

MARCH. 5, 2025 Climate Action Committee Minutes

When: Wednesday, March 5th, 10 am- Noon

Where: Town Hall Historical Meeting Room

Type: In-person

Attendees: Lili Flanders, chair; Mark Gebhardt, vice-chair; Alex Limpaecher, member; Georgia Neill, volunteer; Chris Palmer, Climate Action Coordinator; Tom Bow, vice chair, Open Space Committee

1. **Assign notetaker:** Gebhardt

2. **Public Comment:** none

3. **Tom Bow: Fire safety concerns** – Vice Chair of the Open Space Committee, Liaison of Truro Conservation Trust Committee.

- One charge of his Committee is to inventory Town Owned Land. Concerns on fire safety, especially Nat Sea Shore. Two forums coming up (one is our Library meeting; the other is a fire forum planned by the OSC for July or August). They will support us in our efforts.
- Georgia has interviewed the Fire Chief and 2 others for conservation and recreation. An article Georgia wrote will be coming out in the Truro Town Newsletter. Georgia is less worried after interviews. More moisture, sand and other issues put us in a safer environment than California.
- Truro properties (but not individual homes) can get a fire assessment from Fire Dept. for free Residents are asked to coordinate assessments with neighbors, so fire personnel isn't over-taxed.
- DCR has pamphlets for residents and part-time residents.
- There are fire resources if a fire occurs, with help from off Cape if needed.
- We have “Ponds” 3000 gallons – inflatable pools for fires and can truck water into wooded areas.
- We don't have brush trucks (Ptown has plans to get one).
- There is an outdated fire plan for Cape and Islands (2012). Just got funding to update.
- We get 2-3 brush fires/year (last big one was on Longnook). Ptown at more risk since buildings are so close together.
- Truro is responsible for fires in the Nat Seashore which is 70% of our land. We are not equipped or trained to deal with a major forest fire. Some risk from brush and fallen trees due to climate change.
- Nat Seashore has one 3000 gal truck (somewhere) but no personnel to run it.
- CAP has a section that might coincide with fire safety. We dovetail with many committees. The Open Space committee overlaps with the CAP in fire safety. At least they can link to our CAP. This would fit with our Whole Government Approach.
- Will check to see if the municipal buildings have been assessed for fire safety.

3.1. **Minutes from the 2/19/25 meeting approved (3/3 vote)**

4. Climate Action Coordinator Update.

- Energy Comm went before Select Board to present the solar plan on the landfill site near Transfer Station. SB keen on the plan/model. They agreed with 2 warrants:
 - one is about putting solar on the landfill.
 - The second is to borrow up to \$5M for ownership (we own the land and can either lease the equipment (less revenue) or buy the equipment (3.8-5M to own, more revenue, and get rebates). We probably won't lease the land to a solar company.
- Chris spoke with the Chief Sustainability Officer in Worcester about whether our numbers are correct (they own a lot of solar). They have been making a ton of money.
- Green Communities: competitive grant for heating and cooling school - Denied. Can reapply in April. Chris will get details of why we failed. It was put together at the last moment. Better planning might help.
- Decarbonization road maps for the town overall and each municipal building. Useful for grant applications (these are on the Town website). We have most of the information that granting agencies are seeking.
- Green Leaders designation: if we get that it will open us up for more and bigger grants. Will hear about that next month.
- Paul Holt would like to join the CAC (he'll have to resign from the EC) – he feels CAC is a better fit for his interests and expertise.

5. Share CAC project ideas for March library event

- Chris will introduce himself and discuss his role and the WGA,
- Chris will talk about Green Communities and Green Leaders.
- Then visionary mode: workshop to get ideas about what Truro should look like at 2050. Post-its, etc. Grow all our food? Net zero (no fossils fuel cars)?
- Other ideas?
 - Public orchard. Other areas to grow our own food.
 - Bike lanes from Ptown to Wellfleet and to town centers
 - Sailboats with solar panels to go between Truro and nearby towns like Orleans, Provincetown, Hyannis, etc.
 - EV's for taxis, more frequent buses.
 - More dirt roads except for Rt 6, decrease parking lots
 - Capture more water from runoff (water capture)
 - Economic and diverse workforce
 - Self-sustaining Truro (avoid trips to Stop & Shop)
 - Solar panels everywhere
 - Nicer bus stops designed by local artists
 - There are certainly obstacles (difficulty for elderly and disabled people to take the bus or get from home to bus, some can't bike, etc.) but we need to aim high.

6. Discuss updating CAC webpage

- Needs substantial updating – deferred until after ATM. Need to decide what we want to transfer to the new website.

7. Review Solar flyer

- Designed by Alex – it is excellent. How to distribute it?
- Might be difficult to distribute at ATM – 1000 copies on specified paper.
- Might be good to have a FAQ also – “Will this increase my taxes?” etc.
- Distribute it in early April – like the library fliers. Hand out at Transfer station swap shop, post office.
- Use the QR code at TM on a poster. Add a link to join the mailing list which exists for library sessions. Have a few paper copies for those without phones/camera.
- Pre-town meeting.
- This might be a way to attract more people to join CAC or the email list.
- Try to get an article on this in the Newsletter. We will have one for fire and one for solar (if the timing works).

8. Single use plastic bottle ban?

- Not discussed

9. General Updates:

- Solar article w/EC in the works
- Library Fire event – 3 speakers lined up for the fire event.
- Earth Day – Sat April 19, 10:30-Noon. “Water is Life”. Bottle cap mosaic using bottle caps collected from the beach. Laura Ludwig will have a table with information about marine debris (Center for Coastal Studies). Maybe another table on pond health and how to garden with less water (APCC). Educators from PAAM (Ptown Art Association & Museum). Laura Kelley – health of aquifers & . Fertilizer and pesticide reduction. Maybe a table from Truro Health & Conservation Office about Waste water management. CAC should have a table about EV’s, solar panels, heat pumps for your home, etc. Consider asking what we want people to do to reduce carbon footprint. Might get more people to join the CAC or volunteer.
- MVP grant(s), discussed
- Flyers at TM, discussed
- Residential Greenhouse Gas Inventory – on pause until after ATM

Meeting was adjourned at 12:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Mark C. Gebhardt

Vice Chair, Climate Action Committee

Proposed Pages for the Climate Action Committee Website

Main Action Page

Climate Action Truro

Protecting Our Coastal Community

As a coastal community, Cape Cod—and Truro in particular—stands on the frontlines of climate change. Rising sea levels, intensifying storms, and coastal erosion directly threaten our beaches, dunes, and neighborhoods. What we do today will determine the Truro our children and grandchildren inherit tomorrow.

The good news? **Our community has unprecedented resources to take meaningful climate action while saving money.**

Where Our Emissions Come From

Truro's greenhouse gas emissions come primarily from three sources:

1. **Our homes** - heating, cooling, and powering our residences
2. **Our vehicles** - how we get around the Cape and beyond
3. **Our electricity** - where our power comes from

Each area presents powerful opportunities for reducing our carbon footprint while improving our quality of life.

Take Action Today

For Homeowners: Boost Your Energy Efficiency

The most cost-effective climate action starts with using less energy. Massachusetts offers some of the nation's most generous incentives:

- **Free home energy assessments** that identify where you're losing energy
- **75-100% off insulation** and completely free air sealing

- **Up to \$10,000 in heat pump rebates** to replace fossil fuel heating
- **0% interest loans** for energy improvements
- **Federal tax credits** of up to \$3,200 annually

[Learn More About Energy Efficiency Incentives →](#)

For Homeowners: Power Your Home with Renewables

Generate your own clean energy with substantial financial benefits:

- **30% federal tax credit** on solar installations
- **\$1,000 state tax credit** for residential solar
- **Monthly payments for 10 years** through the SMART program
- **Low-interest financing options** specifically for Cape Cod residents
- **Battery storage incentives** that pay you to help support the grid

[Explore Renewable Energy Options →](#)

For Everyone: Rethink Transportation

Transportation represents a major portion of our carbon footprint:

- **Up to \$13,500 in combined incentives** for electric vehicle purchases
- **Year-round public transportation** options throughout Truro and Cape Cod
- **Seasonal shuttles and ferries** that reduce the need for cars
- **SmartDART on-demand transit** for convenient local trips

[Discover EV Incentives →](#)

[Explore Low-Carbon Transportation →](#)

For Everyone: Reduce Waste

Simple steps to reduce landfill impact:

- **Free food waste drop-off** at Truro Transfer Station
- **Truro Swap Shop** for donating and finding household items

[Learn About Composting and Waste Reduction →](#)

Start Your Climate Action Journey

The most important step is the first one. Whether you're a year-round resident, a seasonal homeowner, or a visitor, there's something meaningful you can do today:

1. **Schedule a free home energy assessment**

2. **Consider solar panels or an electric vehicle**
3. **Try public transportation for your next trip**

Every action, no matter how small, helps protect the Truro we love for generations to come.

[Get Your Free Home Energy Assessment →](#)

Energy Efficiency Incentives

Save on home upgrades that reduce energy use and lower your utility bills

Why Invest in Energy Efficiency?

Improving your home's energy efficiency is the smart first step before adding renewable energy. Energy efficiency upgrades:

- **Lower your monthly utility bills** immediately and for years to come
- **Increase your home's comfort** by eliminating drafts and temperature imbalances
- **Reduce the size and cost** of any solar or heat pump system you might add later
- **Qualify you for additional incentives** when combined with renewable energy
- **Increase your home's resale value** while reducing maintenance costs
- **Decrease your carbon footprint** by using less energy overall

Massachusetts offers some of the nation's most generous energy efficiency programs, with incentives that can cover up to 100% of improvement costs. With free assessments, rebates covering 75-100% of insulation work, interest-free loans, and substantial tax credits, making your home more efficient has never been more affordable.

Continue reading to discover the specific programs available to help you save energy and money.

No-Cost Home Energy Assessments

Free Professional Home Evaluation

\$0 Cost to Homeowners and Renters

Cape Light Compact and Mass Save offer **completely free home energy audits** for all Cape Cod residents with an Eversource account ([Home Energy Assessments - Cape Light Compact](#)).

- ✓ Professional energy specialist evaluates your home's efficiency
- ✓ **Free energy-saving products** installed during visit (LEDs, smart power strips, low-flow showerheads)
- ✓ Detailed report with recommended improvements
- ✓ Qualifies you for substantial rebates and interest-free financing

[<Sign Up for Energy Assessment >](#)

Insulation & Air Sealing Rebates

Dramatic Cost Reductions for Weatherization

75-100% Off Improvements

After your assessment, you'll qualify for substantial assistance with insulation and air sealing—the most cost-effective energy improvements for most homes.

- ✓ **100% free air sealing** to eliminate drafts and leaks
- ✓ **75% off** approved insulation improvements (wall, attic, basement)
- ✓ **Renters and income-qualified residents** receive **100% free insulation** ([Home Energy Assessments - Cape Light Compact](#))

Heat Pump Rebates

High-Efficiency Electric Heating & Cooling

Up to \$10,000 in Rebates

Heat pumps are advanced heating and cooling systems that work like air conditioners in reverse—they can both cool your home in summer and provide efficient heating in winter by moving heat rather than generating it. Unlike traditional fossil fuel systems, heat pumps:

- **Use electricity instead of oil or gas**, eliminating on-site combustion and emissions
- **Operate at 300-400% efficiency** compared to 80-95% for the best fossil fuel systems
- **Provide both heating and cooling** in a single system
- **Deliver consistent, comfortable temperatures** without the extreme heat of radiators or forced air
- **Improve indoor air quality** by filtering air and reducing humidity
- **Work effectively in cold climates** with today's advanced technology

Modern cold-climate heat pumps are designed specifically for New England weather and can heat efficiently even when outdoor temperatures drop below zero.

Cape Light Compact and Mass Save offer substantial rebates for switching to energy-efficient heat pumps.

- ✓ **Whole-home heat pump** replacing oil, propane, or electric resistance: **\$3,000 per ton, up to \$10,000** ([Heat Pump Rebates - Cape Light Compact](#))

✓ **Partial-home installations: \$1,250 per ton, up to \$10,000** ([Heat Pump Rebates - Cape Light Compact](#))

✓ **\$500 bonus** for completing weatherization before installing heat pumps ([Heat Pump Rebates - Cape Light Compact](#))

✓ **\$1,500 additional rebate** for adding smart controls that minimize furnace use ([Heat Pump Rebates - Cape Light Compact](#))

Eligibility Requirements:

- Must use a participating contractor
- For whole-home systems, must agree to decommission old heating system and weatherize the home ([Heat Pump Rebates - Cape Light Compact](#)) ([Heat Pump Rebates - Cape Light Compact](#))

Efficient Appliances & Equipment Rebates

Save on Energy Star Products

Multiple Rebate Options

Mass Save provides rebates on a wide range of energy-efficient appliances and equipment.

✓ **Up to \$100 rebate** on Wi-Fi smart thermostats ([Residential Rebates - Cape Light Compact](#))

✓ Rebates on high-efficiency water heaters ([Residential Rebates - Cape Light Compact](#))

✓ Rebates for **battery-powered lawn equipment** (mowers, leaf blowers)

Eligibility:

- Generally available to all Cape Light Compact/Mass Save participants
- Specific rebate amounts and eligible models are listed on the Mass Save website

Appliance Recycling Program

Get Paid to Recycle Old Appliances

Free Pickup + Cash Rebates

If you have inefficient old appliances, Mass Save will remove them and pay you.

✓ **\$75 rebate** for recycling old refrigerators or freezers ([Appliance Recycling | Mass Save](#))

✓ **\$30 rebate** for turning in old dehumidifiers ([Appliance Recycling | Mass Save](#))

- ✓ Free pickup service at your convenience

0% Interest HEAT Loan

Interest-Free Financing for Energy Improvements

Borrow Up to \$25,000 at 0% APR

Mass Save offers interest-free loans to help finance energy efficiency upgrades.

- ✓ **0% APR financing** for approved energy improvements
- ✓ Borrow up to **\$25,000** with typical 7-year terms
- ✓ Covers insulation, heat pumps, efficient furnaces, water heaters, battery storage, and solar hot water
- ✓ No interest charges whatsoever ([Home Energy Assessments - Cape Light Compact](#))

Eligibility Requirements:

- Must complete a home energy assessment first
- Must use approved contractors
- Loan offered through local banks/credit unions after program authorization

Income-Eligible Programs

Enhanced Benefits for Qualifying Households

100% Free Upgrades

Households meeting income thresholds qualify for completely free energy efficiency improvements.

- ✓ **No-cost insulation and air sealing**
- ✓ **Free appliance replacements**
- ✓ **Free heating system upgrades**
- ✓ **Enhanced barrier mitigation** (like removing knob-and-tube wiring) ([Income Eligible Offerings - Cape Light Compact](#))

Eligibility Requirements:

- Income verification required (typically up to 60-80% of state median income)
- Qualification can be based on participation in fuel assistance or other income-based programs
- Renters eligible with landlord permission

Tax Credits for Energy Efficiency

Federal Tax Incentives

Up to \$3,200 Annually

The federal government offers valuable tax credits for home energy improvements.

✅ **30% federal tax credit** for insulation, air sealing, energy-efficient windows/doors, capped at **\$1,200 per year** ([Federal Tax Credits for Energy Efficiency | ENERGY STAR](#))

✅ **Additional 30% credit up to \$2,000** for heat pumps and heat pump water heaters ([Federal Tax Credits for Energy Efficiency | ENERGY STAR](#))

✅ **Maximum potential credit of \$3,200 annually** ([Federal Tax Credits for Energy Efficiency | ENERGY STAR](#))

Massachusetts State Benefits:

- Energy-saving appliances and materials (insulation, storm windows, etc.) exempt from sales tax
- Some state tax deductions available for energy-efficiency improvements

Note: Tax credits offset your tax liability dollar-for-dollar but require you to file for them. Always consult a tax advisor to confirm eligibility.

Power Your Home with Renewable Energy

Save money and reduce your carbon footprint with these federal and state incentives

Why Go Solar with Battery Storage?

Installing solar panels and battery storage at your home offers multiple financial and practical benefits:

- **Dramatically reduce or eliminate your electricity bills** by generating your own clean power
- **Protect yourself from utility rate increases** as electricity costs continue to rise
- **Increase your home's resilience** with battery backup during power outages
- **Enhance your property value** without increasing property taxes
- **Lower your carbon footprint** by switching to renewable energy
- **Generate income** through incentive programs that pay you for your solar production and battery capacity

The best part? Massachusetts and federal programs make going solar more affordable than ever. You can receive substantial upfront discounts through tax credits, access low-interest or zero-interest loans specifically designed for Cape Cod residents, and even get paid monthly for the energy you produce and store.

Once your system is installed, you'll enjoy years of low-cost, clean energy while potentially earning ongoing payments through net metering credits and the SMART program. Your battery can even generate additional income by supporting the grid during peak demand times through the ConnectedSolutions program—all while remaining available for your home backup needs.

With incentives covering up to 45% of system costs and financing options that require little to no money down, there's never been a better time for Massachusetts residents to invest in solar and battery technology.

Continue reading to learn about the specific programs available to help you save.

Federal Solar Tax Credit

Residential Clean Energy Credit

30% Tax Credit

The federal government offers a **30% income tax credit** for installing renewable energy systems like solar photovoltaics (PV) on your home ([Federal Tax Credits for Energy Efficiency | ENERGY STAR](#)). This credit applies to both the solar panels and associated costs like inverters, racking, wiring, and even battery storage installed with the system. It is available through 2032 at the 30% rate (then steps down to 26% for 2033, 22% for 2034).

✓ 30% tax credit on total system cost through 2032

✓ Covers solar panels, inverters, racking, wiring, and battery storage

Eligibility Requirements:

- Must own the system (not leased)
- Must own the home where it's installed (the credit can apply to primary or secondary residences)

Massachusetts State Incentives

Massachusetts State Solar Tax Credit

15% of cost (up to \$1,000)

Massachusetts provides a **state income tax credit worth 15% of your solar installation cost, up to \$1,000** maximum ([Residential Solar Tax Credits for Massachusetts Homeowners](#)). Most residential systems will hit the \$1,000 cap. This credit is one-time and can be carried forward if not fully used in the install year.

✓ One-time credit of 15% of your solar installation cost

✓ Maximum credit: \$1,000 (most systems qualify for full amount)

Eligibility Requirements:

- The solar PV system must be on your primary residence in Massachusetts
- Cannot be a third-party owned system (you must own the system)

SMART Program

Monthly Cash Payments for 10 Years

The SMART program is a Massachusetts state **solar incentive program** that provides cash payments (or bill credits) for solar production on top of net metering. If you install a solar PV system in Truro (which is served by Eversource), you can enroll in SMART to receive a fixed **per-kilowatt-hour incentive for all the energy your panels generate for 10 years** ([Massachusetts Smart Program Explained](#))

- ✓ Fixed per-kilowatt-hour incentive for 10 years
- ✓ Approximately 7-10 cents per kWh for Cape Cod systems
- ✓ Additional "adders" available for battery storage

Eligibility Requirements:

- Must have a new solar installation (under 25 kW for the base residential program)
- Apply through your installer (they typically handle the SMART application)
- Once approved, payments are locked in for 10 years at the rate when you joined

These SMART payments come monthly or quarterly from the utility or program administrator ([Massachusetts SMART Incentive Program | Eversource](#)).

Net Metering

Earn Credits on Your Electric Bill

Massachusetts has **net metering** laws that allow you to earn credits on your electric bill for excess solar generation. When your rooftop solar panels produce more power than your home is using, the excess goes to the grid and you receive a credit on your bill, reducing future bills ([Massachusetts Smart Program Explained](#))

- ✓ Credits at near-retail rates for systems under 10 kW
- ✓ Use summer credits to pay for winter usage
- ✓ Potential to zero out your annual electricity costs

Eligibility Requirements:

- Systems must be below the state's net metering cap (most residential systems qualify)
- Must follow utility interconnection process
- Automatically handled by Eversource once your system is connected

Financing Options

Cape & Vineyard Solar Loan Program

2.75% Interest Rate, 10-Year Term

Unique to Cape Cod and Martha's Vineyard residents, the Cape & Vineyard Electric Cooperative (with Cape Light Compact) offers a special **low-interest Solar Loan** for residential solar projects. Year-round Cape Cod residents (including Truro) can borrow up to **\$50,000** at a

2.75% interest rate, 10-year term to finance a new solar PV system ([Cape & Vineyard Solar Loan - Cape Light Compact](#)).

✓ Borrow up to \$50,000 for solar installation

✓ Low 2.75% fixed interest rate

✓ Go solar with little to no money down

Eligibility Requirements:

- Home must be your primary, year-round residence on Cape Cod or Martha's Vineyard ([Cape & Vineyard Solar Loan - Cape Light Compact](#))
- Must complete a home energy audit and address major weatherization recommendations first ([Cape & Vineyard Solar Loan - Cape Light Compact](#))
- Creditworthiness required (loan serviced by Cape Cod Five bank) ([Cape & Vineyard Solar Loan - Cape Light Compact](#))

For low-income residents, MassHousing's **Solar for All** program will launch in 2025 to provide even lower interest loans or grants ([Cape & Vineyard Solar Loan - Cape Light Compact](#)).

Mass Save HEAT Loan for Renewable Systems

0% Interest, Up to 7 Years

The 0% HEAT Loan can finance not just efficiency but also some renewable technologies ([Cape & Vineyard Solar Loan - Cape Light Compact](#)).

✓ Battery systems (paired with solar or standalone)

✓ Solar hot water heaters

✓ Ground-source heat pumps (geothermal) with rebates often \$7,500+

Note: While PV solar itself isn't directly covered by the HEAT Loan (use the Cape & Vineyard Solar Loan instead), many complementary technologies are eligible.

Battery Storage Incentives

ConnectedSolutions Program

\$275 per kW During Peak Events

If you add a **home battery system**, you can enroll in the ConnectedSolutions program to earn money for helping the grid. Under this program, Eversource will remotely discharge your battery during peak demand events to reduce grid strain ([Battery Storage | Mass Save](#)).

- ✓ Payments of **\$275 per kW** of capacity during summer events ([Battery Storage | Mass Save](#))
- ✓ Typical 5 kW home battery = **\$1,375 per summer season**
- ✓ Additional payments for winter peak events
- ✓ 5-year commitment with opportunity to renew

Eligibility Requirements:

- Must be a customer of Eversource (or Cape Light Compact)
- Have an eligible battery system installed ([Battery Storage | Mass Save](#))
- Need an internet-connected battery to respond to utility signals
- Can opt out of events if needed for backup power

The SMART solar incentive program also provides an extra adder for solar+storage systems ([Massachusetts SMART Incentive Program | Eversource](#))

Federal Tax Credit for Batteries

30% Tax Credit

The **federal tax credit for solar** now covers standalone battery installations at 30% ([Federal Tax Credits for Energy Efficiency | ENERGY STAR](#)).

- ✓ 30% tax credit on battery cost
- ✓ Applies whether installed with solar or separately
- ✓ Available through 2032 (then steps down)

Other Benefits

Solar Panels do not increase your property taxes

Property Tax Exemption

By Massachusetts state law, certain solar PV and wind energy systems are 100% exempt from local property taxes for 20 years.

- ✓ Your property tax assessment will not increase due to the added value of your solar installation
- ✓ This exemption remains in effect for a full 20 years from installation date

[Umass FAQ Sheet](#)

Electric Vehicle (EV) Incentives

Save thousands on your transition to clean transportation

Why Switch to an Electric Vehicle?

Making the switch to an electric vehicle offers multiple benefits for Cape Cod residents:

- **Lower operating costs** with electricity costing the equivalent of ~\$1/gallon of gas
- **Reduced maintenance expenses** with fewer moving parts and no oil changes
- **Enhanced driving experience** with instant torque and quiet operation
- **Zero tailpipe emissions** to help protect Cape Cod's fragile environment
- **Energy independence** by powering your transportation with local electricity
- **No emissions inspections required** in Massachusetts

With generous state and federal incentives, there's never been a better time to go electric. Combining all available incentives, Cape Cod residents can save up to \$13,500 on a new electric vehicle purchase.

Massachusetts MOR-EV Rebate Program

State Rebates for Electric Vehicle Purchases

The MOR-EV program ("Massachusetts Offers Rebates for Electric Vehicles") provides substantial rebates when you purchase or lease an electric vehicle.

✓ **\$3,500 standard rebate** for new battery electric vehicles (BEVs) with MSRP under \$55,000 ([Frequently Asked Questions | MOR-EV.org](#))

✓ **\$1,500 additional MOR-EV+** for income-qualified buyers ([Frequently Asked Questions | MOR-EV.org](#))

✓ **\$1,000 MOR-EV Trade-In** when you trade in an older gas vehicle ([Frequently Asked Questions | MOR-EV.org](#))

✓ **\$3,500 for used EVs** for income-qualified buyers (vehicle price up to \$40,000) ([Frequently Asked Questions | MOR-EV.org](#))

✓ **\$7,500 for electric pickup trucks** (6,001-10,000 lbs) ([Frequently Asked Questions | MOR-EV.org](#))

Eligibility Requirements:

- Must be a Massachusetts resident
- Vehicle must be purchased/leased and registered in Massachusetts
- Must keep the vehicle for at least 36 months
- Vehicle must meet program requirements for type and price

Federal EV Tax Credits

Substantial Tax Incentives

Up to \$7,500 for New EVs, \$4,000 for Used

The federal government offers significant tax credits for electric vehicle purchases under the Inflation Reduction Act.

For New Electric Vehicles:

✓ **Up to \$7,500 federal tax credit** directly reduces your tax liability ([Eversource Electric Vehicle Information](#))

✓ Starting in 2024, you can transfer this credit to the dealer for **immediate savings at purchase** ([Eversource Electric Vehicle Information](#))

Eligibility Requirements:

- Vehicle must meet North American assembly requirements
- Battery components and critical minerals must meet sourcing requirements
- Price caps: \$55,000 for cars, \$80,000 for SUVs/trucks
- Income limits apply for claiming the credit

For Used Electric Vehicles:

✓ **Up to \$4,000 federal tax credit** (30% of vehicle price) ([Eversource Electric Vehicle Information](#))

Eligibility Requirements:

- Vehicle must cost \$25,000 or less
- Must purchase from a dealership
- Buyer income must be under \$75,000 (single) or \$150,000 (joint filing)
- Credit can only be used once per vehicle

EV Charging Equipment Incentives

Save on Home Charging Installation

Up to \$2,400 in Combined Savings

Installing a home charging station makes EV ownership more convenient and can save you money on charging costs.

✓ **Up to \$1,400 in Eversource rebates** for home charging equipment installation ([Eversource Electric Vehicle Information](#))

✓ **30% federal tax credit (up to \$1,000)** for home charger installation in eligible areas ([Alternative Fuel Vehicle Refueling Property Credit for Individuals - IRS](#))

✓ Special EV charging rate plans may be available from Eversource ([EV Charging and Your Bill in Massachusetts | Eversource](#))

Eligibility Requirements for Eversource Rebate:

- Must install a network-capable (smart) charger
- Installation must be completed after January 1, 2023
- Must submit application with proof of purchase/installation

Eligibility for Federal Credit:

- Home must be in an eligible census tract (low-income or non-urban area)
- Parts of Cape Cod may qualify due to rural character

Additional EV Benefits

Beyond direct financial incentives, EV owners enjoy other benefits:

✓ **No emissions inspections required** in Massachusetts

✓ **Lower maintenance costs** with fewer mechanical components

✓ **Access to growing network of public chargers** throughout Cape Cod

✓ **Significantly lower fueling costs** compared to gasoline vehicles

✓ **Special utility rate programs** for EV charging may be available

Low-Carbon Transportation Alternatives in Truro, MA

Reducing your carbon footprint doesn't always require switching to an electric vehicle. Truro residents and visitors have numerous transportation options that help lower emissions while providing convenient ways to get around Cape Cod. This guide highlights year-round and seasonal alternatives to help you make more sustainable transportation choices.

Year-Round Public Transportation

CCRTA Flex Bus

The Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority's "Flex" bus provides daily service (Monday–Saturday) connecting Truro with surrounding communities.

- **Route:** Runs between Provincetown and Harwich, passing through Truro, Wellfleet, Eastham, and Orleans
- **Coverage in Truro:** Travels along Route 6 and Shore Road (Route 6A)
- **Unique Feature:** Flag-down stops allowed along local roads (not on high-speed sections of Route 6)
- **Schedule:** First Provincetown-bound trip around 7 AM, with the last return around 7:45 PM
- **Flexibility:** Will deviate up to ¾ mile off route by reservation to pick up riders who can't reach a stop easily
- **Cost:** \$2 one-way, with day and monthly passes available

Source: [Town of Provincetown Transportation](#), [CCRTA Riders Guide](#)

CCRTA Dial-A-Ride (DART)

A door-to-door shuttle service available by reservation throughout Cape Cod, including Truro.

- **Service Type:** Group taxi-like service ideal for those far from bus routes or needing special assistance
- **Booking:** Rides must be reserved 24–48 hours in advance
- **Schedule:** Operates year-round on weekdays with limited weekend service
- **Cost:** Base fare of approximately \$3 each way, with multi-ride passes available
- **Note:** As a shared-ride system, trips may include other passengers

Source: [Cape Code Regional Transport](#)

SmartDART On-Demand Microtransit

CCRTA's app-based on-demand transit service launched in 2024 and available in all Cape Cod towns.

- **How It Works:** Similar to Uber/Lyft but uses transit vans and charges a low flat fare
- **Cost:** Approximately \$3 per ride
- **Trip Limitations:** Limited to short local trips (up to ~10 miles)
- **Hours:** Daytime service (approximately 7:30 AM – 6:00 PM)
- **Access:** Available through the CCRTA app or by calling dispatch for ride requests

Source: [SmartDart](#)

Peter Pan Regional Bus Service

Provides daily year-round coach service between the Outer Cape and off-Cape destinations.

- **Stops in Truro:** Truro Center
- **Other Stops:** Provincetown, Wellfleet, Eastham
- **Destinations:** Hyannis, Barnstable, Sagamore, Boston (South Station), and Logan Airport
- **Features:** Wi-Fi and restrooms on board
- **Schedule:** Daily trip (with increased frequency in summer)
- **Connections:** Links with local CCRTA services in Hyannis or Harwich

Source: [Peter Pan](#)

Truro Council on Aging Shuttle

Free van service for senior and disabled residents, reducing individual car trips.

- **Eligibility:** Truro residents age 60+ or adults with disabilities
- **Service:** Door-to-door transportation for medical appointments, shopping, pharmacy visits, or COA events
- **Scheduling:** Requires at least 2 days' notice
- **Operation:** Monday through Friday during daytime hours
- **Coverage:** Truro and nearby towns, with medical trips taking priority

Source: [Truro Council on Aging](#)

Seasonal Transportation Options

Provincetown/North Truro Shuttle

A hop-on, hop-off shuttle serving Provincetown and North Truro from Memorial Day to Columbus Day.

- **Route:** Travels through downtown Provincetown to west end attractions (Pilgrim Monument, Herring Cove Beach, Race Point, Provincetown Airport) and north along Shore Road in Truro serving Beach Point, Salty Market, and area campgrounds
- **Access:** Flag it down anywhere along route or use designated stops
- **Schedule (Shoulder Season):** Late May to mid-June runs approximately hourly on weekdays and every 30 minutes evenings/weekends
- **Schedule (Peak Season):** Late June through early September runs seven days a week, as frequently as every 20 minutes from early morning until around midnight
- **Cost:** \$2 per ride or \$6 day pass
- **Features:** Wheelchair accessible with connections to Flex bus at MacMillan Pier and Highland Road in Truro

Source: [Town of Provincetown Transportation](#), [Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority](#)

Early/Late Buses for Workers

Extended CCRTA service during peak season to accommodate summer workers and late-night events.

- **Schedule:** Special runs in early morning (pre-7 AM) inbound to Provincetown and late at night outbound from Provincetown through Truro, Wellfleet, etc.
- **Example:** Workers can catch buses as early as 5:30 AM into Provincetown; evening diners can take 11:30 PM buses back to Truro on summer weekends
- **Season:** Typically runs weekends in shoulder season and nightly during peak summer (Memorial Day to Labor Day)
- **Routes & Fares:** Same as regular Flex service

Source: [Town of Provincetown Transportation](#)

Provincetown–Boston Ferry

High-speed catamaran service between Boston and Provincetown Harbor from mid-May to mid-October.

- **Route:** Connects Provincetown Harbor (MacMillan Wharf) with downtown Boston (World Trade Center Seaport and Long Wharf)
- **Travel Time:** 90 minutes one-way
- **Bike Accommodation:** Carries bikes at no extra cost
- **Schedule (Peak Summer):** Up to 5-6 daily departures (combined between two ferry companies) with morning, mid-day, and evening options
- **Truro Connection:** Arriving passengers can take the Shuttle or Flex bus to Truro
- **Reservations:** Recommended during summer months

Source: [Town of Provincetown Ferries](#), [Bay State Cruise Company](#)

CapeFLYER Train

Summer weekend passenger train between Boston and Hyannis operating Memorial Day to Labor Day weekends.

- **Schedule:** Runs Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays
- **Connections:** CCRTA bus network in Hyannis connects to H2O bus to Orleans, where riders can transfer to Flex bus to reach Truro
- **Features:** Free Wi-Fi and complimentary bike transport
- **Benefits:** Removes numerous cars from Cape roads, especially during peak tourist season

Source: [*Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority*](#)

Tips for Reducing Your Transportation Carbon Footprint

1. **Combine Trips:** Plan errands efficiently to minimize driving time and distances
2. **Use Public Transit for Beach Days:** Take the Provincetown Shuttle to avoid parking hassles and reduce emissions
3. **Consider Multi-Modal Options:** For longer journeys, combine transit types (e.g., ferry to Provincetown, then bus to Truro)
4. **Bike for Short Trips:** Many Truro destinations are within comfortable biking distance
5. **Organize Carpools for Regular Activities:** Coordinate with neighbors for grocery shopping, community events, or trips to Hyannis
6. **Check Events for Special Transportation:** During festivals or major events, look for special shuttle services or park-and-ride options
7. **Plan Ahead for Seasonal Services:** Remember that some options (like the ferry) only operate during warmer months

Composting and Waste Reduction

Reduce landfill waste and turn food scraps into compost.

Compost Your Food Waste – Free Drop-Off

Truro's Transfer Station accepts **residential food scraps** at no cost. Drop off fruit, vegetables, coffee grounds, and more.

 [Truro Transfer Station Composting Info](#)

 [Truro Recycling Guidelines](#)

Truro Swap Shop – Reduce & Reuse

Donate or take gently used household items **for free** at the Truro Swap Shop, located at the Transfer Station.

 [Swap Shop Guidelines](#)

Energy Sources in Truro

 [Learn about Cape Light Compact](#)

 [Sign up for CLC Local Green](#)

TWO-THIRDS VOTE**Article SOLAR-v7: Borrowing Authorization for Solar Electricity Generation Systems**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or borrow the sum of **Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000.00)** more or less, associated with engineering services, construction, decarbonization, and project management related to solar electricity facilities on Town property, and for the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto; provided that no sums shall be borrowed or expended hereunder unless and until the Town shall have voted to exclude the amounts needed to repay any bonds or notes issued pursuant to this vote from the limitations imposed by G.L c.59, §21C (Proposition 2 ½); or take any other action relative thereto.

Requested by the Energy Committee

Explanation:

The Energy Committee has determined that solar power can be profitably developed by Truro for the Town's benefit in converting fossil fuel use to solar electricity use. Several alternative methods of procuring and funding solar capacity at the Town's various locations are under consideration, which include, among others, the use of tax credits or equivalents, state incentive payments, grants, and a revenue streams from the value of electricity generated.

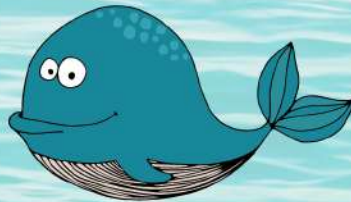
Proposals are being sought from solar development organizations to provide technical and regulatory expertise, perform project construction and maintenance, and/or provide equipment financing. The Committee anticipates that the project revenue streams in the aggregate will exceed project costs, and that those revenues will be applied to pay the operating and maintenance costs including the borrowing debt service, thereby resulting in a positive return to the Town.

Energy Committee Recommendation	4	0	
Climate Action Committee Recommendation			
Finance Committee Recommendation			
Select Board Recommendation			

TRURO CLIMATE ACTION COMMITTEE & TRURO PUBLIC LIBRARY PRESENTS

Water is Life

AN EARTH DAY CELEBRATION



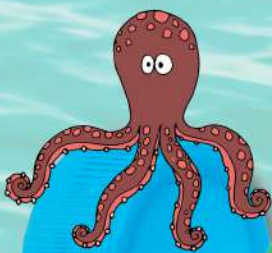
**COME & CELEBRATE
THE WATERS OF THE OUTER CAPE!**

Saturday, April 19th @ 10:30 a.m.

Join in the creation of a **BOTTLE CAP MARINE MOSAIC** and learn about ways you can help protect the water health of our ocean, ponds and aquifer.

ACTIVITIES & INFORMATION FROM THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS:

TRURO CLIMATE ACTION COMMITTEE • CENTER FOR COASTAL STUDIES
ASSOCIATION TO PRESERVE CAPE COD • PROTECT OUR CAPE COD AQUIFER



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AGES
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