

## Where Will Walsh Wastewater Go? A Resident Raises Alarm

March 9, 2026

Dear Editor,

The recent Select Board memo “Water planning for Walsh and Beyond “and the GHD study it relies on, identifies Truro Central School as the site for a wastewater treatment plant for a Walsh development.

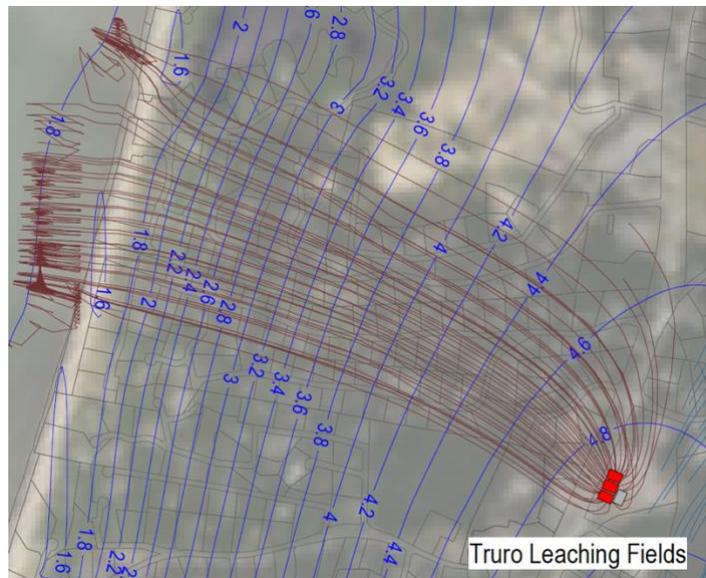
GHD’s analysis is driven by ensuring that Walsh wastewater doesn’t flow back to Walsh and contaminate Provincetown’s Wells.

No such concern was given for private wells of nearby Truro residents.

That is made all too clear by GHD’s wastewater Flow Diagram. (see picture)

It is unmistakable *whose wells will* receive this wastewater: Existing residents and beaches west of Walsh—areas outside of our Watershed Management Plan and any protections provided.

Even with a modern I/A system, such massive quantities of wastewater will dump significant amounts of nitrogen into our groundwater. And not just nitrogen: bacteria, household products, norovirus, pharmaceuticals, and PFAS will flow towards our wells and our beaches.



This is a significant, long-term, and potentially dangerous source of pollution.

These numbers don’t include commercial waste allowed under Walsh zoning like restaurants, repair shops, manufacturing, or the Town Planner’s recent proposal to locate a regional Aquatic and Athletic Center with 120 car parking lot at the Walsh site.

*It is not ok to dump this wastewater into our drinking water and our beaches.*

Was this the vision of voters who supported a Walsh development?

Is this the Board of Health’s vision for protecting our drinking water and our bay?

The Select Board needs to find another way. In the meantime, our community needs and deserves answers on critical foundational questions.

1. If Truro is marching in the expensive footsteps of Wellfleet and Eastham, what is the plan for future municipal water supply and wastewater disposal?

2. Where will Truro access abundant and pristine water for future generations if not from Walsh?
3. How will Truro address, and pay for, future water needs for existing Truro residents whose water quality is at risk due to Town actions?

I recently spoke to the Select Board and hope they will schedule a public hearing to address these foundational concerns about short- and long-term water and wastewater plans before any further steps are taken.

Laurie Lee, Truro