

January 2024 Issue # 1



Old Lyme Shores Beach Association

Welcome to the Old Lyme Shores
Beach Association Quarterly



Newsletter Issue # 1

Produced by: Old Lyme Shores Board of Governors, Officers,
WPCA Governors and Officers, with support from Homeowners

WHAT'S NEW

TAKE A LOOK INSIDE

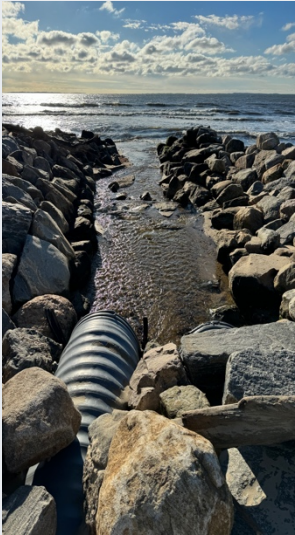
- 2024 WINTER STORMS
- BEACH MANAGEMENT
- PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
- COMMITTEE UPDATE
- NEW COMMUNITY MEMBERS
- OLSBA OFFICERS, BOG & WPCA MEMBERS
- WPCA UPDATE

2024 WINTER STORMS



Happy New Year! With the end of 2023 and the beginning of the new year we're now seeing a steady march of El Nino, Polar Vortex's, Bomb Cyclones storms heading across the country and ending up in New England. With the last few years being quiet, we might have anticipated 2024 could be a change from the quiet winters of the not-too-distant past. Having said that, it's good to know that most of the damaged street/stop signs have been repaired and erected with new pressure treated 6x6s, steel plates, screws and compacted in the ground with stones.

A big thanks to Paul Yellen, John Mandracchia and Gregory Symon for their efforts to repair/replace signage, but also saving the community thousands of dollars in new sign replacements.



STORMS HAVE PUSHED SAND UP & OVER THE SEA WALLS. YOUR GOVERNORS/OFFICERS QUICKLY SECURED A CONTRACTOR TO MOVE THE SAND AWAY FROM THE WALLS AND PUSH IT BACK TOWARDS THE LOW TIDE MARK.

**JANUARY 2024
BEACH UPDATES:
>Paul Yellen**

This winter has been challenging when it comes to maintaining our beach. Early January brought in a severe storm that pushed beach sand over the top of the seawall at the end of Sea Spray and onto some front yards. Normally these storms don't arrive until mid to late winter and our resident beach expert, George Finley, says he has never seen conditions like this so early in the year.

The BOG was proactive in authorizing the engagement of a contractor to do preventative work to help mitigate future sand movement off the beach. A 6' high berm was created at the high tide mark at the end of Sea Spray and sand was pushed back along the beach toward Saltaire. These actions lowered the level of the sand at Sea Spray approximately 3'.

Another storm last weekend showed that the berm did not perform as well as expected when we witnessed the sand being pushed back over some portions of the seawall, and the water from the Sound at high tide being pushed over the seawall down onto Sea Spray and flowing to the lower part of Saltaire. There was yard flooding as far up as 59 Sea Spray. Several other beaches created berms as well and we have learned that they were not successful in keeping the water and sand from spreading off the beach.

Storms are an inevitable way of life here at the beach, with sand movement and flooding occurring despite mitigation actions that are taken. It is terrible to have storm damage affect one's property, but the Association cannot control or be responsible. We have consulted with and plan to have our contractor take additional mitigation steps which may involve the contractor pushing sand further down towards the water and pushing sand from the Sea Spray area of the beach towards the Billow area of the beach. We hope that nature cooperates so we will not even need to evaluate whether these steps did the job as intended.

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:
>Diane Duhaime**

It is great to have this opportunity to welcome in the New Year, and this new newsletter. And to give an especially warm welcome to our new members of Old Lyme Shores. Your board and officers have been working overtime on various projects, including the development of this newsletter which seeks to keep everyone informed of beach happenings year-round – including during the off season when most members are not at the beach. The board is pleased to announce that it plans to give all members an opportunity to become involved with the OLS community through a variety of committees, including:

Beach Committee
Communications Committee
Entertainment Committee
Finance Committee
Infrastructure Committee

Parliamentarian Committee
Service Manual Committee
Voting Operations Committee
Welcome and Directory Committee

I am sure we have many members who would like to contribute their time and talents to maintaining and improving our beautiful beach community but are not sure how to go about doing do. A good way to learn about the activities of these committees and how to become involved is to attend the board and association meetings whenever possible.

The meeting schedule is published at [OLSBA-2024-Meeting-Schedule-BOG-WPCAv2.docx \(live.com\)](#).

In addition, you may wish to send an email to governance@oldlymeshores.org describing your interest in volunteering.

Diane Duhaime,
President, OLSBA

Welcome New Members

Patti and Jerry Vande Werken – 35 Sea Spray

Please send an email to governance@oldlymeshores.org if you are or know of a new member who has not yet been welcomed to OLS.

BOG Officers/Governors:

Officers

Diane Duhaime	President
Paul Yellen	Vice President
Joanne Gilland	Secretary
Norm Yester	Treasurer

Board of Governors

John Mandracchia
Jay Moynihan
MaryKate Reynolds
Scott Rottinghaus
Kathi Stickley
Gregory Symon

WPCA UPDATE:

Water Pollution Control Authority

Members/Officers: >Dede
DeRosa

Al Roy	Chairman
Gregory Symon	Vice-Chairman
Dede DeRosa	Secretary
John Cunningham	Treasurer
Diane Duhaime	ex-officio
Paul Graml	
Sue Mahoney	
Bob Palazzo	

Contact us at: governance@oldlymeshores.org

After an almost three year “pause”, the WPCA has been in active discussions with our partner beach communities, the Town of Old Lyme, and the State of Connecticut to secure the additional funding needed to make the sewer project financially viable.

Most recently, DEEP, the WPCA Board and the Board of Governors have agreed to extend the contracted project start date of March 31, 2024, an additional twelve to eighteen months to allow time to obtain updated construction bids and complete financial due diligence. There is an enormous amount of work ahead of us and the WPCA is committed to increasing its communication efforts this year to keep OLS residents fully informed on the project status. Attendance at the monthly WPCA meetings is encouraged. The next regular meeting is scheduled for February 20th, 2024, at 7pm via Zoom.

And finally, a big thanks for reading our 1st Quarterly Newsletter. Over time we will incorporate additional OLSBA information, keeping you abreast of the latest happenings in your community. Please also look for information on our website (www.oldlymeshores.org) and social media postings (Facebook, Instagram, etc.)