



The MPD Tide

October 2025



Mattituck Park District's Monthly Newsletter

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Commissioners' Corner - Bailie Beach Update

Recent storms have caused significant additional damage to the coastline along Bailie Beach. The Army Core of Engineers (ACOE) has rescheduled dredging the Mattituck Inlet and providing sand replenishment at Bailie Beach to October 2026. This unfortunate delay leaves Bailie Beach further exposed to dangerous conditions and accelerated erosion.

The planned project for October 2026 also falls far short of what is necessary to offset the impact of the inlet jetties on the depletion of sand at Bailie Beach. The ACOE's own documentation states that it is necessary to replenish approximately 100,000 cubic yards of sand every 7-10 years. The last time this was done was in 2014.

In order to proceed with replenishment of sand the ACOE has determined that they require a new Section 111 Study in order to proceed. This study must be initiated by some non-Federal agency. We are working with our elected officials and community leaders to request the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation to provide funding for such a study. Letters of support have been

received from Town, County, State and Federal offices. The Mattituck Parks Commissioners remain united in our efforts to do everything we can to protect and preserve our beautiful Bailie Beach.

October Recap

We continued our Bailie Beach advocacy. After the nor'easter in mid-October, we sent the DEC a follow up letter renewing our Section 111 funding request with photos of the storm damage. Meanwhile, Chairman Byrne participated in the Mattituck Laurel Civic Association's panel on Bailie Beach. Senator Palumbo and his staff, and staff from Congressman LaLota's office and Assemblyman Schiavoni's office attended the event and took questions. Local media covered it well.

At the Bay Ave pollinator meadow, we planted six trees and did a major weeding job. The new trees are pairs of sweet bay magnolia, eastern redbuds, and American fringe. Two were donated, and we'll put up honorary plaques with those. Later this fall we'll plant bulbs and more seeds. Spring will be spectacular!

From the Clerk

Attention Kayak and Paddleboard Slip Renters

Veterans Day, Nov. 11, is the last day to remove your water-craft from the rental racks. Please help us by taking your craft home.

Help Wanted

The MPD is looking to hire a part-time Recording Secretary with a start date of 1 January 2026. Please click on the button below for more information.

Veteran Widows and Widowers

The Mattituck Park District offers an annual beach permit gratis to qualified Mattituck and Laurel veterans and service members for life. The MPD has expanded the program to widows and widowers of qualified veterans and service members.

High School Senior Service Day

The seniors did a fantastic job! The weather was windy, but they worked hard despite it, collecting approximately 250lbs of marine debris: 88lbs in buckets and the rest was large bulk items. This activity was led by Mickey from AMSEAS. They broke for lunch, and the MPD provided coffee and donuts. After lunch, the students worked on a human-sized osprey nest, an educational driftwood sculpture, built an understanding of osprey biology and behavior with Kris Melvin of Turtleback Conservation Center. We hope they had fun and learned along the way. Mr Capolongo from Mattituck High worked beside them. Terrific crew!



Mattituck & Laurel Residents

Any event that you hold at one of our venues from November 1 through February 28 will be discounted by 25%. Please email clerk@mattituckparks.gov with questions. We continue to take reservations for 2026 events.



Facilities Update: A Community Comes Together

Nor’easters, like the one that came ashore on October 12th and 13th, are always a challenge for the facilities crew. While this storm was relatively mild, it still required the crew to regularly check on conditions throughout our parks. On Sunday and Monday, we patrolled the entire district looking for downed tree limbs, debris, flooding conditions, and planning for cleanup.

Our Bay side properties only experienced above average tides and some minor debris washing up at Veterans Beach and Peconic Bay Park. The Sound beaches were another story.

At Breakwater large amounts of garbage and debris came ashore, everything from half of a large floating dock to a bucket of cut flowers. Bailies saw a similar collection of debris. Normally this would be a long, drawn out cleanup. Our limited facilities staff can only cover so much ground in a day, but this year the community really stepped in to help.

Jen Murray of Turtle Back Conservation had already teamed up with the Atlantic Marine Conservation Society and Mattituck High School Seniors for Senior Day of Service for a project at Breakwater, they quickly pivoted into cleanup mode. While the Facilities crew cut up large debris, they removed over 500 pounds of garbage and debris from park district and the adjacent town property. With close to 20 volunteers working for 4 hours they accomplished in half a day what would take us a couple weeks.

The Mattituck High School Interact Club had planned on a Breakwater Cleanup for October 18th, but instead headed to Bailies Beach. With over a dozen students they bagged and dragged an entire truckload of garbage and debris off of the beach.

The following day, Jen Murray brought a group of volunteers to replace and repair snow fence along the dunes at Bailie Beach ahead of a major beach grass planting initiative.

We thank all the volunteers that regularly assist in keeping our parks safe and clean.



Photo by Jennifer Murray



Photo by Ben Heins

Bailie Beach Needs Your Help!

The powerful nor’easter of October 12–13 caused severe erosion at Bailie Beach, washing away much of the dune that had been carefully restored between 2022 and 2024. The storm’s surge breached the dune and pushed into the blowout area, which was still undergoing stabilization and repair. This setback highlights how vulnerable Bailie Beach remains—and how essential our stewardship efforts are. We are however very lucky that the storm was not worse and did not cause a catastrophic breach of the Mattituck Inlet.

We now have an urgent call to action to rebuild and protect what was lost. Volunteers are needed throughout October and November to help reinstall snow fencing and reinforce the dune system before winter storms arrive. Every pair of hands makes a difference in preserving this vital natural barrier that shelters threatened wildlife species, protects Mattituck Creek, and keeps Bailie Beach resilient.

Join the Mattituck Park District and the Turtleback Conservation Center to become a Steward of Bailie Beach. Together, we can help restore the damage from a severely degraded shoreline and preserve what is left of a vital ecosystem which is hanging by a thread.

Sign up below to volunteer and be part of this crucial coastal restoration effort!

Commissioner Election and Holiday Movie

Thursday, November 20 from 3–8pm is our annual Commissioner Election. Current Commissioner Denise Geis is running for reelection, unopposed. As the petitioning period is over, anyone else who would like to run would have to stage a write-in campaign. At 6 pm on the same night the Commissioners will hold their November Meeting. All of these activities will be at Veterans Beach.

Because our second summer movie was essentially a washout, we’re kicking off the holiday season by showing the classic Home Alone on November 15 at 7 pm. Join us! We’re bringing the popcorn, and Magic Fountain is donating treats.



Photos by Kristin Curtin

Good to Know

The Commissioners hold a Work Session and a Meeting every month, and occasionally a Special Meeting. In November, the Work Session will be on Thursday November 6 at 6PM. The Meeting will be on Thursday November 20 at 6 pm. The election for Commissioner is the same day from 3-8PM. Agendas are posted on our website in advance. You are welcome and encouraged to attend the meetings.

Click on the Facebook and Instagram icons to follow us on social media. If you received this newsletter from a neighbor or friend, please click on the button below to subscribe.

Mark Your Calendar

November 2	Dias de los Muertos Cultural & Environmental Family Afternoon 1PM Bailie Beach
November 15	Holiday Movie Home Alone 1 at Vets 7PM
November 19	MHS Biography Lecture: Hamilton at Vets 6PM
November 20	Commissioner Election 3-8PM
December 13	Santa Comes to Vets at 12 Noon
December 14	Chanukah Celebration at Vets 4.30PM
December 15	NY Blood Center Blood Drive Noon- 6PM at Vets
December 17	MHS Biography Lecture: Washington at Vets 6PM

