Marine and Fresh Water Quality Committee Charge

The Board of Selectmen is authorized to appoint a Marine and Fresh Water Quality Committee, charged with protecting the Town’s marine and fresh water resources by:

1. Monitoring the factors that impact the ecosystem health of Orleans marine and fresh waterbodies.

2. Recruiting and training a cadre of volunteers to conduct monitoring activities in accordance with established scientific procedures.

3. Maintaining, repairing and updating equipment used for water sampling.

4. Identifying problem areas, researching solutions, reviewing external reports, and recommending steps for remediation.

5. Providing technical information, data and field research to support the Town’s efforts to design and carry out master planning for wastewater and stormwater disposal in an ecologically sound manner.

6. Providing communications to BOS, town departments and committees to advocate for clean waterways and resolve issues.

7. Alerting the Town to outside funding opportunities.

8. Coordinating activities with Pleasant Bay Alliance, nearby towns, and local environmental non-profit organizations.

9. Providing liaison with consultants or contractors working on Town water quality issues, when requested.

10. Providing education and outreach to the Orleans public on the importance of improving water quality.

11. Maintaining a repository of water quality data.

The Town further authorizes the Board of Selectmen to appoint seven (7) persons to the Marine and Fresh Water Quality Committee. Members will serve three-year overlapping terms and be eligible for reappointment. The Committee will hold monthly meetings at Orleans Town Hall. Members are asked to actively contribute a minimum of 2-4 hours per month to the work of the Committee. The Committee will submit minutes of meetings to the Town Clerk within 30 days of each meeting and submit an annual report to the Town Administrator’s office by January 1 each year. No member of the Task Force Committee shall be an employee of the Town of
Orleans but the appointed body shall be authorized to call upon Town employees for information and recommendations for management of Orleans’ marine and fresh water resources subject to the order of the Town Administrator. **Future revisions to this charge will not have to be approved by Town Meeting but instead may be made by vote of the Board of Selectmen.**

Approved ATM 5/8/2017