

# WATER RESOURCES Management Update

Barnstable Town Council  
April 2026

Prepared by:  
Barnstable Department of Public Works



BARNSTABLE  
Water Resources



# Executive Summary

## Key Updates, Community Impacts & Upcoming Decisions



### Construction Progress

Sewering continues to advance in **Centerville**, **Marstons Mills**, and **Osterville** with two expansion projects in active construction.

Construction contracts for the next two sewer projects are currently out for public bid, with construction anticipated to begin Fall 2026. This includes the Town's first neighborhood-centric project and historic Main Street, Centerville.



### Community Impacts

#### Continued traffic impacts:

- Shootflying Hill Road (M-F, 7AM - 5PM)
- Portion of Route 28, Centerville (M-Th, Overnight, 7PM - 6AM)
- Portion of Bumps River Road (M-F, 7AM - 4PM)
- Temporary access impacts at Wequaquet Lake Boat Ramp

Cape Cod remains in a **Level 2-Significant Drought**. Non-essential outdoor water use restrictions remain in Barnstable and across neighboring communities.



### What's Ahead

#### In-road construction will pause for the summer:

- Extension requests accepted to allow sewer contractors to work up until the end of school, with the week of June 22 reserved for temporary restoration and demobilization.
- We anticipate requests for off-road work approval at various pump station locations.



### Sewer Connection Progress

**71%** of eligible CWMP-enabled properties have completed their connection to the newly expanded municipal sewer system.

Compliance is managed by the Barnstable Health Division and Board of Health.



# Why The CWMP Matters

The State requires us to remedy nitrogen pollution from our septic systems.

*A shared responsibility*

The Town's CWMP is approved at the State and local level; it is our community's roadmap for complying with regulated nitrogen Total Maximum Daily Loads.

A multi-generational problem we are fixing in a single generation. Wastewater impacts are not isolated; we all contribute and benefit from the solution.

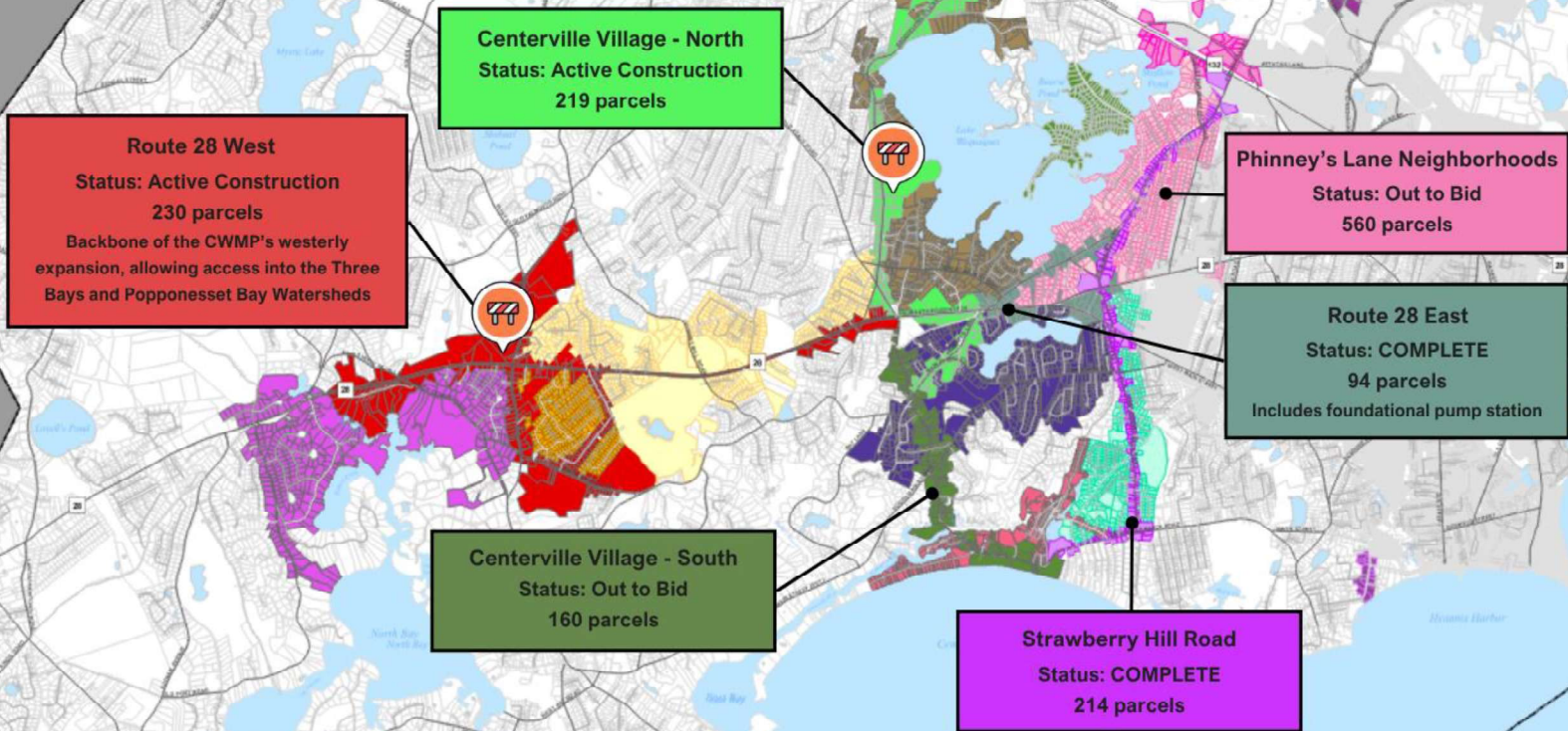


*We are regulated by:*

- Clean Water Act
- Title 5 Natural Resource Nitrogen Sensitive Area Regulations
- Watersehd Permit Regulations



# Phase 1 Sewer Construction Progress



# Active Construction: Notable Updates



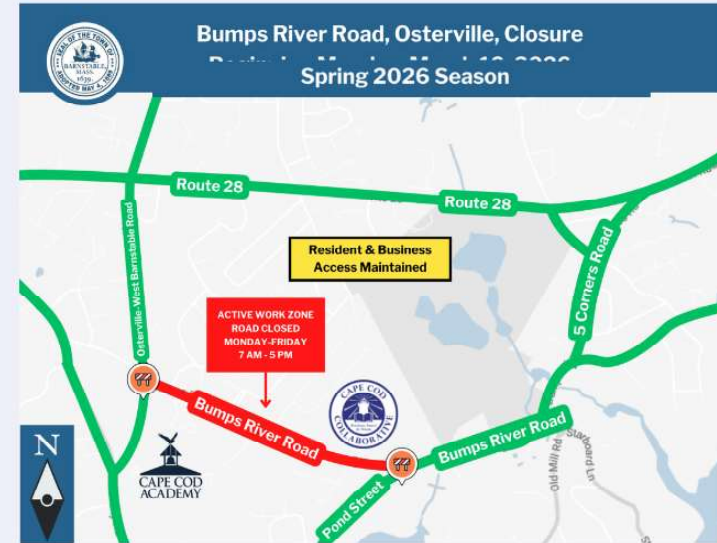
## Centerville Village - North

### Shootflying Hill Road

- Work continues Monday - Friday, 7AM - 5PM
- Temporary access impacts at Wequaquet Lake Boat Ramp

### Route 28 (Phinney's Lane to Old Stage Road)

- Work continues OVERNIGHT Monday - Thursday, 7PM - 6AM
- Ongoing coordination with local businesses to support access



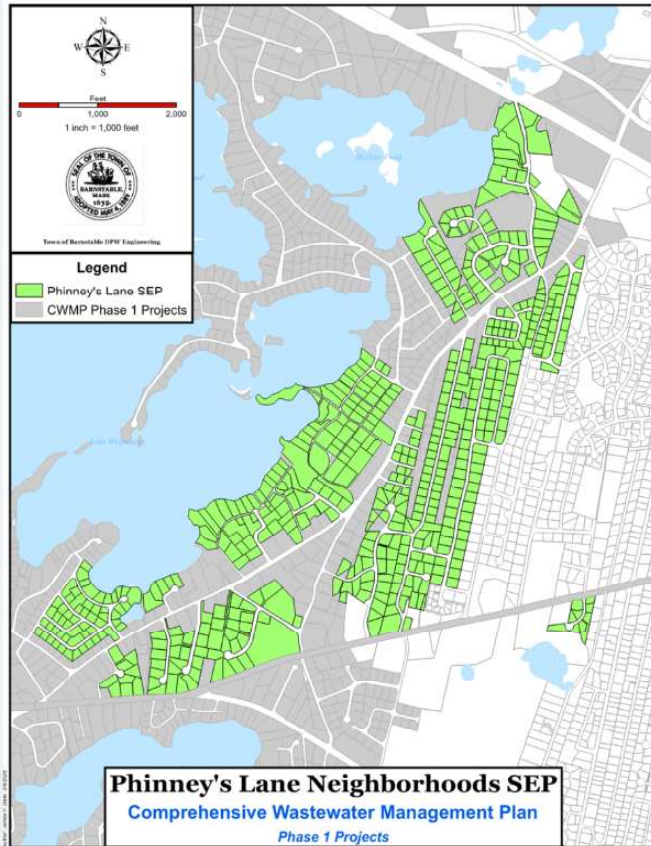
## Route 28 West

### Bumps River Road

- Work continues Monday - Friday, 7AM - 4PM
- Ongoing coordination with area schools and local businesses



# Phinney's Lane Neighborhoods Sewer Expansion



**Status: Construction Contract out for Public Bid**

**Anticipated Construction: Fall 2026 - 2029**

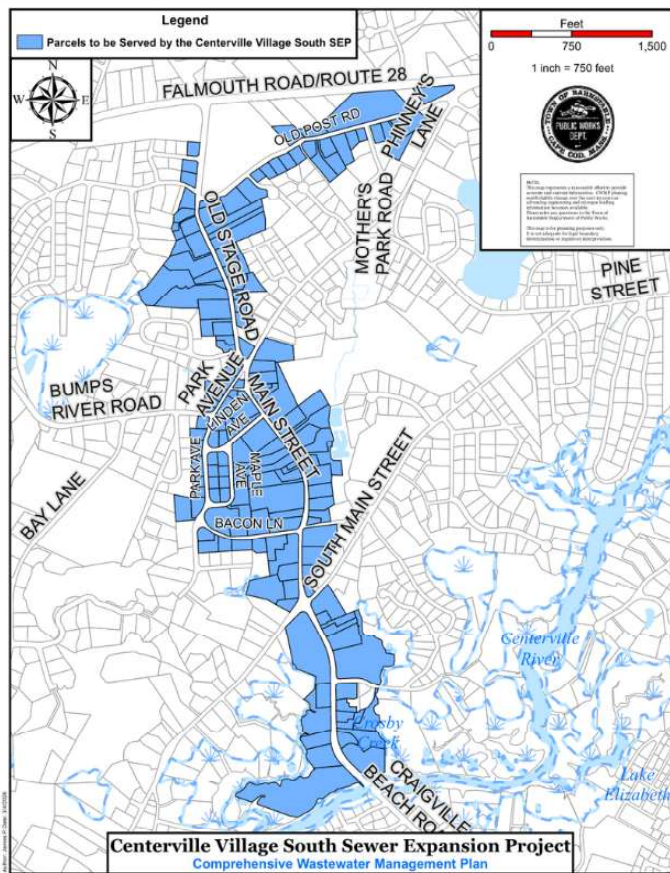
- Will expand sewer into the residential neighborhoods on the east and west side of Phinney's Lane, which will tie into the sewer infrastructure constructed along Phinney's Lane as part of the Strawberry Hill Road and Route 28 East projects.
- Anticipated to sewer +/- 560 properties.

## What Residents Should Expect

- **Public Information Meeting was held on March 11, 2026**
  - Meeting summary and link to meeting recording available on Barnstable Water Resources, with the [News Room - Sewer Construction](#)
- **Bid Schedule**
  - To award construction contract by June 30, 2026.
  - Contractor will develop high-level construction schedule.
  - Anticipate multiple crews in multiple coordinate work zones.
- **Communications & Outreach**
  - Property owners on private roads have been receiving legal mailing related to private road utility easement takings (provides authority to construct sewer in private roadways).
  - Next segment of pre-construction outreach anticipated to begin late-summer.
  - Will communicate construction schedules neighborhood-by-neighborhood.



# Centerville Village Sewer Expansion - South Phase



**Status: Construction Contract out for Public Bid**

**Anticipated Construction: Fall 2026 - 2029**

- Continuation of the Centerville Village - North Phase, delivering sewer service south of Route 28 in Centerville to portions of Old Stage Road, Main Street (Centerville), Craigville Beach Road, Old Post Road, Park Avenue, Bacon Lane, Linden Avenue, and Maple Avenue.
- Anticipated to sewer +/- 160 properties.

## What Residents Should Expect

- **Public Information Meeting scheduled on Wednesday, May 13 at 6:00 PM**
  - In-person at the Barnstable Adult Community Center (825 Falmouth Road, Hyannis).
  - Meeting will be recorded and made available via Barnstable Government Access.
  - Meeting intended to review sewer design plans; will not cover future pedestrian improvements as that will be a separate project with dedicated meetings and outreach.
- **Bid Schedule**
  - To award construction contract by June 30, 2026.
  - Contractor will develop high-level construction schedule.
- **Communications & Outreach**
  - Next segment of pre-construction outreach anticipated to begin late-summer.
  - Will continue to brief Centerville Civic Association regularly to ensure transparent coordination with area businesses and points of interest.



# Ongoing Treatment Plant Construction Projects

## Nitrogen Removal and Headworks Improvements Project Wastewater Treatment Plant - Water Pollution Control Facility (WPCF)

- This work will reduce the average effluent concentration of nitrogen from the facility's current +/- 6 milligrams per liter to an average concentration of 3 milligrams per liter or less.
- This reduction of nitrogen concentration in plant effluent will reduce the total nitrogen load to the Lewis Bay Watershed.
- Additionally, the four stage Bardenpho process, followed by the Membrane Bioreactor being installed, will result in a very high-quality treated effluent, which enables opportunities for additional treatment processes to be considered as part of future work.

## Straightway Water Treatment Facility Project Water Supply Division - Hyannis Water System (HWS)

- The new facility will provide the ability to maximize the permitted capacity of HWS
- Restore the amount of water that the wells can supply to permitted capacity
- Allow the water treatment facility to operate year-round
- Improve the water treatment process to further improve water quality
- Protect the wells and buildings from flooding
- Improve overall system resiliency.



Aerial rendering video available at: <https://bit.ly/WPCFRendering>



# State of Water Supply Conservation

When a Level 2 drought is declared, the Town is required by its Water Withdrawal Permit, from the State, to implement non-essential outdoor water restrictions.

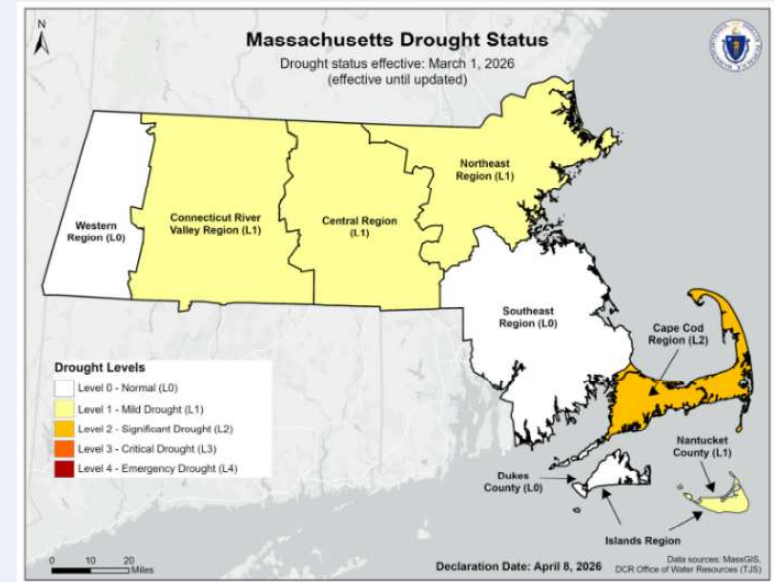
- MassDEP sets drought levels for Cape Cod.
- Drought levels are based on long-term groundwater and precipitation trends, not just recent weather.
- Enforcing drought-level-specific outdoor water restrictions is not optional – it is a regulatory condition of operating the public water system.
- In 2023, the Massachusetts Water Resources Commission approved MassDEP’s Water Management Act regulations, which requires 63 public water suppliers and 87 golf courses to enact water restrictions during a declared drought.

## Water restrictions do not mean water shortage

- Even while the system has capacity, we are still required to reduce non-essential use during State-declared drought periods.

## Real-time drought status

- The State issues drought status updates as conditions dictate.
- The drought levels shown in the map (dated April 8, 2026) above are in effect until the next drought declaration.
- To view the current drought status, visit: [www.mass.gov/info-details/drought-status](http://www.mass.gov/info-details/drought-status)



# Water Quality Highlights

## Storm Water Improvements in Cotuit

- Includes work on Old Shore Road and Clamshell Cove Road.
- In partnership with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), these projects will improve drainage and reduce stormwater inputs into the Cotuit Bay estuary and Shoestring Bay estuary, respectively.
- Construction occurring Monday - Friday, 7AM - 4PM.
- Anticipated completion by mid-May.

## Water Quality Monitoring Volunteers Needed!

- Every summer the Town of Barnstable collects water samples in Barnstable Harbor, Lewis Bay, Centerville River, Halls Creek, and Three Bays. These water samples provide important information about the health of our estuaries.
- Volunteers will sample each estuary four times (mid-July – early September).
- If you are interested in being part of our water quality monitoring program, please contact Brooke Withers at [Brooke.Withers@barnstable.gov](mailto:Brooke.Withers@barnstable.gov) for more info.

### Water Quality Monitoring Volunteers Needed!

Join us in monitoring the water quality of Barnstable's estuaries!



The Town of Barnstable is recruiting volunteers (and if they have one, their boat too) to be citizen scientists and join us on the water!

Every Summer the Town collects water samples in in Barnstable Harbor, Lewis Bay, Centerville River, Halls Creek, and 3-Bays.

These water samples provide important information about the health of our estuaries. (5 samplers will sample each estuary four times per summer).

 [Brooke.Withers@town.barnstable.ma.us](mailto:Brooke.Withers@town.barnstable.ma.us)





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