

**FALMOUTH COMMUNITY TELEVISION CHANNEL 2  
TOWN OF FALMOUTH, MAINE**

**Mission Statement and Usage Policies**

**Section 1. Mission.**

Falmouth Community Television Channel 2 (FCTC2) is operated by the Town of Falmouth, Maine, as a governmental/educational channel. The mission of FCTC2 is to make local government more accessible to Falmouth residents by providing a direct link between local government and the cable television network. This will promote exposure and access to Town government and further government accountability to the residents. FCTC2 will also allow Town government to access the cable network for training, data transmission and other information exchanges and to provide residents with educational programming.

**Section 2. Programming Priorities.**

To further its mission, FCTC2's activities will include, but not be limited to, the following prioritized programming and services:

- a. Urgent information and instructions during disasters and other emergencies;
- b. Public meetings of Town and School Department bodies, such as the Town Council, Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals and School Board and schedule information for these meetings;
- c. Programs regarding Town services;
- d. Community TV Bulletin Board;
- e. Information regarding important community events sponsored by the Town, School Department, or non-profit groups and quasi-governmental organizations in partnership with the Town or School Department;
- f. Reports to residents from elected and appointed public officials;
- g. Events originating from the Falmouth School Department such as athletic events, concerts, plays and ceremonies;
- h. Cultural and educational productions and State government meetings of special local interest.

**Section 3. Station Manager.**

The FCTC2 Station Manager is appointed by the Town Manager and is the principal contact person for FCTC2 matters. The Station Manager is responsible for:

- a. Maintaining and controlling the use of the facilities and equipment;
- b. Developing and publicizing program schedules, utilizing the program priorities contained in Section 2, above;
- c. Supervising volunteers, work study students and interns;
- d. Maintaining the Community Bulletin Board; and
- e. Developing a budget.

#### **Section 4. Use of Equipment and Facilities.**

FCTC2 production facilities and equipment are owned by the Town of Falmouth and shall not be used for personal use.

Only the following are authorized to use the production facilities and equipment:

- a. Town employees designated by the Town Manager or Station Manager;
- b. Work study students, volunteers and interns when acting under the supervision of the Station Manager.

#### **Section 5. Prohibitions on Certain Types of Programming.**

The facilities and resources of FCTC2 shall not be used for the following:

1. Material promoting a political candidate or ballot measure. This does not preclude the production by FCTC2 of programming that is sponsored, directed and moderated by non-partisan civic organizations that do not endorse candidates for elected office or take positions on ballot measures or the mainstream media and that affords the opportunity to all candidates for an elective office or the proponents of various sides of an issue to appear in a “candidates night” debate ~~forum~~ or other similar format.
2. Messages supporting or opposing any ordinance, order or resolve under consideration by the Town Council. This does not preclude the production by FCTC2 of (a). programming that provides objective information on such measures but does not advocate for a specific position; or (b) of programming where various sides of the issues involved are discussed in a debate or similar forum that is directed and moderated by civic organizations that do not endorse candidates for elected office or take positions on ballot measures or the mainstream media and that affords the opportunity to the proponents of various sides of an issue to appear in a debate or other similar format. by ~~proponents and opponents.~~
3. Promotional material concerning commercial products or services. Information promoting gambling, lotteries, gift promotions and the like;
4. Programming which advocates a particular religion or religious beliefs. This does not preclude Community TV Bulletin Board notices for non-profit community events.
5. Any material which constitutes libel, slander, pornography, violation of trademark or copyright, or which violates any local, state, or federal laws, including FCC regulations.

#### **Section 6: Technical Quality and Editing.**

The Station Manager may reject any programming submitted for broadcast to FCTC2 if it does not meet the standards listed below.

#### **FCTC2 Broadcast Standards**

1. Program must deliver a clear and unbroken video and audio signal to subscribers;
2. All audio must be recorded on 2 channel stereo or mono only;
3. All programs must have 10 seconds of black at the beginning and end of a program;
4. All programs must be labeled with the program title, producer, date of completion and length; and

5. ~~If FCTC2 can playback a standard definition DVD or~~ a digital video file that can be played on FCTC2's video server. (Please contact the station manager for video file compatibility.)

## **Editing**

*Special Programs:* FCTC2 may modify or edit programming prepared by a municipal or school department as dictated by scheduling, resource requirements or FCTC2 broadcast standards.

*Community Bulletin Board:* FCTC2 may modify or edit material for clarity or to maximize the capacity of the system.

## **Section 7: Copyright Issues.**

All FCTC2 productions, such as public meetings coverage and public affairs programs, and all special video works produced by FCTC2 will be under the copyright control of the Town of Falmouth unless one or more of the following apply:

- a. The work is produced strictly as a “work for hire” with funding provided by an entity other than the Town, e.g., a State agency or non-profit organization.
- b. The work is produced pursuant to a grant or other contractual arrangement which establishes the copyright holder as an entity or a person other than the Town.

## **Section 8: Freedom of Access Act Compliance.**

Copies of all FCTC2 programming that falls within the definition of “public record” contained in Maine’s Freedom of Access Act (1 M.R.S.A. §§401, et seq.) shall be made available to the public subject to the provisions of the Act relating to recovery of costs.

## **Section 9: Retention of Programs.**

FCTC2 will retain the video files of recorded meetings for at least one (1) year or in accordance with other local, state and federal regulations, whichever is more restrictive.

## **Section 10: FCTC2 Fee Structure.**

1. Copying
  - a. VHS - - \$20.00 each copy
  - b. DVD - - \$20.00 each copy
2. Editing - - \$40.00 per hour
3. Camera work - - \$40.00 per hour

