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HABITAT RESTORATION  
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT



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Re: Brief bio and notes: Gordon Peabody

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## **Gordon Peabody, Director, Safe Harbor Environmental Services**

- Peabody was **Chair of a Conservation Commission** on Cape Cod for almost 5 years.
- During the period he was Chair of a Conservation Commission, Peabody wrote, edited and published “**An Applicant’s Guide to Conservation Commissions**”.
- In 2005, Peabody chaired the **Herring River Technical Committee**, with representatives from Federal, State, County and Local agencies. The Committee was tasked with reviewing all existing scientific materials and developing a conceptual “Salt Marsh Restoration Plan” for the 1,200-acre Herring River diked estuary on Cape Cod. This is the largest estuary restoration in New England. It is now underway.
- Peabody edits and publishes annual “**Conservation Commission Directory**” for the Outer Cape, including deadlines, requirements and contact information.
- Peabody has written and published **52 educational booklets on Environmental Techniques and Strategies** developed by Safe Harbor, made Public Domain.
- Peabody is founder and Editor of **OCEAN Newsletter (Outer Cape Environmental Awareness Newsletter)**, an e-newsletter with a readership of nearly 5,000 subscribers.
- Peabody is a contributor to the **Western Australia Water Journal**, which covers an area equal to about half of the US.
- Peabody is Editor and Manager of **SafeHarborEnv.Com**, the environmental educational web site of Safe Harbor. The site receives up to 4,000 visitors each month.
- In 2010, Peabody was a member of the **Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions (MACC)** Technical Advisory Committee tasked with revising erosion

and sediment control guidelines and techniques. Safe Harbor's innovative systems were incorporated.

- At the largest environmental conference in New England, (Annual Environmental Conference for *Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions*) in 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013, Peabody presented workshops to Massachusetts Conservation Commissioner members, Commission Agents and environmental professionals: "*Using Sustainability to Make Better Conservation Commission Decisions*"; *Using Sustainable, Innovative Strategies for Reducing Vista Conflicts*.
- Peabody sponsored "***The Good, the Bad and the Ugly***", a Learning Conference for Environmental Professionals, to review failed environmental projects on Cape Cod.
- Peabody acted as the Emergency Consultant, **assisting with Emergency Certification** and Emergency Coastal Restoration Response Plans for the Town of Truro following an extreme winter storm.
- Peabody has been experimenting with innovative, bio mimicry restoration techniques, utilizing the wind energy within resource system to power successful coastal restoration. Peabody received a grant for his successful experiment to restore a barrier dune, Peabody's integrated **Biomimicry** system collected 24 vertical feet of new sand in 26 months, reconnecting eroded profiles.
- Peabody is certified **Coastal Invasive Vegetation Manager**.
- Peabody makes multiple *environmental education presentations* annually, to colleges, high schools, environmental professionals and community groups.

- Peabody published “***Risk Reduction Strategies for Environmental Projects***”, in the (AMWS) Association of Massachusetts Wetlands Scientists Newsletter. The article reviewed failed environmental projects on Cape Cod.
- Peabody wrote an article for the (AMWS) Association of Massachusetts Wetland Scientists Newsletter titled “**The Role of Uncertainty in Climate Change Decisions**”.
- Peabody has worked as an environmental professional for 30 years. With a background in Marine Ecology, he studies and models natural energy systems and scaled linkages between nearshore, inshore and onshore coastal resource systems. These areas represent Climate Change Interfaces for SLR (Sea Level Rise) on Cape Cod, especially in a critical area of coastline, previously protected by a lengthy barrier beach system.
- Peabody is studying techniques for restoring and improving sustainable performance links between adjacent resource systems.
- Peabody was invited to Martha’s Vineyard, as part of **MACC’s “Rent an Expert Program**. Along with Colleague Seth Wilkenson, they did a workshop for all of the Conservation Commissions, on using sustainable alternatives for reducing vista conflict and managing invasive vegetation on November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

**National:**

**The National Ocean and Atmospheric Agency (NOAA)** contacted Peabody to discuss the successful Biomimicry system he developed on Ocean Beaches on Cape Cod, using storm wind power to restore eroded dunes. NOAA asked Peabody to create a National Webinar on Biomimicry, which is available on Podcast. **In the Summer of 2018, NOAA** informed Peabody that a scientist in Puerto Rico was successfully using Biomimicry to restore Hurricane ravaged dunes and had created a NOAA Webinar on the success.

The University of Wisconsin selected Peabody to be the Visiting Professor for Sustainability, Climate Change and Environmental Management. Peabody was required to make presentations to: administrators; faculty; graduate students; undergraduate students; and Montessori schools, as well as the community Rotary Club.

**Australian Connection:**

- In 2006, while visiting the city of Perth in Western Australia, Peabody noticed that coastal communities with limited ground water resources had no systems in place to recharge their aquifer with storm water, which ran off into the sea. After meeting with a member of the Western Australia Water Board, which controlled water use in an area comparable to half of the U.S., Peabody wrote a report titled “Areas of Critical Concern: Coastal Aquifers-Tools for Sustainability: Conservation of Water Mass”, recommending recharge of the coastal aquifer with storm water. The report was submitted to the Western Australian Water Board and circulated.
- Two months later, according to a press release: “*The Western Australia Government initiated a million dollar model program, for ground water recharge, in the coastal community of Cottisloe*”, near Perth.
- Peabody’s full report was published the following month, in the Australian Water Authority’s *W.A. Water Journal*.