

Grants help towns with wastewater projects

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The Cape Cod Water Protection Collaborative has awarded \$159,000 in grants to two Cape towns and the Alliance for Pleasant Bay.

The grants are the first of their kind to be released under the auspices of the Cape-wide group, said Andrew Gottlieb, interim executive director.

The county agency was formed in 2005 to create a regional wastewater plan and secure state and federal money to fund the multi-billion dollar wastewater problem facing the Cape.

The grant money is from Barnstable County funds and represents unused balances from prior wastewater projects, Gottlieb said.

The collaborative will give Falmouth \$34,275 to work with Mashpee on an evaluation of wastewater disposal sites. A \$48,900 grant will go to Orleans to help the town quantify potential savings from regional wastewater treatment and disposal facilities.

A pair of grants will go to the Pleasant Bay group, which includes the towns of Chatham, Orleans, Brewster and Harwich. One grant is for \$40,000 to develop a fertilizer management strategy and another is for \$35,000 to study the restoration of Muddy Creek.

For more information on the projects, go to www.barnstablecounty.org/bbwastewater.htm.

— PATRICK CASSIDY