



# Cape Charles Gazette

Publication Date: July 14, 2014

We hope that you will enjoy reading the Cape Charles Gazette which is the electronic newsletter published from time to time by the Town Manager on behalf of the municipal government of the Town of Cape Charles. The Gazette provides a variety of information that we believe will be useful to the citizens and businesses of Cape Charles as well as those who plan to travel to Cape Charles or have any interest in our Town or the Town's government. The Gazette provides information on actions being undertaken or being considered by the Town government, upcoming activities in the Town, important public safety and security issues and emergency announcements.

We welcome your responses which may be sent to [gazette@capecharles.org](mailto:gazette@capecharles.org), by regular mail to 2 Plum Street, Cape Charles, VA 23310 or by calling (757) 331-3259.

We also encourage you to visit the Town's website at [www.capecharles.org](http://www.capecharles.org) where you will find up-to-date information about the operation of the Town government.



## JULY 5<sup>TH</sup> PARADE, FESTIVAL AND FIREWORKS



This year, due to Hurricane Arthur, the July 4<sup>th</sup> festivities had to be rescheduled for Saturday, July 5<sup>th</sup>.

The festivities began with the annual parade down Bay and Mason Avenues which included many participants such as festively decorated golf carts, fire engines from the Cape Charles and Cheriton Fire Companies, antique vehicles, bicyclists, and patriotic horses and riders just to name a few. Other activities included a Beautiful Baby Contest, volleyball and horse shoe tournaments and a go-cart track. Many children competed in the Guppie Challenge at the fishing pier.

Bay Avenue was lined with craft and artisan vendors along with a variety of food vendors with something for

everyone! The dunking booth drew a big crowd. Even newly-elected Mayor George Proto took his turn on the hot seat!



The festivities ended with the fireworks display over the Chesapeake Bay and Harbor. It was a spectacular display and gets better every year. Many thanks to Bayshore Concrete Products for allowing the fireworks vendor to set them off from their property across the Harbor!





## LOVEWORKS AT CAPE CHARLES!

The Virginia Tourism Corporation (VTC) manages an initiative called LOVEworks which are giant "LOVE" artworks installations throughout the state. The goal is to "prove that love is at the heart of every Virginia vacation" and people are encouraged to take pictures and share them through social media. The VTC had a LOVEworks display at Kiptopeke State Park but that was moved to Chincoteague earlier this year.

The Cape Charles Business Association (CCBA) sponsored a travelling LOVEworks installation in October 2013. The installation was housed at the Cape Charles beachfront for about 2 weeks and was very popular with the locals and visitors. With the positive response, several members of the CCBA – Miriam Elton of Brown Dog Ice Cream, Donna Olney Kohler of the Fig Street Inn, Sandy McFall of Gallery 209, and Tiffany Mohr of Aqua began working with Town representatives Jen Lewis and Pete Leontieff to build a permanent LOVE installation for the Town.

Several fundraisers were organized by members of the CCBA. On a Saturday in May, the LOVE Train paraded down Mason Avenue and participants danced their way down the street to fun, upbeat LOVE songs! Another fundraiser was the LOVE Letters where people were able to write messages on red hearts which were displayed at the beachfront for a number of weeks. Both fundraisers were very well received and helped bring this permanent LOVE installation to the Town.

The CCBA did a great job designing the LOVE installation using materials that reflect our community and history! The "L" is made from sea glass and seashells, which were donated by Karen Jolly Davis, Nancy Vest and Miriam Elton, to represent our bayside community. The "O" is a tractor tire, which was donated by Ray Newman Farm, to represent agriculture. The "V" is made from kayaks, which were donated by SouthEast Expeditions, to represent outdoor adventure activities. The "E" is made from crab pots, which were fabricated by Robert and Scott Wivell, to represent aquaculture. The "L" and "E" were constructed by Toby Murray of Shore Breeze Boats.



The LOVE installation was unveiled at the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade and was placed in its permanent location on the beach by the fishing pier on Monday, 7/7.

A large crowd came out for the ribbon-cutting ceremony on Wednesday, 7/9. Participating in the ribbon-cutting were (from left to right) Miriam Elton, Donna Olney Kohler, Town Manager Heather Arcos, Vice Mayor Chris Bannon who did the honors, and Sandy McFall.

Thank you to everyone who played a part in making the permanent LOVE installation a reality! The Cape Charles LOVE installation is the only one currently in Northampton County. We encourage everyone to visit the LOVE installation, take photos and share them with all your friends and on social media sites!



## DOGS ON THE BEACH

Just a friendly reminder that dogs are not permitted on the beach between the hours of 9am-9pm April 1<sup>st</sup> through Labor Day per Town Code Section 50-191.

If you have your dog on the beach during the permitted hours, please be courteous and pick up the waste and do not bury it for someone to step on. There are a number of doggie waste stations along the boardwalk which contain bags for your convenience. Failure to comply could result in a class 4 misdemeanor.

At all times, throughout the Town, dogs must be on a leash.

Thank you for your cooperation!



## FROM THE PLANNER



When family and friends come to visit you in Cape Charles, if your visitors arrive in a recreational vehicle, it is important to keep in mind town regulations regarding campers and RV's. [Section 42-90 of the Town Code](#) includes travel trailers, coaches, motorized dwellings, tent trailers, boat trailers, amphibious houseboats and the like. No such equipment may be parked in any public street or public right-of-way for more than 48 hours. Also, no such equipment may be used for living, sleeping or housekeeping purposes except in locations lawfully established for such use. The zoning ordinance expands that travel or recreational trailers shall be parked to the rear of the front line of the main building in a residential district.

## MOSQUITO SPRAYING

The Town of Cape Charles has contracted with Bay Creek Landscaping to provide monthly mosquito spraying around the Town from April through October. The primary goal of mosquito control in Cape Charles is suppression of mosquito populations to the point where they do not transmit diseases or provide significant annoyances. The control options used are as follows:

1. Source reduction and water management which includes breeding areas such as Central Park in the event that we receive significant rainfall at one time. The Stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs) in the park are designed to collect rainwater runoff. In cases of heavy rain, the BMPs fill with water and may drain slowly until the water table returns to normal. In order to avoid an increase in mosquito breeding areas, the water may need to be treated.
2. Chemical control is also an important part of most programs. The chemicals used for application are rated for this use and EPA approved.



Bay Creek Landscaping typically sprays from 9:00 PM to 11:00 PM and their tentative mosquito spraying schedule is as follows:

- Thursday, July 24<sup>th</sup>
- Thursday, August 28<sup>th</sup>
- Thursday, September 25<sup>th</sup>
- Thursday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> (Optional. Will depend on temperature and mosquito population.)

## SOLID WASTE COLLECTION

A number of issues regarding trash collection has been brought to our attention recently, mainly relating to trash for vacation rental properties. It is ultimately the property owner's responsibility to ensure that the Town's ordinances for trash receptacles and pickup are followed. In many cases, the property owners contract with rental management companies and this issue should be covered in that contract.

Davis Disposal picks up residential trash on Tuesdays. The Town ordinance [section 58-27\(a\)](#) states that "residential refuse receptacles to be collected by the Town shall be placed on the alley way or curb line of a Town right-of-way the customary point of pick up no earlier than 5:00 PM on the day before collection and by 7:00 AM on the day of collection. All receptacles must be removed out of view of the public after collection on the day of collection."

A number of complaints have been received regarding the overflowing trash receptacles being on the street curb or alley for days at a time awaiting pickup. The same receptacles then remain on the curb or alley for days and sometimes a week after being emptied.

We ask that everyone do their best to abide by the Town's ordinance to keep the Town a nice, clean place to live and visit. Thank you for your cooperation!

## NOISE ORDINANCE

With the summer months, the days are longer and all like to stay outside enjoying what the Town has to offer. Recently, the Town has received a number of complaints about loud music being played late into the evenings. We wanted to send a reminder to everyone that the Town has an ordinance regarding loud, disturbing noise. We ask that you please be courteous to your neighbors and refrain from playing loud music after dark. Section 46-3 of the Town Code is shown below:

Sec. 46-3. Loud, disturbing, etc., noise.

It shall be unlawful and a class 4 misdemeanor for any person to create any unreasonable loud, disturbing and unnecessary noise in the town or any noise of such character, intensity and duration as to be detrimental to the life or health of any person or unreasonably disturb or annoy the quiet, comfort or repose of any person. The following acts are declared to be loud, disturbing and unnecessary noises in violation of this section, but such enumeration shall not be deemed to be exclusive:

- (1) The playing of any television set, radio, phonograph or any musical instrument in such a manner or with such volume as to annoy or disturb the quiet, comfort or repose of persons in any dwelling, hotel or other type of residence.
- (2) The keeping of any animal which, by causing frequent or long-continued noise, disturbs the comfort and repose of any person in the vicinity to such an extent as to constitute a nuisance.
- (3) The creation of any excessive noise on any street adjacent to any school, institution of learning or court, while the same is in session, or adjacent to any building used as a place of public worship, while being so used, or adjacent to any hospital, which unreasonably interferes with the workings of such school, institution, court, place of worship or hospital or unduly annoys persons therein.
- (4) The shouting and crying of peddlers, hawkers and vendors which disturbs the peace and quiet of the neighborhood.
- (5) The use of any drum, loudspeaker or other instrument or device for the purpose of attracting attention, by the creation of noise, to any performance, show or sale or display of merchandise.

## RECYCLING FACILITIES



**Northampton County** provides several **Recycling Facilities** that accept plastic, glass, newspaper, cardboard, aluminum and steel cans, waste oil and batteries. Large or bulky household items occasionally needing disposal by a resident will also be accepted and transported to a disposal site.

There are 5 locations throughout the County. The closest location to the Town is in Bayview at 22564 Bayview Circle.

The hours of operation are Monday – Saturday 7:30 AM – 6 PM; Sunday 1 PM – 6 PM.

More information can be located on the Northampton County website at [www.co.northampton.va.us/departments/landfill.html](http://www.co.northampton.va.us/departments/landfill.html).

## UPCOMING MEETINGS & NOTICES

- Monday, July 14, 2014:  
**Town Council Executive Session** starting at 5:30 PM at the Town Hall. [AGENDA](#)
- Thursday, July 17, 2014:  
**Town Council Regular Meeting** starting at 6:00 PM at the Cape Charles Civic Center located at 500 Tazewell Avenue. [AGENDA](#)
- Monday, July 28, 2014:  
**Planning Commission Comprehensive Plan Work Session** with the A-NPDC, starting at 6:00 PM at the Cape Charles Civic Center.
- Thursday, July 31, 2014:  
**Town Council Work Session** starting at 5:30 PM at the Cape Charles Civic Center.
- Tuesday, August 5, 2014:  
**Planning Commission Regular Meeting** starting at 6:00 PM at the Cape Charles Civic Center.
- Thursday, August 7, 2014:  
**Town Council Work Session** starting at 6:00 PM at the Cape Charles Civic Center.
- Tuesday, August 19, 2014:  
**Historic District Review Board Meeting** starting at 6:00 PM at the Cape Charles Civic Center.
- Thursday, August 21, 2014:  
**Town Council Regular Meeting** starting at 6:00 PM at the Cape Charles Civic Center.
- Monday, August 25, 2014:  
**Planning Commission Comprehensive Plan Work Session** with the A-NPDC, starting at 6:00 PM at the Cape Charles Civic Center.

## FY 2014-2015 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

The Fiscal Year (FY) 2014-2015 Budget was adopted by the Town Council at their June 19, 2014 meeting after months of review. The budget maintains the same level of services currently offered to the Town's citizens. The total budget for FY 2014-2015 is \$6,686,423 for all funds, with the General Fund portion being \$3,707,715 which includes \$1,681,538 in capital projects related to the Cape Charles Multi-Use Trail, purchase of a dump truck for Public Works, parking design and plans for town-owned lots, HVAC for the second floor of the Cape Charles Memorial Library, a new phone system for the Town offices, furniture and equipment for the new Cape Charles Civic Center, a new police vehicle, and a scanning system to help with archiving documents and disaster planning. The Town will receive \$1,264,100 in grants or local/state/federal aid to help offset the capital improvements in the General Fund. Total General Fund expenditures excluding capital items in the FY 2014-2015 General Fund amounts to \$2,410,821. Below is a highlight of several items included in this year's General Fund budget:

**Personnel:** The General Fund budget includes a 2% cost of living increase for all full-time and regular part-time employees. It has been several years since the employees were given increases other than the increase mandated by the Virginia Retirement System in July 2012 in regards to the new requirement for the employees' contribution to their retirement accounts.

**Finance:** The budgeted amounts for contracted services for the accounting software were increased to include training for the department and credit card processing fees were increased to reflect the increase in the number of citizens opting to pay by credit card. This is a popular service offered to the citizens.

**Town Manager Budget – Legal Expenses & Contingency Fund:** The budgeted amount for legal expenses was increased by \$15K based on the history of the last several years. In FY 2009-2010 the Town budgeted \$45K for legal expenses and spent \$75,282. In FY 2010-2011, the Town budgeted \$60K and spent \$77,994. In FY 2011-2012, \$60K was budgeted and \$74,281 was spent. In FY 2012-2013, \$60K was budgeted and \$144,186 was spent. In FY 2013-2014, \$60K was budgeted and to date \$73,488 has been paid in legal expenses. The Town has not yet been invoiced for June expenses. The Town Manager budget also includes \$120,150 in a Contingency Fund to be used at the Town Council's discretion.

**Contributions to Non-Profits:** This line item is included in the Town Manager's budget. In previous years, with the exception of FY 2013-2014, the Town provided funding assistance to a number of non-profit organizations. In FY 2013-2014, this funding was not available. For FY 2014-2015, the Town Council modified the Town Ordinance for the use of transient occupancy tax revenues to fund tourism-related activities. The amount of the transient occupancy tax will be increased to 3.7% effective January 1, 2015 to help with this endeavor. The tourism-related organizations and activities included in the FY 2014-2015 budget include the Eastern Shore Eventacular, Inc. for the Tall Ships and Birding and Wildlife Festival, Cape Charles Business Association for the LOVE display, Eastern Shore of Virginia Tourism Commission, July 4<sup>th</sup> fireworks display, Historical Society Welcome Center, and the Cape Charles by the Bay website hosting and maintenance along with social media and print marketing. In addition, the FY 2014-2015 budget includes \$25K assistance to the Cape Charles Volunteer Fire Company.

The Town's budget also includes 3 Enterprise Funds – Harbor, Sanitation and Water/Wastewater. These budgets are not funded by tax revenue.

- The Harbor Fund is funded by fees collected from the local watermen and slip rentals from annual slip-holders and transient boaters. The amount budgeted in the Harbor Fund is \$1,157,987 for operations and debt service.
- The Sanitation Fund is funded by the trash collection fees, which were increased from \$12.57 to \$13.50 per month. This fee is the amount paid by the Town to Davis Disposal for providing this service.
- Water/Wastewater Fund is funded by the monthly water and wastewater fees. For FY 2014-2015, the water rate was decreased from \$34.50 to \$31.21 per month. The wastewater rate was increased from \$60.85 to \$63.20 per month. The total utility rate to citizens remains unchanged at \$107.92 including water, wastewater and sanitation fees.

### LITTLE FREE LIBRARIES



The Friends of the Cape Charles Memorial Library are sponsoring a total of 4 "Little Free Libraries" around Town. Visitors and residents are invited to "Take a Book and Leave a Book" in the Little Libraries.

Units have already been placed at the Town Harbor Bath House and at the Kings Creek Marina at the Complete Angler. Two more units are planned and will be coming soon at the Point on the beachfront and by the Kids Playground in Central Park.

The Little Libraries contain paperback books available for individuals to take to read. We ask that if you take a book, please leave a book for others to enjoy.

Thank you to the Friends of the Library for helping the Town to provide this great service for the citizens and visitors!

## NORTHAMPTON COUNTY EMERGENCY ALERT PROGRAM

It seems that hurricane season is off to an early start this year. Even though Hurricane Arthur passed by the Eastern Shore without any problems, we wanted to take a moment to remind you of Northampton County's emergency alert program.

Northampton County uses the Everbridge Aware™ for Citizen Alerts, an emergency notification system, to immediately contact you during a major crisis or emergency. Northampton Alert delivers important emergency alerts, notifications and updates to you on all your devices: E-mail accounts (work, home, other), cell phones (via SMS), pagers and BlackBerry/Smartphones.

If you haven't already signed up, we strongly recommend that you do so. Please click the logo below to sign up now.




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## SIGN UP FOR THE GAZETTE & E-NOTIFICATIONS!

As announced over the last several months, the Cape Charles Gazette is now available only by subscribing to [e-Notifications](#). With [e-Notifications](#) you can sign up to get the Gazette and regular updates on Agendas & Minutes, Alerts, Bids, Calendar Items, Job Postings and other News & Information.

With [e-Notifications](#), you control the information you receive and can cancel the notifications at any time.

We encourage you to browse the new website and if there is something that you would like to see added to the site, please submit your comments in writing by sending us an email at [info@capecharles.org](mailto:info@capecharles.org) or send a note to the Town Clerk at 2 Plum Street, Cape Charles, VA 23310, and we'll see what we can do to get your requested information online.

We hope you are enjoying our new site and we welcome your comments! We look forward to hearing from you!

Please send comments to [info@capecharles.org](mailto:info@capecharles.org).

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## UPCOMING EVENTS IN CAPE CHARLES

- 8/1/14 – 8/3/14: [Clam Slam 2014](#)
- 8/1/14 – 8/17/14: [Harbor for the Arts Festival](#)
- 8/9/14: Friends of the Cape Charles Memorial Library Book Sale, 10AM – 2PM
- Save the Date:
  - 10/10/14-10/12/14: Eastern Shore Birding & Wildlife Festival
  - 10/11/14: Cape Charles Fall Festival
  - 10/11/14: Friends of the Cape Charles Memorial Library Book Sale, 10AM – 2PM
  - 10/25/14: Haunted Harbor
  - 11/29/14: Cape Charles Historical Society Oyster Roast

For more information regarding these events, please visit our website and take a look at the Calendar!

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We welcome your feedback. Please send your comments to [gazette@capecharles.org](mailto:gazette@capecharles.org).

Any reference to an external website is for public information only and does not constitute an endorsement of that website.

Municipal Corporation of Cape Charles  
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