

WHY ARE WE TALKING ABOUT WASTEWATER NOW?

The Town is being significantly affected by nitrogen pollution, so we are continuously considering our options on how best to solve the problem. To put the community in position to address the issue in an appropriate, cost-effective manner there are few reasons it is important for us to update our plans now and make decisions on how we want to proceed.

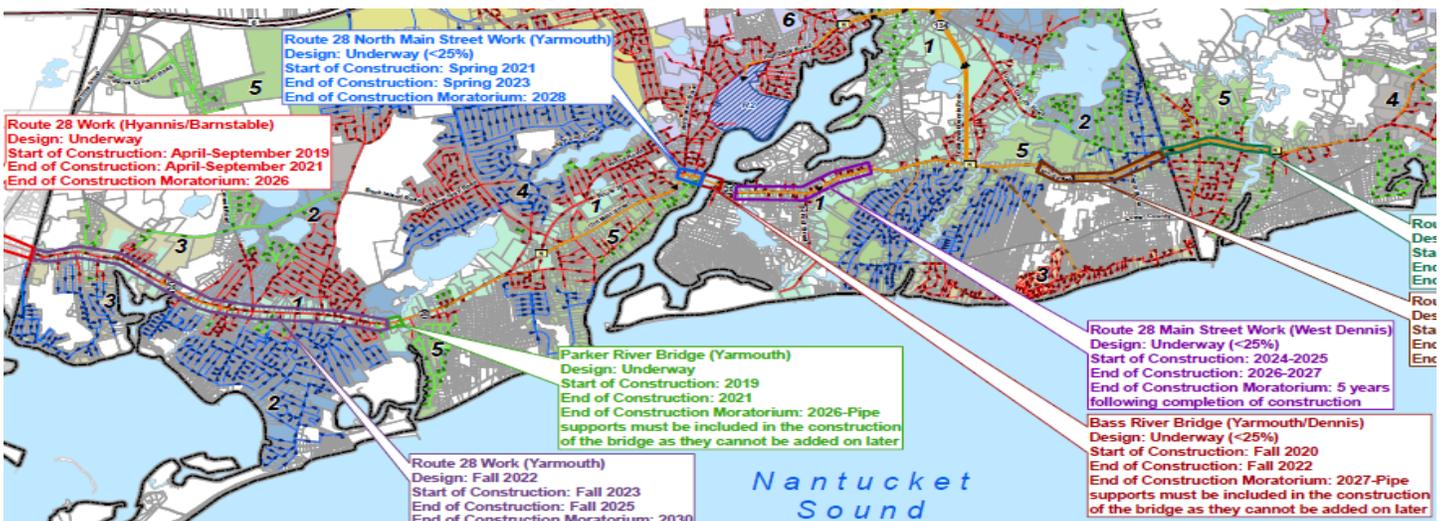


1. WE NEED TO UPDATE OUR PLAN

The Town has a legal, and regulatory requirement to periodically update our wastewater plans. Our next update is due in June, 2019. While developing the plan and describing how we will implement and pay for the plan demonstrate important progress, we will be required to show that we are taking concrete actions.

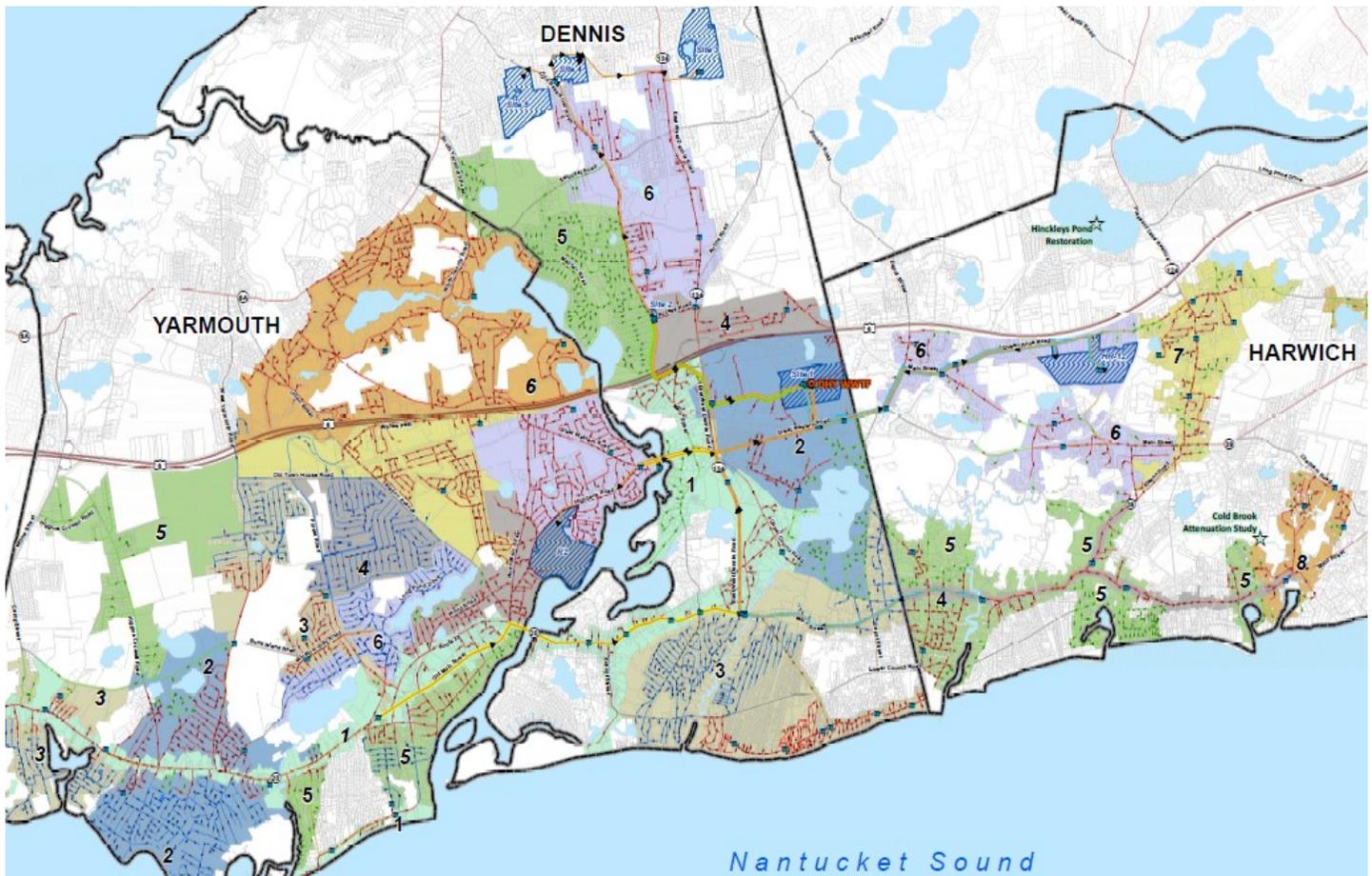
2. TO BE READY FOR ROAD WORK

Route 28 is a State highway and there are at least 4 road projects in the planning phase. Coordinating our work with the state will save between \$3 and \$5 million dollars on the project. However, more importantly, there is a 5 year moratorium on digging up the road after completing a road project. Since our plan relies on Route 28, not coordinating our work with state road work will mean we will have to wait until after the year 2030 - the earliest date the moratorium will be over. This will add significant costs and lead to many lost opportunities for our Town.



3. TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF REGIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

The Town is exploring partnerships with other communities in order to meet our needs and lower costs. Yarmouth, Dennis & Harwich are exploring a 3 town partnership to see if it makes sense to build and operate one combined plant, instead of 3—one for each town. We are also exploring opportunities to partner with Barnstable to address the critical nitrogen problem in Lewis Bay. In order to take advantage of these opportunities, we need to align the timing of our plans so they integrate with those of our potential partners. Barnstable, Dennis, & Harwich have been cooperative in adjusting their plans to meet the needs of Yarmouth. Yarmouth will soon have to make a decision about participating in these regional partnerships, building a collection system in coordination with Route 28 road work, or waiting many years to even get started. With the threat of litigation by environmental groups or regulatory demands, the cost of doing nothing does not seem prudent.



So, Why are we ramping up our wastewater efforts?

- To meet our regulatory requirements and avoid regulatory or legal actions.
- To save significant cost and implementation time by coordinating Route 28 road work with State projects.
- Have the opportunity to save costs by participating in a regional partnership with Dennis & Harwich.
- Have the opportunity to save costs by combining resources with Barnstable, where appropriate.

QUESTIONS?

Visit our webpage: <https://www.yarmouth.ma.us/1754/Water-Resources> for information, meeting minutes and materials, link to our YouTube Channel for videos.

Contact: Rich Bienvenue at 508-398-2231 xt. 1297 or via email at rbienvenue@yarmouth.ma.us

Visit the website or text yarmouthwater to 22828 to sign-up for email updates