

WHITE POND ADVISORY COMMITTEE

AGENDA FEBRUARY 9, 2022 7:00PM

Meeting to be held on Zoom only

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86115050791?pwd=RzNOL2o0bkpudlhIMThhZ3BheVFJUT09>

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Meeting ID: 861 1505 0791

Passcode: 974458

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WPAC Agenda February 9, 2022, 7PM

1. Discussion of Bruce Freeman Rail Trail access to White Pond trails and water.
2. Discussion of trail access from Route 117 development.
3. Review of Visitor Management plan proposals excluding trail signage (attached).

Reminder for future meetings.

Topic: WPAC

Time: Feb 23, 2022 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Every month on the Last Wed

Mar 30, 2022 07:00 PM

Apr 27, 2022 07:00 PM

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.

Monthly: [https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZ0sc-](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZ0sc-qupjkjHNemYeJZI3MAKaHTkRl0dpHN/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGhrz8pHNYXuR-ERpx5BY-gb-7xiHpEgo1YkSbgKRp6MS7XHeNqBriNHNfU)

[qupjkjHNemYeJZI3MAKaHTkRl0dpHN/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGhrz8pHNYXuR-ERpx5BY-gb-7xiHpEgo1YkSbgKRp6MS7XHeNqBriNHNfU](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZ0sc-qupjkjHNemYeJZI3MAKaHTkRl0dpHN/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGhrz8pHNYXuR-ERpx5BY-gb-7xiHpEgo1YkSbgKRp6MS7XHeNqBriNHNfU)

Join Zoom Meeting

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86766241722?pwd=dWVvZm45Sk80dmpoN3BIRm1udzgxUT09>

Meeting ID: 867 6624 1722

Passcode: 783305

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Visitor Management Plan for White Pond

White Pond Advisory Committee

Proposals excluding trail signage

February 1, 2022

Proposal

- 1) Improved “No Parking” signs should state that cars will be fined and towed. No Parking signs on every street impacted by White Pond visitors can prevent unwelcome interactions and litter for surrounding communities. Signs should be posted on streets that are currently Permit Parking only and those outside the permit parking zones.
- 2) Regular police ticketing and towing as needed should occur on all warm days year round. We recommend that police actively ticket every day on weekends and at the start of the summer, then decrease to three times a week. Word will get around that parking fines are being issued leading to fewer visitors, as evidenced by the successful 1970’s Permit Parking program. This schedule can be revisited after year one in a meeting with police and neighbor residents.
- 3) The beach area may also be a target for unwelcome behavior when no lifeguards are present. This can be mitigated by closing/locking the beach gate (on the left to the parking lot) in the evenings after lifeguards leave and when the beach season is over. Most nearby recreation areas at least have a sign indicating that the area is closed from dusk to dawn; the White Pond beach could do the same.
- 4) There is no expectation that White Pond beach lifeguards should monitor the parking area to enforce regulations. This is not an appropriate role for teenage lifeguards.
- 5) More Ranger patrols, especially on weekends and at night, can deter visitors from abusive behavior simply by an official presence. This will require a line item in the town budget. Neighborhood residents would like an opportunity to periodically exchange views with Rangers in a meeting organized by the town, White Pond Advisory Committee or Friends of White Pond.
- 6) Similar to State of Massachusetts policies, the Town of Concord should implement fines for swimming outside of designated Town areas with exceptions only for private landowners.

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- 7) Town of Concord police should be notified promptly when excess visitors to White Pond suggest that rule enforcement will be necessary, or when smaller numbers of visitors are not following the rules. Rangers are not expected to fine visitors, but should have a direct line to police officers who can.
- 8) Owners of the Cummings Building in Sudbury should be asked to install No Parking signs for White Pond access, and Town of Sudbury police should be alerted to this change. Cummings may also be asked to issue parking stickers to approved users.
- 9) The Town of Concord should articulate clear expectations with the Town of Sudbury about the reality of accessing White Pond, particularly with regard to Cold Brook Crossing.
- 10) This website with live links should be advertised on Town and social media sites.
- 11) Coordination between the Town of Concord and Sudbury Police Departments can support safety at the pond especially once the Cold Brook Crossing development is complete.
- 12) The Town's website and websites for the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail should include language that discourages visitors from taking a swimming or recreational break at the pond.
- 13) Use of the public beach rather than other areas should be encouraged on social media and town signage. This would include information that there are no bathroom facilities or trash bins on the White Pond Reservation land and directions as to where to find these services.

Next Steps

- 1) Meeting with police officials. Three of the four areas of concern (parking, rules enforcement and communication) concern the police department. The town should organize or endorse a series of meetings with the residents/ neighbors effected and the chief of police. If the chief of police or his designated staff were involved in suggesting or brainstorming solutions it may improve understanding and police commitment to enforcing parking rules. A Natural Resources Division representative should be included.