



Mashpee
Environmental
Coalition



Environmental News

Upcoming Events

Thursday, September 11, 2025 - Starting at 4pm

MEC's Annual Meeting via Zoom

At our Annual Meeting, recent accomplishments will be shared, officers will be elected for next year, and the monthly board meeting will follow. To join, please email info@marshpeemec.us for the Zoom link. All are welcome.

Thursday, September 11, 2025 – Starting at 7pm

Proposed Wastewater Treatment Facility at 0 Gunters Lane

Mashpee Town Hall, 16 Great Neck Road North, Mashpee

Learn details about Article 4 of the October 2025 Town Warrant. On October 20th, voters will be asked to authorize an additional \$25.9 million debt exclusion for a wastewater system to be constructed within the Pimlico Heights Cluster Development's dedicated Open Space at 0 Gunters Lane. Sessions will also be held on September 25, October 2 and October 16. We applaud the decision of town officials to make these information sessions readily available to all Mashpee residents who are unable to attend in person, through Mashpee TV and meeting recordings.

Friday, September 12, 2025 - 11am to 12noon

On-Site Popponeset Dredge Kickoff Meeting

0 Rear Wading Place Road, Mashpee

Mashpee Conservation Commission members will meet with project partners, per the public meeting notice, which may be read [here](#).

Saturday, September 13, 2025, 11am to 1pm

5k "Find Your Wild" Walk through the Mashpee National Wildlife Refuge

Start at Attaquin Park, Lake Avenue, Mashpee

Sponsored by the Friends of the Mashpee National Wildlife Refuge, this self-guided 3.6 mile walk will take 1 1/2 to 2 hours. Check in at Attaquin Park to receive a trail map, enjoy the sights and sounds of the Refuge, and finish at Naukabout Brewery for an after-walk celebration from noon to 4pm. Additional information about the walk, including how to register, may be found [here](#).

Tuesday, September 16 and Wednesday, September 17, 2025 - Starting at 9am

Cape Cod Commission's OneCape 2025 Summit

Wychmere Beach Club, 23 Snow Inn Rd, Harwich Port

Register [here](#) for one or both days to hear from local, state, and national experts on forward-looking, action-oriented initiatives to address Cape Cod's critical challenges, including natural resources protection, housing affordability and attainability, water quality, climate action, and sustained and equitable economic opportunities.

Thursday, September 18, 2025 - 8am to 9:15am

The Floating Garden: An Ecological Innovation at Eagle Pond

Meeting location will be sent to program participants

The Barnstable Land Trust is sponsoring this walk around Cotuit's Eagle Pond where participants will learn more about the sustainable floating garden built by the Saint John Paul II AP Environmental Science class last spring. Floating gardens are an eco-friendly way to provide habitat for local pond life, filter pollutants from the water, and help prevent harmful algae blooms—all of which contribute to the long-term sustainability of a pond. Details about the program and how to register are available at <https://blt.org/events/the-floating-garden>.

Looking Ahead:

Thursday, September 25, 2025 – Starting at 7pm

Proposed Wastewater Treatment Facility at 0 Gunters Lane, Mashpee Town Hall

See the September 11th program description above.

Saturday, September 27, 2025 - 9:30am to 12noon

Volunteer Day at Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

Visitor Center, Waquoit Bay Reserve, 131 Waquoit Highway, East Falmouth

Join the Dept of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) Corps for a Volunteer Day at the Reserve. Help with painting projects, light maintenance, gardening and/or trail work. For additional information, contact Laurie Tompkins, Volunteer Coordinator at laurie.tompkins@mass.gov or 508-457-0495.

Thursday, October 2, 2025 – Starting at 7pm

Proposed Wastewater Treatment Facility at 0 Gunters Lane, Mashpee Town Hall

See the September 11th program description above.

Friday, October 3, 2025, Time TBD

30th Anniversary of the Mashpee National Wildlife Refuge

Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, 131 Waquoit Highway, East Falmouth

Additional details will be posted at: <https://www.friendsofmashpeenationalwildliferefuge.org/>

Thursday, October 16, 2025 – Starting at 7pm

Proposed Wastewater Treatment Facility at 0 Gunters Lane, Mashpee Town Hall

See the September 11th program description above.

Monday, October 20, 2025 - Mashpee Annual Town Meeting

Details to follow.

Let's Take a Hike

September Walks in Mashpee, in addition to the 5k "Find Your Wild" Walk (listed above):

Saturday, September 13, 2025, Childs River Wetland Exploration, 9am

Saturday, September 20, 2025, Mashpee River Woodlands (North) Hike, 9am

Saturday, September 27, 2025, Pickerel Cove Conservation Area, 9am

Guided nature tours, sponsored by the Mashpee Conservation Department, are offered each month free-of-charge. Registration is not required, but rain may cancel. 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> or call (508) 539-1400, ext. 8538.

A Successful MEC Textile Event

We are pleased to report that **2,750 lbs. of textiles** were donated for recycling at MEC's **August 16th Textile Drive** - held alongside the County's household hazardous waste collection and Mashpee DPW's secure shredding event. **Since 2023**, MEC has conducted **five Textile Recycling drives** – where, in total, **18,000 lbs. of textiles** have been collected for recycling and kept out of our landfill. For general information about MEC's two annual Textile Drives, see the "Reminders" section below. Our thanks to all MEC members and other Cape residents who stopped by last month with their donations, and we hope to see you again next April!

Information Items

Waterways in the News

A **cyanobacteria alert** continues for **Santuit Pond** based on water sampling by the Association to Preserve Cape Cod (APCC) on September 2nd. Cyanobacteria alerts for all other Mashpee ponds have been lifted.

At the August 28, 2025 Conservation Commission meeting, the **Popponesset Bay** dredging project was reviewed. As noted above, the **On-site Kick-Off Meeting** for this restoration project will take place on Friday, September 12th starting at 11am. To learn more, the project discussion may be viewed [here](#), starting at 2 hours and 10 minutes.

Massachusetts Biodiversity Goals Announced

As stated in the official Press Release last month, "The Healy-Driscoll Administration launched a **nation-leading plan to protect nature and wildlife**. The 25-year **biodiversity initiative** will help revive **rivers, forests and habitats** across Massachusetts." Key goals include the creation of **safe wildlife crossings, land and water protection** measures, and the **safeguarding** of over 425,000 acres of **essential habitat**. The press release, in its entirety, may be read [here](#).

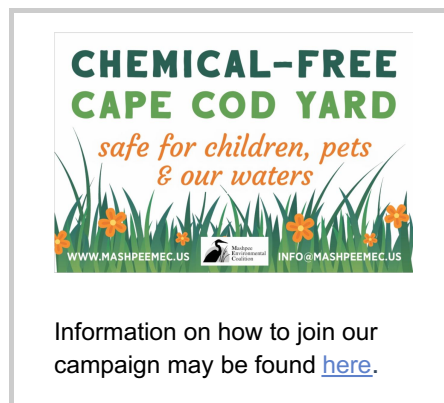
Cape Cod's Drought - Upgraded from Level 1 to Level 2

Sadly, Cape Cod's drought has once again been raised to a **Level 2 "Significant Drought"** status. Residents are urged to continue conserving water use, both indoors and outside. Latest drought updates can be found at the [MA Drought Status website](#).

MEC's Chemical-Free Yard Sign Campaign

Since April, MEC's **Chemical-Free Cape Cod Yard Sign Campaign** is in full swing, aimed at promoting Chemical-Free Yards that are safe for our Children, Pets, Waters - and Nature as a whole.

Already, our signs are proudly being displayed in yards across Cape Cod, including Dennis, Falmouth, Mashpee, Pocasset, and Sandwich. Thanks to all who have chosen to set an example for their friends, neighbors, and local associations - by helping to save our environment, one yard at a time!



Reminders

Cape-Wide Conservation Calendar of Events

The Compact of Cape Cod Conservation Trusts and its nonprofit members publish updates to their **Regional Calendar of Events** on an ongoing basis. 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. The wide list of current programs may be accessed at: www.blt.org/capeconservationcalendar.

Textile Recycling is Now Mandatory - It's the Law!

Due to the solid waste crisis in Massachusetts, effective November 2022, it is **now illegal to discard any clothing or other textile item in the trash**, even if stained, ripped, threadbare, or one of a pair. This includes footwear, bedding, table linens, accessories such as belts and scarves, and even stuffed animals for children and pets. The full list of textile items that must now be recycled is available [here](#), courtesy of Bay State Textiles. To assist residents in complying with this law, **MEC now sponsors textile recycling drives twice each year** — in **April** as an Earth Day event, and in **August** alongside the County's Hazardous Waste Dropoff. Exact dates and times for each April and August event, once known, will be posted on our homepage at www.mashpeemec.us.

Cape Cod Freshwater Strategy Report - Ponds and Lakes

The Cape Cod Commission released its final **Cape Cod Freshwater Strategy Report** this summer.

This guide outlines a data-driven approach to evaluating, protecting, and restoring Cape Cod's ponds and lakes, and a framework for improving their overall health. Additional information and the report itself may be found [here](#).

River Restoration Projects

Under the program name, "**Source to Sea**," projects continue which aim to help restore the health of the **Mashpee River, Quashnet River, and Red Brook**. To learn more, information may be found at:

<https://waquoitbayreserve.org/coastal-training-programs/source-to-sea>

**Please share 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, our region, 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 our 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

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!