



www.SafeHarborEnv.com • June 15, 2008 • No. 10

## OUTER CAPE ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS NEWSLETTER

This e-newsletter was created by Safe Harbor to support our goal of creating collaborative partnerships between Outer Cape towns, individuals and organizations that share similar environmental challenges. Collaborative efforts protect financial as well as natural resources. Gordon Peabody, Editor.

### PROCESSING UNWANTED LATEX PAINT

We recommend emptying cans of unwanted latex paint onto a tarp containing sawdust, cat litter, or as we have used here, cocoa shells (obtained inexpensively from landscape or garden supply stores). After several days in direct sunlight, the dried materials may be disposed at your transfer station, where it will become utility fuel. We do not recommend pouring latex paint into septic systems.

Oil based paints, pesticides and herbicides should be brought to local hazardous material pickup locations. The next scheduled pickup for the Outer Cape towns of Wellfleet, Truro and Provincetown are from 9 AM 'til Noon, at the Truro Transfer Station on Saturday, August 2. Residents from any of these three towns may participate. Other Cape Cod Towns should contact the Barnstable County Hazardous Materials Program at 800-319-2783.



### DE-CONSTRUCTION

#### Innovative techniques for demolition in sensitive environmental areas

Sensitive sites in coastal areas may exhibit dynamics prohibiting standard demolition techniques and subsequent environmental impacts. Safe Harbor worked with Architects Studio of South Wellfleet, to reverse engineer this building on concrete piers for sectional removal by crane. This concept reduces environmental impacts by strictly controlling access and limiting time on site for heavy equipment. Sectionalized components can be re-used for housing projects, removed to less impacting area on site for demolition, or removed completely for demolition elsewhere. When we encountered problems with oversize concrete pier footings, a small backhoe was crane lifted into the site.



*Continued.*

## DE-CONSTRUCTION (cont.)

Mike Winkler Crane Services of Truro performed the deconstruction. Safe Harbor's Deconstruction Protocol is available in detail on the Publications Page of our web site.



## UPDATE

### Innovative Techniques for Conserving Native Vegetation

Our Conservation of Bio-Mass concept uses techniques designed to prevent destruction of native vegetation on sensitive environmental sites scheduled for excavation. Safe Harbor worked with Kevin Rose Excavation of Wellfleet to carefully remove Indigenous groundcover along with 18 inches of soil beneath it. The materials were stored for several months on site, on a tarp and watered regularly. This update illustrates the techniques for returning the bio mass and geo mass to a new location on site. More information will be posted on our web site, on the Images page.



Thin layer of native compost is spread over jute netting.

*Continued.*

## UPDATE (cont.)



Gentle use of mechanized equipment is required.



Kevin Rose of Wellfleet places living bio mass carefully on target.



This section of hog cranberry (bear berry), maintained with bio mass and geo mass intact, will have an excellent chance of survival.

## REPLACING LOST ICE WITH WHITE ROOFS.

1998 was the warmest year in instrumental record and probably the warmest in 1,000 years according to tree ring and ice core data. 2002 was the second warmest. The Earth's 11 warmest years in instrumental record have all occurred since 1990. The past half century has been the warmest in 6,000 years. **It is now within approximately 1 degree C of the maximum temperature for the past million years** (according to Hansen, et al., PNAS, 103, 14288-14293 (2006)).

This temperature increase is evident in the Earth's disturbing loss of ice cover. **Less ice means less energy reflected back into space and more energy absorbed by the Earth.** Short wave length energy from the sun enters the atmosphere in the form of light. Light is reflected back into space by ice or absorbed. Absorbed, short wave light energy becomes long wave length heat energy. This long wave heat energy is trapped by the same atmosphere that allows short wave light energy to pass freely in either direction. This is known as the greenhouse effect.

Safe Harbor is advocating for the development and use of white roofing and roadway materials. White roofs and roadways, used worldwide, could replace some of the reflectivity of the Earth's lost ice.

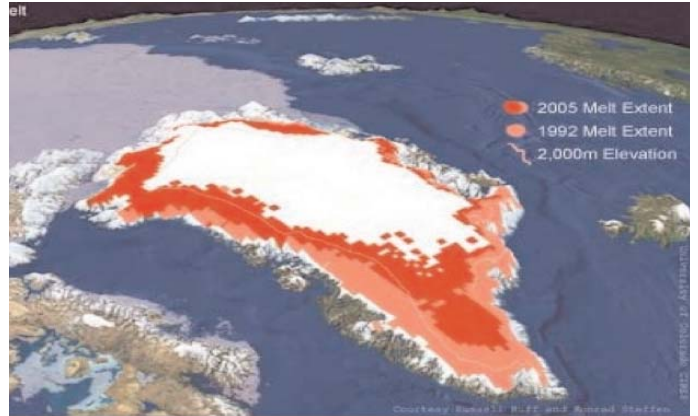


Photo courtesy of NOAA.

## PROTECTING RIGHT WHALES BY USING SATELLITES TO LISTEN TO THEM

ListenforWhales.org represents a unique web site that uses underwater bouys to listen for North Atlantic Right Whale sounds near Cape Cod shipping lanes. The data is then transmitted by satellite to this web site and made available to ship captains transiting Cape Cod waters. Ship strike fatalities are a major threat to the remaining 350 North Atlantic Right Whales.



Thank you to Whitney Ward, the inspired creator of OCEAN's formatting and layout. Originally from Perth, Australia, Whitney has spent the past several years living in Boston, Massachusetts. Next month she will take up residence in London and will continue sharing her technical and creative skills with OCEAN.

Email: [doppiavu@yahoo.com](mailto:doppiavu@yahoo.com)