

IDEAL CASES FOR PEACEMAKING

- Family-related disputes particularly those between spouses, parents and children, or extended families.
- Community-related disputes particularly those involving creating a nuisance, trespassing, disorderly conduct, or disturbing the peace.
- Financially-related disputes such as personal debts or breaches of contract.
- Individual land disputes, such as those concerning land use and access.



Tribal Court Mission

The mission of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Court is to exercise, to the maximum extent possible, the powers authorized by the Tribal Constitution. As a separate but equal branch of the Tribal government, the court will fairly and without prejudice adjudicate (hear) all civil matters authorized by the Tribal Council including but not limited to appeals.

The Peacemakers Court is generously supported by a Social and Economic Development Strategies grant from the Administration for Native Americans.



Mashpee Wampanoag Peacemakers Court
483 Great Neck Road South
Mashpee, MA 02649

WUNAHTYÂHE8ÂÔK
(PEACEMAKING)



483 Great Neck Road South
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WHAT IS PEACEMAKING?

Peacemaking is an ancient, traditional form of dispute resolution between tribal members. Rather than seeking restitution through a court system, the peacemaking process encourages people to solve their own problems by communicating with each other in a safe environment. It is based upon mutual respect, personal responsibility and the importance of relationships.

Ultimately, Peacemakers are meant to bring back a sense of nurturing, love, support, unity, community and healing through restorative, traditional, peaceful justice. When culturally-based, holistic approaches of recovery and resolution are applied, a spiritual healing that restores and revives communities can occur.



All Peacemaking Sessions include one male and one female peacemaker in order to ensure a balanced perspective. Pictured above are Peacemakers Anne Foxx and Buddy Harding.



PEACEMAKING GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The Vision of the Peacemaker Court is to encourage a peaceful, courteous, and generous nature among both tribal and non-tribal members, and eliminate hate, greed, jealousy, and envy from within the tribe. Through this philosophy and the Guiding Principles described below, the actions of each individual, and clan within the tribe will ensure the successful survival of the entire Wampanoag Nation.



Community Health (Wutahkeemôwuneayee N8hsweetamuk)

The health of the community at large depends on recognizing the connectedness of all things and people and the responsibility that we all have to each other.

Sacred Restorative Justice (Wuneetupânutamwee Nôpahtawee Pâyôhsukeey8uk)

Sacred justice is found when the importance of restoring understanding and balance to relationships has been acknowledged.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Harmony

(Weech8humôkanee N8hswehtamuk)

A positive, conscious, meaningful relationship between parties is valuable. For Mashpee people, harmony is achieved through Peacemaking and encourages people to consciously solve their own problems by open communication through respect, responsibility and good faith.

Non-Coercion

(Muhchee Cheekunum N8hswehtamuk)

Voluntary participation by all parties is encouraged, rather than the use of force from an outside source. Peacemaking is informal and allows for open and unfettered discussions. The end goal is a resolution that is reached by consensus by all in attendance.

Want to Request a Peacemaking Session?



To initiate a peacemaking session, you can contact the Court Clerk by phone at 508-477-0208 x109 or email at mforrester@mwtribe.com.

You can also fill out a Peacemaking Intake Form available on our website:

www.mwtribejudicial.com/Peacemakers-Court