DROUGHT EMERGENCY WATER RESTRICTIONS

Fishers Island Water Works Corp
July 2016: For immediate distribution via email and FishersIsland.net/Fog Horn
Notice to the Fishers Island Community

Fishers Island is in a moderate drought with a very limited water supply. At the recommendation of the New York State Department of Health, we are imposing the following restrictions:

- Irrigation of lawns, gardens and plantings is restricted to one day a week.
- Refilling or topping up swimming pools of any kind is prohibited.
- Please defer other exterior uses of water such as washing cars or house windows.
- Please report any leaks in water supply mains by calling Chad Mrowka at (631) 788-7422. Of course, please deal promptly with leaking taps or other plumbing in your house.

The primary water source for Fishers Island is a network of aquifers that are accessed by our 2 wells in the Middle Farms area. Our secondary source, Barlow Pond, is used during the summer months to supplement the production from these wells. We are working to maximize our use of the pond without depleting it. The irrigation restrictions are a critical part of this effort.

Recently, production from our wells has dropped significantly, necessitating greater reliance on Barlow Pond in peak season. Earlier efforts to recondition the wells were not successful, so our efforts have shifted and we are now working to rehabilitate the 2 producing wells and renew production from an idle third well before the end of this year.

Additional information on measures we are taking to improve water supply will follow soon. We will issue a notice when these restrictions have been lifted. We greatly appreciate everyone’s concern and cooperation.

Chad Mrowka, Superintendent, Fishers Island Water Corporation
A SAILING STORY: THE TRUTH ABOUT FISHERS ISLAND

by Daniel Harding Jr.  
(www.asailingstory.com)

The local residents of Fishers Island, New York have an online reputation for keeping to themselves and treating tourists like flesh-eating vultures. So it came as a surprise when, just moments after tying our dinghy up to Pirates Cove Marina, a woman walking by turned to Karen and I and asked, “Do you two need a ride anywhere? I’m heading across town.” I guess, just maybe, not everything you read on the Internet is true [gasp!].

We declined the kind offer and set out to explore the island on foot. How’d she even know we were visitors? You have to let everyone know you’re a tourist, I told Karen as I adjusted my large Canon camera around my neck and the backpack on my back.

“Mhmm, yeah, I’m the tourist,” she replied.

As we wandered the quiet, wooded streets we came across a number of locals who all greeted us not just with the obligatory mumble and head nod, but with actual smiles and articulate greetings.

Another misconception about Fishers Island is that the population is made up of blue-blazer and bow tie wearing seniors. And while that demographic is represented, the island offers much more diversity. We found this to be especially true when we stumbled onto a beach on the west side of the island where (at least) a hundred young people threw back red solo cups and tossed frisbees.

“Well, that’s different,” Karen suggested.

The rest of our day would be filled with requisite cocktails and an alfresco cookout. Afterwards we’d take the dinghy into the Fishers Island Yacht Club and set out in search of ice cream. One rule we’d made up that challenged this time-honored tradition was that we couldn’t use our phones to look at a map. We’d have to actually explore the town the old fashioned way.

The summer sun was setting, casting long shadows onto the quiet streets. The well-manicured landscapes and colorful homes with wrap-around porches gave you the feeling that you travelled back in time. Furthering that illusion was a gang of boys and girls tearing through town on their bikes. When was the last time you actually saw kids enjoying a bike ride with other kids? It was a welcome sight.

On a hunch, we followed their general direction until we were all reunited at Toppers ice cream shop, a pet-friendly hot spot in town where all the local kids hung out. If you were to take the phones from their hands, the scene would look like something from a 60’s movie.

We’d spend the rest of the weekend kicking back on the beach, exploring the island’s other harbors and generally enjoying some R&R.

A swift, Sunday sail later and we were back in Essex and preparing for the week ahead back in the real world. It’s funny, I’ve probably passed Fishers Island from the water dozens of times, and because it didn’t have one of those popular destination names like Cutthunk, Shelter Island, or Block Island, I—and I suspect many boaters—never paid it much attention. It really is a gem hiding in plain sight.

So, if you’re looking to escape the world for a little while and slow things down on an island with small town charm to spare, a weekend on Fisher’s Island can be as refreshing as a cone of mint chip ice cream on a hot summer evening.

Just don’t tell the Internet.
ICB SUMMER BUSINESS

ICB Board Representatives: The ICB is pleased to present the following candidates for election as seasonal and year-round representatives to the Island Community Board. The candidates will be officially nominated by the Board at the ICB meeting on Friday, August 19, 2016, at 3:30-5:00 pm at the Community Center.

Seasonal Candidate: Willard Soper
Year-round Candidate: Meg Atkin
Year-round Candidate: Karl Eiriksson, Jr.
Year-round Candidate: Nate Malinowski

Candidate Bios can be found online at http://fishersisland.net/icb-presents-seasonal-year-round-representative-2016-candidates/ and are posted at the Community Center.

Voting to elect one representative for a three-year term starts on Monday, August 22 at 10:00 am, and will end at 5:00 pm on Monday, August 29. You may register to vote as an ICB member on line or at the Community Center.

REMINDER: Once you self-select and register as a seasonal or year-round community member you will vote for 1 candidate in your chosen category.

Please join us at the Community Center for our next meeting:
ICB Meeting – Open to the Public
Aug 19: 3:30-5, Conference Room, Community Center (FICC)

Tom O’Neil, ICB President, mail@charlesthomasoneil.com
Liz Burnham, ICB Secretary, ficommunityboard@gmail.com

Upcoming ICB Meetings:
Aug 22 – Aug 25, ICB Representative Election, FICC
Sept 19: 4:30-6, Conference Room, Community Center
Oct 8: 4:30-6, Multi-Purpose Room, Community Center

IPP & FIYC CARDBOARD REGATTA

This year’s Cardboard Boat Regatta was held the evening of July 11 at Dock Beach and is hosted annually by IPP and Fishers Island Junior Sailing. Everyone is welcome and fun was had by all again this year! Course: Starting on Dock beach and be the first one out to the floating dock (which is the finish line).
FROM MÉLIE’S GARDEN

I was so delighted to have Jeffrey Edwards, the General Manager of Race Rock Garden Co., agree to be interviewed this month about gardening. Jeff grew up on Fishers Island and graduated from the Fishers Island School. He first got interested in horticulture when at age fifteen he started working for Johnny Chestnut at Grey Gulls during the summer. He said his love of gardening started during that time. Jeff went to SUNY Delhi and majored for two years in landscape architecture. From there he went to SUNY – ESF, the college of Environmental Science and Forestry in Syracuse, NY for an additional two years. After graduating, he managed a large nursery and garden center in Springfield, MA. Jeff moved back to Fishers Island a few years later, after he was married and his first child was on the way. He worked as a caretaker for the Sorensen and Hanley families for a number of years and then joined Race Rock nineteen years ago.

I asked Jeff what was the most challenging thing about growing plants on Fishers Island and without hesitation, he said, “The wind”. He always takes that into consideration when designing a garden here. “I know from past experience, what will do well in different locations on the Island. You can grow certain things better in more protected areas – the more exposed your property has, the tougher the plant material needs to be.” He said he enjoys experimenting with plant combinations and loves doing research on their different care.

Jeff grows many plants from seed. One of his favorite seed sources is The Vermont Wildflower Farm Store in Charlotte, VT. This March, he planted seeds from there with children from the Union Chapel Church School. His son Benjamin was in the group along with Kristin and Anthony Toldo, Maddie Lusker and Bella and Griffin Harris. They planted the native wildflower seeds in March and as the seeds grew in the Race Rock greenhouse, the children kept track of their progress. They made notes on which seeds germinated fastest and how the different varieties grew. The hardened off seedlings were sold at the Union Chapel’s Memorial Day Weekend Fair. Jeff likes to experiment with different plants and seeds that he has read about in the many horticultural magazines he studies throughout the year. He always grows different types of tomatoes and zinnias, which are not usually found in the commercial market, to sell at the Race Rock nursery in the late spring. This year one of the favorite plants he grew was “Tithonia” a Mexican Sunflower.

I asked Jeff if he has suggestions of what to grow in containers and he said he likes to surprise people by planting bulbs in with annuals. He puts small pots together to see how the plant combinations work. If it is pleasing to his eye, he writes down the ideas for planters the following year. He says he often treats Dahlia tubers as annuals, especially if he doesn’t have time to dig them up and store them after the first frost. He said it was surprising how many tubers sometimes survive the winter in the ground and grow the following year. However, each season is different and this year many hardier late flowering plants like hydrangea, crape myrtle, vitex and buddleia have not bloomed and in some cases have even died due to a warm spell this spring. They started to put out buds too early and unfortunately they were killed by an unusually severe cold snap in May. So weather can always be unpredictable for plants.

My next question was about how to deal with garden pests. He answered that rabbits often nibble at new plantings and it doesn’t seem to matter what they are – he has known rabbits to even eat young daylilies. But he has found that if you put fencing around the new plant for the first year or two, the rabbits will leave the plant alone. After it has become established and you can remove the fencing. It also helps to plant nepeta (cat mint) or lavender nearby, “because rabbits really do not like the smell of those plants and they also seem to dislike the taste of sedums”. Luckily, Fishers Island doesn’t have much of a problem with deer. They swim over but don’t seem to stay long to do much damage.

Finally, I asked Jeff what was his favorite gardening tool and he took a small spade out of his truck that is pictured here with him. He says he couldn’t live without it. In parting, I said, “Is there any bit of advice you would like to pass along to other gardeners?” He quickly said, “Don’t be afraid to experiment with plants – the worse that can happen is that it doesn’t live or look good. You can dig it up, get rid of it, and try something else!”

FROM MÉLIE’S GARDEN
IN MEMORIAM: PAUL EVANS

Paul Evans passed on July 2, 2016 after a long struggle with complications from diabetes. He had just survived a bypass surgery and was hoping to finally spend a holiday at home on the island, but his heart had had enough.

Paul was born and raised in New York City. He attended Buckley School, Lawrenceville School, and Boston University. After college, Paul finagled a dream trip with Semester at Sea, a floating academic trip around the world. He then settled in NYC for a career in retail brokerage, and later moved to Fishers Island to work at the Oyster Farm, Brooks Systems, Fishers Waste Management, and bartend at the American Legion. He is survived by 5 siblings, 14 nieces and nephews, and 9 grand nieces and nephews, whose birthdays he never forgot.

In all endeavors and places, Paul always managed to attract a group of good friends. While undeniably stubborn and opinionated, he had many qualities that made him interesting and fun. His wit and humor was tinged with a mischief that on noted occasions led to memorable trouble.

Paul was no angel, but he was a good guy. His generosity was reflexive and natural. He was sometimes quirky and particular. His underwear had to be Brooks Brothers—his bathing suits, Lilly. Somehow it made sense when we found a pair of unused Lilly underwear—everything has limits!

Paul was mostly defined by his friends who were drawn to him. This was made abundantly clear when he faced the medical adversities of his illness—his friends rallied around. It made it possible for him to stay and live on Fishers Island. Though he never asked for help, it always managed to appear. Food, wood, transportation, medical help, and alternate living quarters appeared. The island he loved, loved him back.

Please come celebrate and share the life of our brother and friend. A memorial service will be held at the Union Chapel on Saturday, August 13 at 1:15 pm, followed by a reception at the Fishers Island American Legion Post 1045.

In lieu of flowers please consider a donation to the Fishers Island Library, PO Box 366 Fishers Island, NY 06390, or Island Health Project, PO Box 344, Fishers Island, NY 06390.

Museum Children’s Programs: Join us Wednesdays from 2:00-3:00 pm! August 10 Owl Prowl; August 17 Animal Senses; and August 24 Rocks and Minerals

The Lighthouse Works: Open Studios and Reading
11AM on Saturday, August 20
@ The Annex Studios

WEDDINGS

May 29, 2016
Matthew Rafferty and Corinna Hummel
in London, England

July 29, 2016
Kate Shillo and Nicholas Beardsley
on Fishers Island, NY

July 30, 2016
Daniel Strothe and Marcella Kelson
in Corvara, Italy
MEMPHIS, Tennessee – July 27, 2016 – Former president and longtime Ducks Unlimited volunteer leader Hazard Campbell died in Buffalo, N.Y., Wednesday. Campbell was 87 years old.

“An international ambassador for philanthropy, Hazard Campbell cut a path for future volunteer leaders of Ducks Unlimited to follow. He was more than just a great mentor to me, he was a hero for conservation,” said Mike Woodward, chairman of DU’s National Development Committee and Campbell’s longtime friend and hunting companion.

An ardent supporter of DU, Campbell was a great leader during his tenure with the organization, which began in 1956. Campbell was involved in almost every aspect of Ducks Unlimited. His early contributions to DU included service as western New York chairman, and as a national trustee. He also founded the first DU Canada (DUC) chapter in 1974.

Later, he served as DU Atlantic Flyway regional vice president, member of DU Canada’s board of directors and Atlantic Flyway senior vice president. He was also a member of Wetlands America Trust (WAT) and served as WAT president from 1991 to 1993. From 1986 to 1987 Hazard served as president of Ducks Unlimited Inc. and subsequently served as board chairman. Campbell also represented DU by delivering a speech at the U.S. Interior Department’s reception commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Federal Duck Stamp program in 1984, and attended a White House Rose Garden ceremony with President Ronald Regan.

Campbell most recently served as an emeritus trustee of Wetlands America Trust, the DU Inc. emeritus board, DUC board, and DUC Habitat and Conservation Committee. He was also on the board of directors of the Waterfowl Research Foundation, a private foundation that funds continental conservation work. Through all these efforts, he devoted thousands of hours to wetlands and waterfowl conservation.

“Hazard was a lifelong conservationist and a great friend of DU’s throughout his illustrious volunteer career with the organization,” said DU CEO Dale Hall. “His contributions to habitat restoration and waterfowl will forever be remembered and enjoyed by future generations.”

Campbell was the chairman of the Seymour H. Knox foundation and a lifelong member of the historic Turkey Point Company, one of the oldest duck hunting clubs in Canada.

Published by www.ducks.org July 28, 2016

The family requests if people would like to contribute to a cause near and dear to their father’s heart, it would be: Ducks Unlimited, Inc., Prairie Pot Holes Initiative, 1 Waterfowl Way, Memphis, TN 38120

OSPREY FLEDGLING COUNT

Ken Edwards with witnesses Genie Trevor and Liza Trevor, and with the assistance of Jim Reid and his drone camera, counted 28 osprey fledglings this July.

Additional thanks goes to the efforts of Race Rock Gardening Company, the Fishers Island Electric Company, and the Ferguson Museum.

“This was a banner year for our Fishers Island ospreys. This year the island has the most fledglings we have ever had,” Reported Ken Edwards.

BIRTH

May 3, 2016

Eloise Geddes Andrews

to Alex Parsons Andrews and Mark
CONSERVANCY OFFERS PROPERTY OWNERS ADVISE ON INVASIVE PLANTS  Adam Mitchell of the University of Delaware will be on Island from August 8th through the 16th and will be available to do private landowner property tours. The purpose of these tours will be to help individual landowners identify invasive plant species and help to develop an invasive plant species management plan. This is being offered free of charge by the Conservancy. If you have interest please contact Adam directly - cell: (302)-494-7529, or email: amit@udel.edu

HLF MUSEUM PROGRAMS Find all at http://fergusonmuseum.org/programs-exhibits/

THE COMING GREENWAVE: OCEAN FARMING IN THE ERA OF CLIMATE CHANGE
ILLUSTRATED LECTURE by Bren Smith, Sunday, August 14, 2016, 4:00-5:00

SEAGRASS MEADOWS MANAGEMENT AT FISHERS ISLAND
ILLUSTRATED LECTURE by Chantal Collier, Tuesday, August 16, 2016, 5:00-7:00

FAMILY AFLOAT: 8 YEARS VOYAGING AROUND THE WORLD & RAISING A FAMILY
ILLUSTRATED LECTURE by the crew from SailingTotem.com, Saturday, August 20, 2016, 4:00

THE RISE AND FALL OF HOTELS ON FISHERS ISLAND
ILLUSTRATED LECTURE by HLF Museum director Pierce Rafferty, Sunday, August 21, 2016, 4:00-5:00

IPPS AUGUST ARTS AND CRAFT FAIR
IPP is proud to sponsor the August Show on the Fishers Island Town Green. The show will take place from 9:00 AM until Noon on Saturday, August 13th. No pre-registration is necessary, as space is first come, first served. The fee for being a vendor at the fair is $5 for children and $20 for adult/commercial. All proceeds from registration go to benefit IPP. The fee will be collected the day of the fair.

CHECK OUT THE CLASSIFIEDS
Many job openings and items are listed on FishersIsland.net (in Classifieds at the top right). Full-time, seasonal and part-time opportunities are listed from a wide variety of companies and island organizations – for all ages. Please check them out and spread the word!
Blessing of the Pets
Sunday, August 7
5:30 pm
Bring your furry, feathered, and
scaled friends to the Village
Green where Rev. Spencer and
Rev. Whitman will greet them.

Fishers Island Ferry
District Commissioners
Election
August 9
2:00 pm-6:00 pm
FI Community Center

FI Community
Center’s
Island Café
Come on down for dinner
or breakfast
Steak, Lobster, clams, shrimp,
chicken, salads and more!

Library Book
Group
Thursday, August 11, 7-9pm
The Pirate Hunters
by Robert Kurson

Church @
Dock Beach
Sundays
Thru August 21
8:00-8:30

Fishers Island Photography
Libby Williams
Photo

Fishers Island Fog Horn
P.O. Box 464, Fishers Island, NY 06390

If you have something you would like posted on FishersIsland.net or in the Fog Horn - a story idea, an event 'save the date', have photos to share, suggestions or an interest in advertising, please contact Editor Jane Ahrens at (631) 788-7487 or finyinfo@gmail.com. Contact Sarah Porter to place an event on the Community Calendar at www.fishersisland.net/events/ at (631) 788-7683 or fishersislandevents@gmail.com.

The FI Library Presents:

August 9 @ 5:30:
Peter Brinckerhoff Nautical
Lecture Series with Charlie
Enright. Hear Charlie speak
about his experience in the
prestigious Volvo Ocean
Race and what he’s been up
to lately.

August 16 @ 4:30:
Whales, Whaling and
Whalers program
presented by Mystic
Seaport. Hear stories of life
at sea aboard a whaling ship
and see examples of tools
and documents of whalers!

August 23 – 4:15-5:15:
Stuffed Animal Sleepover
and Story Hour at the
Library. Join us for stories
and fun. Then tuck your
stuffed animal or doll in for
the night at the Library.

August 23 @ 5:30:
Author Roger Pasquier
talks of Painting Central
Park. Roger was born in
New York City and grew
up playing in Central Park.
Talk will take place at the
HLF Museum.