



October 22, 2013

Fast Facts:

- As part of the Buzzards Bay Main Street revitalization, the town has exciting plans to utilize Buzzards Bay Park year round for local residents and visitors. These plans include Memorial garden area, new lights, underground irrigation, playground equipment, and a boardwalk to the Canal.
- Two years ago, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers completed an important upgrade of paving the canal parking lot giving the area more parking spaces. While we applauded this project, the park was reduced in size by 20%.
- The cost to build the infrastructure at Buzzards Bay Park include Big Tents, food booths, kitchen set up, electrical, plumbing, and smaller tents that exceed \$100,000 before we open.
- The Fest has outgrown the park as it stands now. With the projected park improvements, there will no longer be adequate space to house the Fest.
- Underground irrigation would not allow any large tents to be constructed.
- The Chamber assumes all the risk & liability with the Big Tents, which have become public safety issues many times in the past with bad weather.
- Flooding has occurred on many occasions inside the kitchen and craft tent requiring pump outs from the Fire Department and bringing in bales of hay to minimize the flooding. Bad weather seriously affects the Big Tents, including high risk & liability.
- The Cape Cod Fairgrounds has numerous buildings of all sizes and shapes, including a band shell, restroom buildings, and adequate parking for patrons and volunteers.
- The Cape Cod Canal Region Chamber is a non-profit organization with over 700 business members in Bourne, Sandwich, Wareham, Cape Cod, and Southeastern Massachusetts.
- Revenue from Fest helps pay for scholarship funds for 4 area schools, food pantries, Bourne Council on Aging, and 2 visitor centers that serve as public amenities for traveling motorists.

We are a non-profit organization that has to operate similar to a small business. The Scallop Fest will continue to be a community event at heart, with the best interests of the Canal region towns in mind. We remain committed to having a large number of local businesses at the Scallop Fest, and will continue to give back to the communities we represent in a much bigger way with the continued growth of the Scallop Fest.