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Sustainable CAPE's Truro Agricultural Fair Takes Year Off in 2014

After five years of growth, the Truro Agricultural Fair will take a sabbatical in 2014 and return on September 6th, 2015. Since inception in 2009 for Truro's Tercentennial, the popular community event has promoted a broader appreciation of Cape Cod's agriculture, aquaculture, fishing and farming.

"Sustainable CAPE's mission is to demonstrate the direct link between local food, sustainable health and wellness, and the importance of preserving the fragile land and water resources that directly enable our local harvest. Our goal is to educate. We've decided to take a year off to re-imagine the Truro Ag Fair, our signature event, and more broadly and deeply fulfill that mission," explains Lori Meads, Sustainable CAPE Board member and Vice President of Seamen's Bank. "Sustainable energy alternatives, information about the preservation of our sole-source aquifer, and including more fishing and aquaculture education are some of the ideas we're pursuing."

Sustainable CAPE works year-round to create a deeply-rooted food system that is an incubator for replicable ideas. In addition to the Truro Ag Fair, Sustainable CAPE runs a Children's Community Garden Program, employs local farmers for Farm-to-School work at the Truro Central School, and coordinates the Truro Educational Farmers' Market,

"In the past 5 years our programs have injected over \$350,000 into the local food economy and our work has been written about in national blogs," says Francie Randolph, Founding Director of Sustainable CAPE. "We love the Truro Ag Fair and the community spirit and generosity it engenders. But bigger isn't always better – sometimes growth is about pruning, patience and nurturing deeper roots. We'll focus our energy on giving the Ag Fair room to grow in all the right ways."

This Labor Day weekend, Sustainable CAPE will continue to hold its community Farmers' Market on Monday, September 1st from 8am-12pm in Truro Center. Local bands will entertain. Sustainable CAPE will double SNAP card benefits so a \$10 debit will yield \$20 to spend at the market.

Meads explains, "We hope the whole community – all our past and current volunteers and sponsors and those who can't normally make a Monday market - will turn up to savor food, family and friendship. It will be a celebration of each other and our bounty. Next year we hope to welcome everyone's renewed volunteer spirit for a better-than-ever Ag Fair 2015!"

To get involved in the Truro Agriculture Fair, sponsor Sustainable CAPE's work, or to join the mailing list, visit SustainableCAPE.org.