



# Cape Charles Gazette

Publication Date: September 2, 2010

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.



## EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS NOTICE TO CAPE CHARLES RESIDENTS

With the possibility of strong winds and heavy rains from Hurricane Earl expected later this week, below is a list of items for consideration:

### DEBRIS:

- The Public Works crew has picked up all loose debris in the alleys and along the streets.
- Debris pickup has now been suspended until after the storm has passed.
- The trash barrels at the beach have been picked up and the trash receptacles on the fishing pier have been secured. Several trash receptacles are still located on the sidewalk along the beach.
- Please **DO NOT** put any yard debris, brush or other trash on the street curb. Any debris can pose a safety hazard in strong winds and will clog storm drains if any flooding occurs.

### Secure all Outdoor Items in case of strong winds and/or flooding:

- Lawn /yard furniture (tables, chairs, umbrellas, etc.)
- Grills
- Decorative items

### HIGH WATER:

- **DO NOT** drive your vehicle through high water. If you cannot see the pavement, **DO NOT** go through it.
- This could cause irreparable damage to your vehicle.
- The wake created from driving through the water could cause damage to the houses along the street.

The Town appreciates everyone's assistance during this period. All police officers are on standby, along with the Fire Department and County Emergency Services.

### EMAIL CONTACTS:

[Mayor](#)  
[Town Council](#)  
[Town Manager](#)  
[Treasurer](#)  
[Town Clerk](#)  
[Code Enforcement](#)  
[Town Planner](#)  
[Public Works/Utilities](#)  
[Harbor](#)  
[Library](#)  
[Police](#)  
[Recreation](#)  
[Newsletter Feedback](#)



## COME CELEBRATE THE CAPE CHARLES CENTRAL PARK OPENING!

In January 2010, the Town of Cape Charles began work on the Cape Charles Central Park and Community Trail. The construction is coming to an end and the Town of Cape Charles along with the Citizens for Central Park would like to announce the Cape Charles Central Park Grand Opening Celebration which is scheduled for this Sunday, September 5<sup>th</sup> beginning at 5:00 p.m. (Rain date: September 6<sup>th</sup>.) The Town would like to invite everyone for a Picnic in the Park with live music, food and drink, numerous vendors and events for the children. The evening will end with a spectacular light show! We'd love to see you! [Please click](#) here for more details.



## CODE ENFORCEMENT

Jeb Brady, Code Enforcement Officer, reported the following:

- The construction on the **Central Park Trail Project** is moving along very smoothly now and we anticipate completion by mid-September.
  - The sod installation is complete and is rooting very nicely.
  - All the trees have been mulched.
  - The fountain has been installed and is operational.
  - The trashcans should be installed soon.
  - All plants and ground cover have been installed.
  - New signage is being developed for the Park.
  - A grand opening celebration is being planned by the **Citizens for Central Park**, in conjunction with the Town, on 9/5 beginning at 5PM. [Click here](#) to view the flyer.
  - **REMINDER:** The **Cape Charles Central Park** will be closed until further notice. **The Basketball Court, Tennis Courts and Playground will remain open** unless otherwise noted. Please access these facilities from Madison Avenue.
- 30 Erosion & Sedimentation Control inspections, 42 building inspections and 2 zoning clearances were performed in August. 1 courtesy residential and 3 courtesy commercial inspections were completed. 1 residential plan review was completed.
- Jeb continues to make site inspections on the new Wastewater Treatment Plant Project.

## TOWN HARBOR—VA CLEAN MARINA

Smitty Dize, Harbor Master, reported the following:

- A final inspection will be performed on 9/7 for the **Breakwater Project**. Additional rock will be placed on a small area at the same time. This will complete this phase of the breakwater project.
- The Town has advertised an Invitation for Bids for the **Harbor Redevelopment Plan** to include floating boat slips and a bath house at the Harbor. This project will be funded from the **Boating Infrastructure Grant** and the **Virginia Port Authority**. [Click here](#) for details regarding this IFB.
- The Harbor crew has been busy performing routine maintenance around the Harbor and docks.
  - All bumpers around the boat ramps have been repaired or replaced.
  - All old lines have been removed from the piles and slips around the Harbor.
  - The rubber bumpers around the bulkhead are being re-nailed.
  - The deck around MAMA has been painted.
  - 2 water valves have been replaced on C-Dock.
  - 2 breakers and 2 receptacles have been replaced on the West Dock.
  - The Public Works crew cleared the dirt pile from the West Dock.
- A dirty water emergency pump has been purchased to assist with boats that may be taking on water.
- Remember this is the height of hurricane season. Please make sure your vessel is prepared by keeping all lines leading in the same direction for equal strength. In case of a storm and high water, the power will be turned off around the Harbor.
- **FYI** – 41,130 lbs. of crabs and 140,510 lbs. of fish were brought into the Harbor during the month of August.
- **Save the Date!** The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Blessing of the Fleet has been scheduled for April 8, 2011 beginning at 5PM.

## TOWN CLERK

Libby Hume, Town Clerk, reported the following information:

- The Town offices will be closed on Monday, September 6, 2010 in observance of Labor Day.
- **Upcoming Meetings:**
  - Tuesday, September 7, 2010:  
**Planning Commission Regular Meeting** starting at 6:00 PM at the Town Hall.
  - Thursday, September 9, 2010:  
**Town Council Public Hearing & Regular Meeting** starting at **6:00 PM at the Town Hall.**
  - Thursday, September 16, 2010:  
**Harbor Area Review Board Meeting** starting at 6:00 PM at the Town Hall.
  - Tuesday, September 21, 2010:  
**Broadband Management Team Meeting** starting at 2:00 PM at the Town Hall.
  - Historic District Review Board Meeting** starting at 4:30 at the Town Hall.



## TOWN CLERK (CONTINUED)

Thursday, September 23, 2010:

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

Tuesday, October 5, 2010:

**Planning Commission Regular Meeting** starting at 6:00 PM at the Town Hall.

Thursday, October 14, 2010:

**Town Council Regular Meeting** starting at 6:00 PM at the St. Charles Parish Hall.

- **If you are interested in serving on any of the Town's boards, even if there is currently no vacancy on the Board or Commission of your choice, 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](mailto:clerk@capecharles.org).**

## PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Tom Bonadeo, Town Planner, reported the following:

- The **Planning Commission** welcomes new Commissioner Bruce Brinkley who was appointed by the Town Council on 8/12. Mr. Brinkley worked as a Fire Inspector for the City of Virginia Beach for 2 years before serving as a Deputy State Fire Marshall for 7 years. He then worked as the Fire Protection Engineer in the Department of Permits and Inspections for the City of Virginia Beach and acted as the Assistant Building Code Official when needed. He was awarded the Medal of Merit by the Virginia Beach Fire Department for convincing building developers to provide fire sprinklers in over 100 buildings on a voluntary basis. As an adjunct faculty member of the Norfolk, Virginia Beach and Chesapeake campuses of Tidewater Community College, he exposed many students to building safety issues not normally encountered by the general public. He is a member of the International City Management Association and the Eastern Shore Chamber of Commerce. He is also the author of *The BE-BOP-A-LULA Kid*, a novel that promotes Cape Charles and the Eastern Shore!
- The **Planning Commission** will be meeting on 9/7 and the following will be discussed:
  - County Town Edge Zone
  - Technology and Tourism Zones regarding locations, business types and incentives
  - Industrial Access Roads
- The **Historic District Review Board** met on 8/17 and reviewed 1 application for a 2<sup>nd</sup> story addition to a garage at 114 Randolph Avenue. The architectural design was approved by the Board but the garage addition, as drawn, was higher than allowed by the zoning ordinance. The architect has modified the height of the garage to conform to the ordinance.
- Tom is also working on the following projects:
  - Central Park Community Trail: The cable for the electrical service has been installed and the lights are connected. The final inspection is expected by 9/3. Two shallow wells have been drilled and are operational for irrigation purposes.
  - Tom continues his participation in the Bay TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load) and the King's Creek TMDL which reviews the maximum amount of nutrients that a body of water can accept.
  - Tom worked with other staff on the Town Ordinance regarding Peddler's License and Golf Carts. The Peddler's License will be reviewed at the 9/9 Town Council meeting.
  - Tom is also working with the County Planning Staff on a joint grant application involving transportation between Cape Charles and nearby localities. The grant application has been forwarded to the Department of Housing and Community Development who plans to submit a multiple application to the Federal Government for funding.

## LIBRARY

Ann Rutledge, Library Manager, reported the following:

- As of 8/31, 113 children had signed up to read books over the summer as part of the **2010 Summer Reading Program** entitled **Make a Splash – Read!** The total for last summer was 55.
- The **Summer Kids Movie Nights** ended on 8/18 and 72 children attended a movie this summer!
- The **Summer Children's Reading Program** ended on 8/19 and 45 children attended the program this summer!
- The children from the **Migrant Headstart Program** visited the Library every Friday for story time and 100 children attended in August.
- Jen Lewis will continue with **Arts & Crafts** on Wednesdays at 4 PM for ages 2 and up. **Toddler/Preschool Storytime** will continue on Thursdays at 10:30 AM.
- The last special program for the summer was the **Delmarva Discovery Center** which was at the Library on 8/12 and 26 people attended this very fun and informative program. [Click here](#) to see photos from this event.
- **Many thanks to the Friends of the Library for sponsoring all the special summer programs and the Summer Kids Movie Nights!**



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## POLICE DEPARTMENT

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

- After Labor Day, and until April 1, 2011, the time restrictions for animals on the beach, boardwalk or the grassy area west of the boardwalk will be lifted. **PLEASE** be considerate of others and clean up after your pets. "Doggie Poop" stations have been installed along the beachfront and in Central Park and trash cans are available throughout the Town.
- Please note that according to Virginia Law, it is unlawful, on a 2-way street, to park on the left side of the road. On a 1-way road, you may park on either side. Recently, several tickets have been issued by the Cape Charles Police Department for parking on the wrong side of the road.
- The law enforcement statistics for the month of August:
  - 47 calls for service within Cape Charles were received.
  - 7 calls for service outside of Cape Charles were received.
  - 17 felony arrests, 3 misdemeanor arrests and 0 DUI arrests were made.
  - 32 traffic summonses and 4 traffic warnings were issued.
  - 6 parking tickets were issued.
  - 3 calls were received to assist Fire & Rescue.
  - 4 calls were received to assist the Northampton County Sheriff's Office.
  - 2 calls were received to assist the Virginia State Police.
- For **non-emergency police assistance**, please call 678-0458.

## PUBLIC WORKS / PUBLIC UTILITIES

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

- Due to a faulty part in the control panel, the water plant crew is unable to run the water through the water softener. The parts distributor is looking for the correct part to repair the system. Until that time, the Town's water will be unusually hard and you may experience spots on glass and silverware, and less lather with soap. There **are no** health issues associated with hard water. We are working diligently to remedy the situation as soon as possible.
  - Here is a dishwashing tip from our Mayor: Run a little vinegar through the dishwasher during the load to help with the film.
  - Beth Davis found another tip on the Internet which said to use *Countrytime Lemonade* mix. She said that she tried it and it cleaned her dishwasher of the hard water sediment.
- A & N Electrical Cooperative has installed the meters and the pumps for the production wells on the Keck property have been installed and are ready to be wired from the meter base to the pump disconnects.
- The Public Utilities Crew is continuing their work to clean the drain lines throughout the Town.
- Repairs to the exterior of the Pine Street Pump Station are 90% complete and the repairs have started on the exterior of the Washington Street Pump Station.
- Work continues to replace the oldest water meters in the Town's system.
- The Town has advertised an Invitation for Bids for the **Mason Avenue Pump Station Upgrade and Force mains Project**. [Click here](#) for details regarding this IFB.
- On July 28<sup>th</sup>, a notice was mailed to all Cape Charles residents notifying you that the Town's drinking water exceeded the Virginia Health Department's (VDH) Primary Maximum Contaminant Level (PMCL) for Trihalomethanes (THMs). The Town's average for the period of July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010 was 0.087 mg/L, which was 0.007 mg/L over the VDH's THM PMCL of 0.080 mg/L. Testing for THM is a new VDH requirement and the results are provided to municipalities on an annual basis. Another test was just performed and the results show that the Town is in compliance.
- The Aquifer Test Plan for the production wells on the Keck property has been submitted to the Dept. of Environmental Quality and the Virginia Dept. of Health Office of Drinking Water for review. Mr. Hank Ghittino of the DEQ will review it by mid-September.
- Construction status of the new **Wastewater Treatment Plant**:
  - Concrete work for UV/Post Aeration Facility, Bui-Reactor/Membrane Tanks is almost complete.
  - Concrete work for Waste Sludge Holding Tanks and Solids Processing Building is underway.
  - Underground utilities (duct banks, plumbing, etc.) for Process Building have been installed.
  - Foundation for Headworks is complete and concrete work is underway.
  - Foundation for Operations Building is complete and masonry work is underway.
  - Mobilization for the outfall extension along Bayshore Road should commence soon.
  - Mobilization for the Bay Creek force main and reuse pipeline along Old Cape Charles Road.



## PUBLIC WORKS / PUBLIC UTILITIES (CONTINUED)

- Some upcoming projects are:
  - Installation of the new metering system for chemical feed pumps at the Water Plant.
  - Weeding of flowers beds along Mason Avenue.
  - Trimming and herbicide spraying along roadways and parking lots.
  - Preliminary Engineering Report for the connection of the new wells on the Keck property.
  - Preliminary Engineering Report for chlorination byproducts.
  - Replacement of the front doors for the Cape Charles Memorial Library.
  - Mason Avenue Pump Station upgrades and Force Main rerouting.
  - Fig Street Force Main rerouting.
  - Cleaning out street basins.
  - Alley maintenance and trimming and grading of the alleys.
  - Handicapped parking on Bay Avenue by the new ramp.

## RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Jen Lewis, Community Events / Recreational Coordinator, reported the following:

- 5 camps were held throughout the summer. In the last camp, the children assisted in distributing flyers for the Central Park Grand Opening. Officer Rob Stubbs was also available to provide the children with identity kits. This is a continuation of an ongoing effort between the Police and Recreation Departments to educate parents and children in the importance of safety.
- **Arts & Crafts** continues to be a big success and will continue once school starts.
- The Town sponsored Bingo for the citizens of **Heritage Acres** on 8/31 and purchased snacks for the residents and 22 prizes for the winners.
- Plans are underway for this year's **Trunk or Treating**. We hope that after last year, which was the first year, everyone understands how it works and that there will be even more people in attendance this year!
- The Town is working with several other organizations and individuals regarding funding for the fight against obesity. We are currently waiting for the results from 2 grant applications.
- The Library and Recreation Department will continue to work together throughout the Fall to bring new and exciting events to the children and residents of Cape Charles.
- This year's Birding Festival is scheduled for 10/7-10/10 and the website is now up and running. Tickets can be purchased online. Go to their website ([www.esvafestivals.org](http://www.esvafestivals.org)) for more details of the festival!

## TOWN MANAGER

Heather Arcos, Town Manager, reported the following:

- A **Town Council Public Hearing** is scheduled for 9/9/10 beginning at 6PM to hear public comments regarding the Harbor Area Design Guidelines and a proposed change to Section 4.1.C.5.g.iv of the Cape Charles Zoning Ordinance regarding political signs.
- Items for review / action at the **9/9/10 Town Council Regular Meeting**:
  - Fiscal Year 2009 Financial Audit Report
  - Harbor Area Design Guidelines
  - Peddler's License Ordinance (Section 38-36 of the Cape Charles Town Code)
  - Political Signs (Section 4.1.C.5.g.iv of the Cape Charles Zoning Ordinance)
  - Invitation for Bids for Fuel Services
  - Request for Proposal for IT/Computer Support
- The Town is still awaiting an update from the Cape Charles Christian School regarding their intent to lease the old school. Once further information has been received, a public hearing will be scheduled as per Section 15.2-1800.B. of the Code of Virginia and an advertisement will be placed requesting bids from other entities that may have an interest in leasing the old school building as per Section 15.2-2100 of the Code of Virginia.
- A Cape Charles-Cheriton Boundary Adjustment Committee meeting has been tentatively scheduled for 9/13 at 5PM, but this date has not yet been confirmed. District 2 Supervisor Sam Long expressed an interest in attending. The meeting notice will be added to the Town's website once the date has been finalized.
- Solicitations will be out soon for the repairs to the beach boardwalk and pier which were damaged during the November Nor'easters. These repairs will be covered by FEMA.
- All essential Town personnel are on standby and prepared to lend assistance if Hurricane Earl does come our way. If you need assistance during the storm, please call Northampton County dispatch at 678-0490 or you may dial 911. The Town will be out after the storm to assess any damage. The Public Works crew will assist with clean-up after the storm has passed.



## It Takes a Town to Celebrate a Park!!

**Cape Charles Central Park**  
**Sunday, September 5, 2010**  
**5 until 8 pm**



**Picnic and Party in the Park!**  
**Music, Fun, and Games for all!!**  
**Opening Ceremony 5:30**

**Music by:**  
**DJ XS**  
**Blue Marsh**  
**Heather and Nathan**  
*Special Guest Fresh Water Frank*  
**Immerse**

**Witness what happens when we all come together!!**  
**Rain Date: Monday, September 6**

### CAPE CHARLES HARBOR PARTY

Don't miss the **last Harbor Party of the summer!** On Saturday, September 4th, the Northampton County Chamber of Commerce will host its last Harbor Party of 2010 from 6:00 to 10:00 pm at the Cape Charles Harbor! There will be great live music by "The Inspectors", hot food from Veneto's Pizzeria, as well as good ol' fashioned American picnic fare. Sketch artist, Stevon Sample of Dominion Graphics, will again be on site to do drawings while you wait. Beer and wine will be available and there will be plenty of fun for the whole family! Admission is \$5; kids under 12 are free.

### UPCOMING EVENTS IN CAPE CHARLES

- **Northampton County Chamber of Commerce Harbor Party** – 9/4 from 6P – 10P at the Cape Charles Harbor.
- **Cape Charles Central Park Grand Opening Ceremony** – 9/5 beginning at 5P at Central Park.
- **The Third Annual Fall Tomato Festival** – 9/25 along Mason Avenue and throughout the Town.
- **Eastern Shore Birding & Wildlife Festival** – 10/8 – 10/10 in Cape Charles.

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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