



Cape Charles Gazette

Publication Date: April 16, 2013

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, 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 where you will find up-to-date information about the operation of the Town government.



2013 GOLF CART DECALS



The 2013 Town of Cape Charles Golf Cart Decals are now available and must be displayed on golf carts driven on public roads within the Town of Cape Charles by April 15, 2013. The decals are good through April 15, 2014.

Golf carts must pass a safety inspection at least once yearly. The safety inspection station must be approved by the Town of Cape Charles. Please click the appropriate link below for more information.

In order to simplify the process, Golf Cart Decals have been provided to the two approved inspection stations within the Town. The representatives at the stations will issue the decals after a satisfactory safety inspection and presentation of proof of insurance.

[2013 Golf Cart Decal Information](#) / [2013 Golf Cart Inspection Stations](#) / [2013 Golf Cart Inspection Form](#)

EMAIL CONTACTS:

[Mayor](#)
[Town Council](#)
[Town Manager](#)
[Treasurer](#)
[Town Clerk](#)
[Code Enforcement](#)
[Town Planner](#)
[Public Works/Utilities](#)
[Harbor](#)
[Library](#)
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NORTHAMPTON COUNTY PROPERTY REASSESSMENTS

Over the last several weeks, the Northampton County Commissioner of Revenue sent out notices of reassessment to all property owners in the County, including the Town of Cape Charles. The property values in Northampton County, as a whole, decreased on average approximately 20%, but the property values in the Town decreased an average of approximately 35%.

If you have any questions regarding your property assessment, you will need to contact the Commissioner of Revenue's office in Eastville at 757-678-0446.

RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Jen Lewis, Community Events / Recreational Coordinator, has been gearing up for the busy summer season and reported the following:

- **Committee/Organization Updates:**
 - **New Roots Youth Garden:** The spring gardening session began on 4/11 and will meet every Thursday from 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM. The session will last for 6 weeks ending on 5/16. The **Blessing of the Worms** is scheduled for 4/28 at 1:00 PM.
 - **Northampton County Chamber of Commerce:** The Black Drum Tournament will begin on 5/17. The Chamber is working with the Town Harbor and Bailey's Bait & Tackle to make this event a success.
 - **Eastern Shore Birding & Wildlife Festival:** Plans are still underway for the 2013 event.
 - **Clam Slam:** Committee members continue to work on sponsorships and other event details.
 - **Citizens' Needs Advisory Committee:** The committee is finalizing a survey that will be distributed to the community. Once the data is retrieved, a report will be presented to Council. The committee hopes to wrap up their recommendations by the end of April.
 - Jen & Tom met with representatives from the Coastal Zone Management (CZM) regarding signage at the fishing pier. CZM has grant monies to assist in purchasing the signage and they hope to consolidate the signs that are currently in place at the pier.





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RECREATION DEPARTMENT (CONTINUED)

- **Programs:**
 - **Arts & Crafts** continue every Wednesday afternoon. There was a total of 20 participants in March who painted ceramics, decorated posters, put together caterpillars and painted sun catchers.
 - The **Easter Bunny** hopped into Cape Charles on 3/30. Jen joined forces with Cape Charles Baptist and Trinity United Methodist Churches. The kids made crafts, had their pictures taken with the Easter Bunny and had an Easter Egg Hunt. Over 2,000 eggs (possibly closer to 3,000) were found within 3 minutes!
- **Upcoming Events:**
 - 4/3, 4/10, 4/17, 4/24 – Arts & Crafts at 4:00 PM.
 - 4/11–5/16 – New Roots Spring Garden Session.
 - 4/19–4/21 – London Suites at the Palace Theatre.
 - 4/20 – Rain Barrel Workshop, 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM.
 - 4/27 – Cape Charles Historical Society Shrimp Boil.
 - 4/28 – Blessing of the Worms.
 - For a complete listing of events, please check the [Town's website](#) frequently for updates to our quickly growing Schedule of Events.
- Jen is looking for volunteers for the **4th of July** activities. Please contact her if you are able to help. A variety of time slots are available so you can still enjoy your day.
- **Please drop off your old printer ink cartridges and old cell phones to Jen so she can submit them to The Funding Factory for recreational equipment!** Using points from The Funding Factory, Jen can order equipment at no cost to the Town. Please [click here](#) for more information.
- If you are planning an event in Cape Charles, please contact Jen Lewis at reccordinator@capecharles.org or at 757-331-3259, ext. 18. Also, please complete the appropriate Use of Facility Application and submit it to Jen. [Use of Facility Application – Central Park](#) / [Use of Facility Application – Other Areas](#).
 - If you are interested in holding your event at the Cape Charles Harbor, please complete the [Use of Facility Application – Cape Charles Harbor](#) and submit it to [Harbor Master Smitty Dize](#).
- If you are planning a yard sale in Cape Charles, please complete [Yard Sale Permit Application](#) and submit it to Jen. There is no charge for the permit.

CODE ENFORCEMENT

Jeb Brady, Code Official, reported the following:

- 28 Erosion & Sedimentation (E&S) Control inspections, 37 building inspections, and 1 courtesy residential inspection were performed in March. 1 commercial plan review was performed.
- Construction is picking up in all areas of Town. New homes in Bay Creek, along with the Beach Club, are underway. In the Commercial District, a structure is getting a facelift along with the addition of 2 stories to the building. In the Harbor District, plans are under review for South Port Investors.
- Jeb provided some interesting stats:
 - Total construction FY2013 - \$5,302,344 vs. \$4,654.387 in FY2012.
 - Total permit fees FY2013 - \$115,916 vs. \$37,034 in FY 2012.
 - Total tap fees FY2013 - \$68,706 vs. \$0 in FY2012.

CAPE CHARLES MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Ann Rutledge, Librarian, reported the following:

- During the month of March, a total of 50 children and caregivers attended the **Toddler/Preschool Storytime** which is held on Thursdays at 10:30 AM.
- The new circulation system is a big improvement over the old system but staff is still working out a few issues. Beginning 5/1, you must bring your library card with you to check out books and you need a library card or ID to use the computers.
- The displays for March were books celebrating spring and Women's Health.
- Staff has been preparing for the big move to the new building! The entire collection has been weeded to remove any outdated, unused or shabby materials. They are discarding all VHS tapes and books on cassette, but the shelves are packed with new DVDs and books on CD. Many thanks to the **Friends of the Cape Charles Memorial Library** for the continuing donations of DVDs.
- Due to the limited amount of space in the current Library, staff kindly asks that any book donations be saved until after the move to the new location. Thank you for your understanding.
- The Library will again participate in **World Book Night** on 4/23. World Book Night is a non-profit organization dedicated to spreading the love of reading and community-based literacy outreach. Sharon Silvey will be distributing 20 free books, which have been provided by this organization, to nonreaders throughout the area.
- The Library will be moving to the new location on 5/3-5/5. If you would like to help in any way, please contact Ann or Sharon at 331-1300. Movers, helpers and packers are needed. There is a job for anyone interested in helping!



CAPE CHARLES MEMORIAL LIBRARY (CONTINUED)

- There is also still some work needing to be done to the interior of the building. If you would like to help with putty, sanding or painting, please give us a call!
- For additional information about Library programs and library-related information, check out the Cape Charles Memorial Library on Facebook by [clicking here!](#)
- The **Friends of the Cape Charles Memorial Library** also has a Facebook page. You can follow them by [clicking here.](#)
- The **Friends of the Cape Charles Memorial Library** now has their own website where you can find information about the Library and the Friends' efforts to support the Library programs. Please visit the site to learn how you can also help the Friends in their mission! <http://friendscapecharleslibrary.com/>

TOWN HARBOR—VA CLEAN MARINA

Smitty Dize, Harbor Master, reported the following:

- The current office hours are 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM daily. As always, customers with fuel cards can access the fuel dock at any time, day or night.
- **A huge thank you to Bayshore Concrete and its employees for the Bayshore Concrete Community Clean-Up Day at the Town Harbor! Onnie Davis organized the Bayshore Concrete Community Outreach Program** and 40 employees came to the Town Harbor on 4/3 with a fork lift and front-end loader. They picked up the trash from around the Harbor, removed the unwanted cement, relocated the dumpster, constructed the stage and relocated the picnic tables for the Blessing of the Fleet, rebuilt the flower beds that were damaged from Hurricane Sandy, weeded all the flower beds, mulched the main flower bed and placed fence posts. **The Town is very grateful for their support to our community!**
- Staff is working on general maintenance around the Harbor in preparation for the summer season.
- **Projects:**
 - **Wave Attenuator:** Staff met with the Harbor Stakeholders to discuss the possibility of this type of protection and how it will affect them.
 - **Waterman's Memorial:** Mr. Ed Lewis is currently redesigning the layout so that it can be accommodated in the area where it will be located. It is possible that a sign and donation box will be laced at the location until construction can begin. It's anticipated that some early construction may begin as early as this fall.
- **FYI** – 20,930 lbs. of conch and 1,100 lbs. of oysters were brought into the Harbor during the month of March.
- **Upcoming Events at the Town Harbor:**
 - The **Annual Lower Chesapeake Bay Black Drum Classic** – 5/17 – 5/19. Contact Renee at the Northampton County Chamber of Commerce, 757-678-0010, for more information.
 - The **2nd Annual Tall Ships at Cape Charles** – 6/8 – 6/10.
 - **2013 Clam Slam & 3rd Annual Boat Docking Contest** – 8/3 – 8/4. [Click here](#) to be a sponsor for the Cape Charles Clam Slam.
- Follow the **Cape Charles Town Harbor** on Facebook by [clicking here!](#)

TOWN CLERK

Libby Hume, Town Clerk, reported the following information:

- **Upcoming Meetings:**
 - Tuesday, April 16, 2013:
Town Council Executive Session starting at 5:30 PM at the Town Hall. [AGENDA](#)
 - Thursday, April 18, 2013:
Citizens' Needs Advisory Committee starting at 5:00 PM at the Town Hall. [AGENDA](#)
Town Council Regular Meeting starting at 6:00 PM at the St. Charles Parish Hall. [AGENDA](#)
 - Monday, April 22, 2013:
Wetlands & Coastal Dune Board Meeting starting at 3:00 PM at the Town Hall.
 - Thursday, April 25, 2013:
Town Council Budget Work Session starting at 6:00 PM at the Town Hall.
 - Thursday, May 2, 2013:
Town Council Budget Work Session starting at 6:00 PM at the Town Hall.
 - Tuesday, May 7, 2013:
Planning Commission Public Hearing & Regular Meeting starting at 6:00 PM at the Town Hall.
 - Thursday, May 9, 2013:
Town Council Work Session starting at 6:00 PM at the Town Hall.



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TOWN CLERK (CONTINUED)

Thursday, May 16, 2013:

Town Council Regular Meeting starting at 6:00 PM at the Town Hall.

Tuesday, May 21, 2013:

Historic District Review Board Meeting starting at 4:30 PM at the Town Hall.

Thursday, May 23, 2013:

Town Council Budget Work Session starting at 6:00 PM at the Town Hall.

- **The Town offices will be closed on Monday, May 27, 2013, in observance of Memorial Day.**
- If you are interested in serving on any of the Town's boards or Planning Commission, please complete the [Cape Charles Boards & Commission Application](#) and return it to Libby Hume at the Town Hall or send by email to clerk@capecharles.org. Please [click here](#) for information on the various Boards and Commission.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Sambo Brown, Chief of Police, reported the following information:

- The law enforcement statistics for the month of March:
 - 21 calls for service within Cape Charles were received.
 - 4 calls for service outside of Cape Charles were received.
 - 2 felony arrests were made.
 - 7 traffic summonses and 0 traffic warnings were issued.
 - 3 parking tickets were issued.
 - 4 calls were received to assist Fire & Rescue.
 - 5 calls were received to assist the Northampton County Sheriff's Office.
 - 1 call was received to assist a Federal agency.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Tom Bonadeo, Town Planner, reported the following:

- The **Planning Commission** met on 4/2 and reviewed the following:
 - The Commission continued their review on the Density changes for the Harbor District Zone reviewing the 5 parts of the ordinance that would require modifications:
 - Define the areas around the Harbor in accordance with the Harbor Area Master Plan.
 - Modify the height requirements in these areas and remove the height averaging.
 - Define parking at ground level only. Other parking levels are part of the development square footage.
 - Define the Floor Area Ratios.
 - New development along Mason Avenue must have blocks equal to the north side of Mason.
 - The Commissioners reviewed a Conditional Use Permit application for 712 Randolph Avenue to allow 1 apartment over the commercial space. The applicant's representative described the modification to the existing space. A Public Hearing was scheduled for 5/7 beginning at 6:00 PM.
 - The 4 new Commissioners attended the first portion of the Certified Planning Commissioner Course on 3/25 and 3/26. All were enthusiastic about the class. The second session will be held on 6/10 and 6/11. The Commissioners will continue their work on the sign ordinance in March.
- The **Wetlands & Coastal Dune Board** received an application from Bay Creek South to install 600' of revetment to protect the 5th hole of the golf course that was damaged by Hurricane Sandy. This hearing has been scheduled for 4/22 at 3:00 PM.
- Tom and Heather Arcos attended a meeting with the Army Corps of Engineers in Chincoteague on 3/22. The meeting covered the Corps' projects that have current funding. A maintenance dredge of the Cape Charles Federal Channel is still on the list with an allocation of \$1.5M. Tom met with the Corps on 4/10 to review the Spoils Site in Cape Charles. Some of the spoils will go into the site and some may be used to nourish our beaches. This process is included in the environmental permit process.
- Tom has reviewed the first draft of plans for the area around Aqua. The wetlands consultant helped to identify the area available for construction and that area that is in the RPA and the constraints of constructing a deck on the property. This would greatly enhance the wedding capabilities.
- Tom met with VDOT representatives to work through the modification of the road project in the County's 6-Year Plan. This road is mostly inside the limits of the Town and could provide access from Route 184 to Bay Creek, Bayshore Concrete and Cape Charles Yacht Center. This project would likely contain multiple funding sources in addition to the 6-Year Plan funds.

PUBLIC UTILITIES

Dave Fauber, Director of Public Utilities, reported the following information:

- Personnel:
 - Dan Dabinett passed his Class 3 test and is certified by the State as a Class III Waste Water Operator.



PUBLIC UTILITIES

- Completed projects include:
 - The new control panels for filters and softener have been installed at the Water Plant and are in operation.
- Projects in progress include:
 - The final grading of the polishing pond for the old wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) has been completed and seeding will be done when site conditions are dry enough to move forward.
 - We have received final approval from the DEQ for the Keck Wells Aquifer Test. The tentative dates for the test are 5/6, 5/7, and 5/8.
 - The installation of the media as a part of the softener process is being scheduled.
 - A Request for Proposal has been advertised for the Utilities Asset Management Program. Please [click here](#) to see the details.
- Upcoming projects include:
 - A new mulch formula for the vacuum pump stations will be installed. A blend of pine chunks and peat moss.
 - An automatic flush valve will be installed in Heron Point to introduce water into that vacuum sewer system to increase the flow through the pump station in an effort to reduce the septic odors created when sewage water resides in the system for extended periods of time.
- **New Wastewater Treatment Plant:**
 - Staff is currently working on correcting some issues under the warranty period.

PUBLIC WORKS

Pete Leontieff, Public Works Foreman, reported the following information:

- Personnel:
 - Please welcome Willie Lyons to the Public Works crew. Willie started with the Town on 4/1 as the newest Public Works Maintenance Worker.
- Completed projects include:
 - The crew continues to help the utilities department with monthly water meter reading.
 - Shrubs, hedges and pampas grasses around Town have been trimmed.
 - The beach bathrooms have been reopened and the interiors have been painted.
 - The wooden beach access, which was damaged by Hurricane Sandy, has been repaired.
 - The Public Works crew helped to relocate the Town's archived files from Bay Storage to the new Library building for continued storage.
- Projects in progress include:
 - The crew continues their work to clean the streets and drains.
 - Work on the playground upgrades, repairs and staining of all wooden areas continues.
 - Electrical repairs are being made to the fishing pier.
 - The lights and hand dryers for the beach bathrooms will be replaced in April.
 - The contract for the painting and repair of the exterior of the current library building was awarded by Council in March. The work should begin soon.
- Upcoming projects include:
 - The cement benches along Bay Avenue will be repainted.
 - Beach Replenishment.
 - Cleaning and preparations to the beach for the 2013 summer season.
 - Garbage containers for the beach will be built and installed.

TOWN MANAGER

Heather Arcos, Town Manager, reported the following:

- The **Town Council Regular Meeting** will be held on Thursday, 4/18, beginning at 6PM at the St. Charles Parish Hall. Agenda items include:
 - Town Code Modification – Procurement Section – Set Public Hearing.
 - Northampton County Solid Waste Management Plan Update – Set Public Hearing.
 - Beach Replenishment Project Contract Award.
 - Fill Vacancies of Town Boards.
 - National Safe Boating Week Proclamation.
 - National Police Week Proclamation.
 - There will be a capecharlesbaythebay.com website presentation given at the meeting by Greg Kohler.



TOWN MANAGER

Heather Arcos, Town Manager, reported the following:

- **VDOT Sidewalk Project:**
 - Work on Mason Avenue has begun. Several trees had to be removed and the sidewalk replaced in the affected areas. New, more suitable trees will be planted.
- The Town is awaiting the final report from the FY 2011-2012 audit.
- The Virginia State Tourism Plan, developed through Virginia tourism industry input, is a five-year blueprint that will help guide tourism development across Virginia. The Virginia State Tourism Plan is based upon feedback from Virginia's tourism stakeholders, and was crafted by PricewaterhouseCoopers in partnership with the Virginia Tourism Corporation (VTC). The Eastern Shore Regional Section of the Plan addresses development opportunities specific to the Eastern Shore and staff will be attending one of the upcoming Tourism Plan meetings.
- The Cape Charles WWTP held a tour on April 16, 2013 and was presented the 2012 Ground Water Award. The representatives in attendance were the Northampton County Board of Supervisors, Department of Environmental Quality, Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission, Town Council and staff.
- Budget Work sessions will continue through April and May in order to adopt Fiscal Year 2014-2015.
- The Town has received notification from FEMA and State agencies of funding to support beach replenishment and replacement of the permanent section of the Fishing Pier.

UPCOMING EVENTS IN CAPE CHARLES

- 4/18, 4/20 & 4/21: **London Suites** at the Palace Theatre. Short comedies by Neil Simon. 4/18 – 6:30 Dinner Theater, 4/20 – 8:00 PM, 4/21 – 3:00 PM. Please contact the Palace Theatre for more details.
- 4/26: Cape Charles Photo Exhibit at the Arts Enter. 8:00 PM.
- 4/27: **Cape Charles Historical Society Low Country Shrimp Boil** at the Cape Charles Museum. 5:00 PM – 9:00 PM. \$30 adults / \$10 children 2-12 years of age. [Click here](#) for details.
- 5/4: **Crabby Blues Festival** at the Cape Charles Central Park.
- 5/18 – 5/19: **Rhythms of the Shore** at the Palace Theatre. Arts Enter School of Dance final performance.
- 5/31 – 6/2: **Bike MS: Virginia's Ocean to Bay Ride.**
- **Save the Dates:**
 - 6/1: 17th Annual Benefit by the Bay.
 - 6/14 – 6/16: Harbor for the Arts Festival at the Palace Theatre.
 - 6/14 – 6/16: Tall Ships at Cape Charles.
 - 6/17-6/28: Musical Theatre Summer Camp at the Palace Theatre.
 - 7/4: July 4th Celebration.
 - 7/8 – 7/19: Musical Theatre Summer Camp at the Palace Theatre.
 - 8/3 – 8/4: 2nd Annual Clam Slam & 3rd Annual Boat Docking Contest.
 - 8/3 – 8/18: Harbor for the Arts Festival – Music, art, dance in public spaces. Free and ticketed events.
 - 9/1: Labor Day Picnic in the Park.
 - 9/7: Eastern Shore 140 Triathlon.
 - 10/11 – 10/13: 21st Annual Birding and Wildlife Festival.
 - 11/30: Cape Charles Historical Society 16th Annual Oyster Roast.
 - 12/7: Cape Charles Central Park Grand Illumination.

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
2 Plum Street
Cape Charles, VA 23310
www.capecharles.org
757-331-3259