

Scituate Waterways Commission

The Waterways Commission meets monthly, in collaboration with the Harbormaster, to discuss initiatives, and make recommendations to the Board of Selectmen to improve our waterways. We focus on the needs of our commercial fleet, recreational boaters, sportsmen, and everyone who takes advantage of our natural waterways resources. The following key initiatives and opportunities we addressed this year:

- Developed and Implemented Scituate Marine Park improvements:
 - Completed Phase 1 of construction of the Scituate Marine Park including:
 - Leveling and improving the south portion of the property.
 - Installing a vessel travel lift deck.
 - Dredging of the marina basin.
 - Scituate Maritime Center
 - Finalized plans for public facilities and meeting center.
 - Raised funds, materials, and labor to develop the building.
 - Began construction with the South Shore Vocational High School.

We are very appreciative of all the volunteers, individual contributors, and corporate sponsors who have supported this true community effort in developing the Scituate Maritime Center. We believe this will become the centerpiece of our harbor to be used and enjoyed by everyone visiting it.

- Implemented formal designation of No Discharge Zone, after approval by the EPA, for all Scituate coastal waterways.
- Continued to improve the importance of Scituate waterways at the state and regional level.
- In a joint effort with the Harbormaster, developed grant opportunities for harbor infrastructure improvements which resulted in an award of \$550,000 by the Massachusetts Seaport Advisory Council. We continue to pursue grant opportunities.
- Began development of a formalized Harbor Management Plan.
- Reviewed dock, marina, and mooring requests in the South River and Scituate Harbor.
- Continue to develop Scituate Harbor as a boater's destination, to promote economic development for the local economy and businesses.

We look forward to advising the Board of Selectmen regarding ongoing waterway opportunities and issues. As always, we welcome your participation at our monthly meetings.