



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.

HISTORIC MOMENT FOR SALT MARSH RESTORATION

Following two and a half years of meetings, which would sometimes last for eight hours, The Herring River Technical Committee had two pieces of good news for the four mile long, 1200 acre Herring River Estuary in Wellfleet on Cape Cod. First, the completion of the Conceptual Restoration Plan (CRP), which contained the technical information and options necessary for restoration planning. Secondly and more importantly, the towns of Truro and Wellfleet, along with the Cape Cod National Seashore, signed a Memorandum of Understanding agreeing to work together towards a proposed restoration. More information is available on our web site or the Town of Wellfleet web site.

OCEAN 2007 ENVIRONMENTAL INVENTION AWARDS

Our 2007 Awards are being presented for inventions we believe will play a significant role in the future of our sustainable resources. Vertical axis wind turbines (VAT) are a fast rising sustainable energy source. They have smoother profiles, are quieter and offer a bird friendly alternative to horizontal axis propeller turbines. OCEAN is proud to recognize two exceptionally visionary developments in VATs.

The **MAG-WIND** is a magnetically levitated VAT that can be installed on a sloped roof and actually gains a 200% efficiency because of increased wind blowing up the roof. <http://mag-wind.com/>



The **MAX WATER** system, developed by **Dr. Max Wesson** in Australia may represent the greatest achievement in natural resource utilization. This VAT system generates electricity and produces water. The water is collected from air vapor through a patented process. <http://www.waterunlimited.com.au/>



SCALLOPING INVENTION

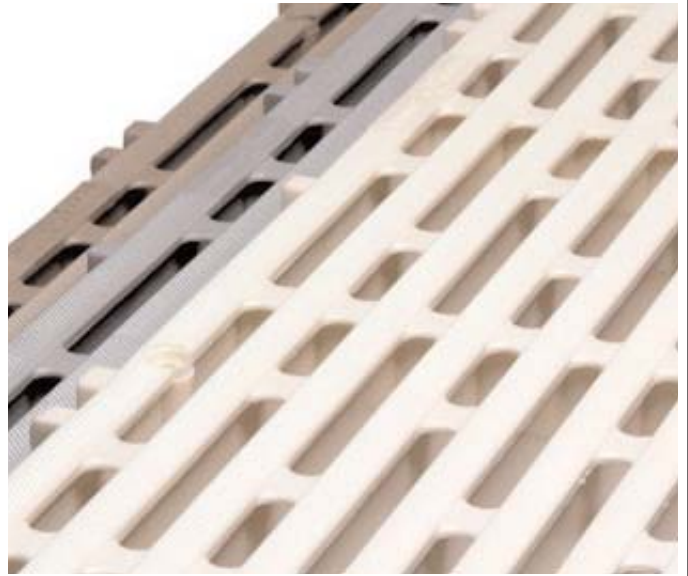
This UNLIKELY DEVICE may be an invention that could revolutionize the Sea Scallop fishery. The current method of scalloping utilizes a heavy metal rake that is dragged across the sea floor. Provincetown diver **Paul Tasha** noticed the habitat impacts and also noticed how scallops responded to changes in water pressure by swimming up off the bottom. Using rubber wheels to move gently over the bottom and metal fins to create water agitation, a net bag collects the scallops as they swim up off the bottom. Paul has signed over development rights to the state of Massachusetts.



THRU FLOW DECKING

Thru Flow decking may provide a welcome option to a common coastal construction conflict. Conservation Commissions are reluctant to approve decking in sensitive coastal areas because of impacts to stabilizing vegetation. Thru Flow allows vegetation to grow and also reduces wind scour around buildings by providing pressure relief from winds blowing beneath the deck.

Shepley Wood Products has told us they would carry this product and Jeff Rogers of Conwell Green Building Supplies has told us he could order this. Contact jrogers@negreen.com or view <http://www.shepleywood.com/>.



SEA TURTLES

Cape Cod beachcombers need to be on the alert for cold stunned sea turtles this time of year. This photo was taken by Nicole Friedenfields, a volunteer with Audubon's Massachusetts Bay Wildlife Sanctuary's turtle stranding network. Nicole also works with Safe Harbor. Do not handle turtles. Cover them with seaweed and place a marker on the sand. Call (508) 237-3724. Cynthia Franklin is the volunteer coordinator.





STAR FISH

Another unexpected visitor showed up at Head of the Meadow Beach on Cape Cod. This cold water starfish also has a habitat listed to the North of Cape Cod.



MYSTERY FISH IDENTIFIED

This mystery fish we reported on has been identified as a juvenile snapper, possibly from the Carolinas. It appeared as by catch in a lobster trap off Head of the Meadow Beach on Cape Cod. Confirming DNA testing is currently being done by Dr. Karsten Hartel in the Ichthyology Department at the Harvard Museum of Comparative Zoology.

RECORDED HABITAT OF TOAD CRABS

We reported on this summer's unusual appearance of Toad Crabs in lobster pots off of Head of the Meadow Beach on Cape Cod. This diagram shows their recorded habitat. We have filed an invasive species report with specialists at MIT who are researching invasive marine organisms.

