

Tisbury Water Resources Committee

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Workshop to Address Restoring the Health of Tisbury's Coastal Ponds

The second community workshop as part of Tisbury's Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan (CWMP) process will be held Thursday May 18, 2023 from 6:30-8 pm. It will be a hybrid meeting, in person at the Emergency Services Conference Room and on Zoom.

This workshop will look at alternative technologies to address nitrogen reduction in Tisbury's watersheds, review evaluation criteria and discuss recommended technologies.

Nitrogen is a primary pollutant affecting coastal ponds and wastewater is the largest source of nitrogen in the local watersheds. Lake Tashmoo and Lagoon Pond already have high levels of nitrogen and more is being added daily from septic systems. The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection has charged Tisbury with developing a 20-year plan to improve water quality in our coastal ponds. The Town is working with Environmental Partners, an architectural, engineering, planning and environmental consulting firm, to produce a CWMP by next year. The Town is also working with Scott Horsley on a Targeted Watershed Management Plan (TWMP) for Lake Tashmoo that will be completed sooner in an effort to access State Revolving Funds. The plans will look at current wastewater conditions and future wastewater needs as well as alternatives for reducing nitrogen loads in Lagoon Pond and Lake Tashmoo. The final product will be a draft plan that will be presented to the Select Board and then to the citizens of Tisbury for approval.

Over the next year there will be additional workshops as we further develop and finalize the CWMP. Participation by residents and stakeholders is critical for the development of a successful plan. Anyone who would like to be on the mailing list for notices about future public workshops, for more information or with questions about Tisbury's CWMP or TWMP, send your email address to cwmp@tisburyma.gov. Or go to the CWMP page on the Tisbury website www.tisburyma.gov/water-resources-committee.

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