Quashnet River Trail, Starting at Martin Road, East Falmouth

Waquoit Bay Reserve invites walkers to participate in a 2.8 mile hike along the Quashnet River. The first section of the trail is wide and flat, becoming narrower and hillier across the river. Rain cancels. For additional information and to register, go to: <https://waquoitbayreserve.org/events/go-green-hike-quashnet-river/>.

**Saturday Morning Walks Throughout November – Starting at 9am
Mashpee Conservation Lands**

Guided nature tours, sponsored by the Mashpee Conservation Department, are offered free-of-charge. Upcoming walks on **Saturday, November 16, 23, and 30** include Conaumet Neck at Lowell Holly, Childs River Wetlands, and Santuit Pond Preserve. For information about these walks and those in the coming months, click on the "Guided Nature Tour" link along the left-hand margin at: <https://www.mashpeema.gov/conservation>.

Thank you, Mashpee Voters!

At the October 21st Annual Town Meeting, Mashpee Voters approved --

- the requested 10% reserves for Community Preservation projects;
- funding for a Phase II Sewer Project study in support of the Waquoit Bay watershed; and
- the purchase and conservation of over 7 acres of largely undeveloped land on the southern end of Johns Pond.

On behalf of our land and our waters, Thank you, Mashpee Voters!

Information Items

Waterways in the News

As recently shown on the Association to Preserve Cape Cod (APCC) website, the cyanobacteria advisories for **Ashumet Pond** and **Santuit Pond** were both lifted based on water quality samples taken last month.

At a recent meeting of Friends of Ashumet Pond (FOAP), JBCC Contractor, Jonathan S. Davis, P.E., Sr. Environmental Engineer | Cherokee Federal, provided an historical overview of **Ashumet Pond** from the perspective of JBCC, and announced that plans are underway to start addressing PFAS levels.

As part of the Cape Cod Commission's Freshwater Initiative, three Mashpee ponds have been selected for their extensive 3-year study: **Johns Pond, Moody Pond, and Santuit Pond**. Full details may be found at: <https://capecodcommission.org/our-work/cape-cod-freshwater-initiative/>. Stakeholder engagement is encouraged. To receive updates regarding this project, you can sign up at: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/NLcuEDQ/freshwater>.

The long-awaited **Mashpee-Wakeby Pond** Diagnostic Study is scheduled for completion sometime in November, with a presentation to the Mashpee Select Board to follow. Both dates have yet to be confirmed.

Per the Town of Mashpee website, www.mashpeema.gov, the closure of the **Edward A. Baker Boat Ramp** at **Pirate's Cove** has been extended, with an expected reopen date of November 30.

Mashpee's **oyster season** opened on November 1st, and is scheduled to end March 31st, with oysters available to harvest at **Ockway Bay** boat ramp and **Seconsett Causeway**. Details may be found at: <https://www.mashpeema.gov/natural-resources/news/oyster-season-open-nov1-ockway-bay-and-seconsett-causeway>.

New Cape-Wide Conservation Calendar

The Compact of Cape Cod Conservation Trusts and its nonprofit members have recently launched a new regional calendar of events. This Conservation Calendar includes programs from villages and towns across Cape Cod, encouraging both visitors and residents to take part in nature and environmental events. A wide list of programs can be found at www.blr.org/capeconservationcalendar.

Degradable Bioplastic News

Last month, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute announced that their scientists have recently discovered a **degrading bioplastic material** which was tested in seawater. Information about this new discovery may be found at: <https://www.whoi.edu/press-room/news-release/polystyrene/>.

*As the Holidays Approach, on Behalf of Everyone at MEC,
We Wish You and Yours a Safe and
Happy Holiday Season!*

Please consider sharing this newsletter with your friends, colleagues, and neighbors who may have an interest in this information.
Our thanks to each of you for your own efforts on behalf of our town and the environment!

To Join or Donate

Our Board meets the 2nd Thursday of each Month (January - November) via Zoom starting at 4pm, and our Annual Meeting immediately precedes the September Board Meeting. All are welcome.

The Mashpee Environmental Coalition (MEC) is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization – dedicated to educating and advocating on behalf of Mashpee's natural resources for over 25 years.

info@mashpeemec.us | www.mashpeemec.us

See what's happening on our social sites:



Mashpee Environmental Coalition | PO Box 274 | Mashpee, MA 02649 US

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