



# TOWN OF CONCORD

## Town Manager's Report

APRIL 7, 2015

**TOWN MEETING  
BEGINS THIS  
SUNDAY, APRIL 12th  
1:00 pm CCHS**

### HEALTH DIVISION UPDATES

#### Routine Health Division Activities

Health Division staff provided the following services: Septic system permitting: 10 Building Reviews to determine adequacy of septic system prior to residential expansion; 29 file reviews with customers at the counter; approx. 60 phone inquiries answered. 2 inquiries about septic betterment loans.

#### Food Service

Public Health Inspector Gabrielle White met with the owner/manager of Concord Provisions to review a proposal to expand the business to include food preparation and packaging; Staff processed 2 temporary food permits and answered 4 other inquiries relating to Town Meeting and Earth Day festivities.

Other: 2 housing complaints investigated; 1 nuisance complaint investigated; 1 inspection for determination of an 10-day emergency beaver control permit

#### Camps, Pools and Beaches

Public Health Inspector Gabrielle White prepared and sent letters of inquiry to 25 recreational pool and camp permit holders to obtain updated information for the 2015 summer permitting season. Administrative Assistant Karen Byrne prepared and sent out contracts, license renewals and invoices to the 3 semi-public beaches for services for bathing beach water quality sampling and analysis services. Testing for the beaches starts the week before Memorial Day and runs through Labor Day. Analytical Testing services are conducted by G&L Laboratories in Quincy.

#### Organic Composting

Public Health Inspector Gabrielle White attended the R3 Recycling and Organics Conference in Boston this week. The conference covered the topic of organic waste recycling in commercial food establishments. Speakers presented updates on innovative programs from Whole Foods and Harvard University's dining services and methods on how to manage organic composting programs, staff training and best management practices to minimize issues of odor during storage.

#### \*TOWN MEETING SCHEDULE UPDATE\*

The Town Moderator has scheduled Article 30, CPC Funding Recommendations, to be taken up **Tuesday Evening**, immediately following STM, Article 4. This will enable the discussion of the two articles related to artificial turf/ natural grass to occur back to back on the same evening. Their presentation is likely to begin around 7:30 pm. Voters wishing to participate should arrive earlier to check in, receive their voting slips, and find a place to sit. The Moderator's longer explanation, regarding this change which will also appear in the Concord Journal this week.

#### CONCORD FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Fire Department has received 36 applications for the recently advertised Assistant Fire Chief position. The applicant evaluation process will begin very soon with a goal to have the successful applicant in place by July 1, 2015.

**You can now find CFD on Twitter!**

**Follow us at: @ConcordMAFire**

#### \*WINTER MAINTENANCE UPDATE\*

CPW's winter maintenance response crews continued with their emergency response activities during the month of March. CPW crews were activated 17 times during the month of March bringing the total number of responses to 66 for the season. Responses included brining main roads, plowing and treating roads and sidewalks during snow events, treating roads and sidewalks that became icy due to refreezing runoff from melting snow, widening roads and intersections, and opening catch basins. An additional 4.5 inches of snow fell bringing the total snow fall accumulation to 99.5 inches for the season.



#### REMINDER FOR CITIZENS

Concord Social Services offers mental health screenings for residents. Screenings are available for anxiety, depression, adolescent depression, PTSD, alcohol use, bipolar disorder, and eating disorders. Brief screenings are the quickest way to determine if you, or someone you care about, should connect with a mental health professional. This screening program is completely anonymous and confidential, and immediately following the brief questionnaire, you will see your results, recommendations, and key resources. Please reach out to Concord's Youth Services, COA or Social Services Divisions for more information.



## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

### DropOff-SwapOff

The spring DropOff-SwapOff is scheduled for Saturday, May 9th, from 9:30 AM-3:00 PM. There will also be an “early SwapOff” on Friday, May 8th, from 11 AM- 2PM, weather permitting. The early SwapOff was developed in an effort to alleviate traffic on Saturday and provide residents with another option to bring in items for SwapOff, should they not be able to bring items to SwapOff on Saturday. Please note that assistance is not provided for unloading, and browsing / removal of items is not permitted at the early SwapOff. Once again, SHARPS and unwanted medications will be collected at the DropOff portion of the event on Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup>. For a complete list of items collected and additional information, residents can visit [www.concordma.gov](http://www.concordma.gov) or call (978) 318-3240.

### Main Street Sidewalk

#### Concord Academy Public/Private Partnership

CPW’s Engineering Division completed the design of Main Street sidewalk rehabilitation project. The proposed sidewalk improvements will consist of the removal of the existing bituminous concrete (asphalt) pavement, and installation of a new cement concrete sidewalk. As part of the sidewalk improvements ADA non-compliant curb ramps will be replaced, a utility driveway near the library will be reconstructed and the *Academy Lane brick crosswalk* will be reconstructed and the *Academy Lane brick crosswalk* will be rehabilitated. CPW received HDC approval for the sidewalk material change in February and finalized the design plans and bid package for a March 25<sup>th</sup> advertisement date. The project bid opening is scheduled for April 10. Contract work is anticipated to begin in June, however coordinated work including the granite/wrought iron fence rehabilitation by Concord Academy and CMLP manhole adjustments are expected to be completed within April/May. Concord Academy has committed to provide 50% of the project funding for the sidewalk improvements.

#### Business Recycling Event

The spring 2015 business recycling event took place on Friday, April 3rd, from 9 AM-12 PM. The event was held at the 300 Baker Ave. Ext. parking lot, as in the past. CPW partners with the Chamber of Commerce for this event. The vendors are Complete Recycling Solutions (CRS) and Doc Shredding Corp.

These events are a great opportunity for Concord businesses to properly dispose of old computers, printers, fax machines, other electronics, and fluorescent light bulbs.

### Project Updates

**755 Walden Street Compost Site :** The 755 Walden Street Compost Site and paint shed opened for the season on Saturday, April 4. The compost site will be open each Saturday through mid-December; the paint shed will remain open each Saturday through October. The hours will be 9 AM-3 PM on Saturdays, as in the past. Residents can drop off yard waste, brush, oil paint, usable latex paint, and pick up free compost and paint. Residents can visit [www.concordma.gov](http://www.concordma.gov) or call (978) 318-3240 for additional information.

**97 Thoreau Street Parklet:** CPW Engineering Division finalized the design of the sustainable infrastructure retrofit project in early March. This public/private partnership working with the DiGiovanni family will include the installation of a new tree box filter and porous paver area to promote storm water infiltration, a new water fountain, a solar compactor and two new planting areas. The project’s bid opening was scheduled for March 27 and the apparent low bidder is Pecera Contracting Company, Inc. of Woburn. References are currently being checked. Construction on the project is expected to begin in early May.

#### Nagog Pond Filtration Design & Solar Feasibility

Nagog Pond located in Acton, MA is currently used as one of the Town’s critical water supplies and is operating under a surface water treatment rule filtration waiver. The raw water quality of Nagog Pond is generally considered high resulting from the Town of Concord’s sustained source protection efforts and is typically less than 1 Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU). The study’s goal is to allow Nagog Pond to be used as a more reliable water supply, regardless of variations in raw water quality. On March 25, 2015 the Town received approval from the MassDEP of the Town’s Water Treatment Technology Pilot Study and Report. The study was conducted during the spring of 2013 and winter of 2014 with the objective of informing the Town relative to the optimum treatment technology to design for raw water treatment at Nagog Pond. Technologies evaluated included Dissolved Air Flotation (DAF), stacked DAF, Direct Filtration, Pre-Oxidation, pH adjustment, Ozone treatment and Coagulation/Flocculation. CPW has now commenced preliminary design with its project team, including lead consultant Environmental Partners Group and sub-consultant, Solar Design Associates (SDA). SDA is tasked with further evaluating the economic, regulatory and operational feasibility of constructing a Photo Voltaic facility with the goal of generating all, or a portion of, the electrical power demand for the Nagog Pond Filtration facility on-site. It is anticipated that a debt authorization to implement recommended design and construction improvements will be proposed at the 2016 Annual Town Meeting.



## PLANNING & LAND MANAGEMENT

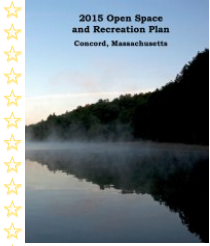
### PLANNING DIVISION

*Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Advisory Committee:* At Thursday's meeting, the BFRT Advisory Committee received photo documentation of the rail trail prepared by Lydia Rogers and Peter Farrow. This documentation captures 54 points along the trail from Route 2 to the Sudbury town line with four photos taken at each point (north, south, east & west) and each point is tied to State plane coordinates through GPS. The Advisory Committee is grateful for Lydia's and Peter's efforts, which will be a valuable resource for future researchers and history buffs. Members of the committee hope to obtain the electronic files for posting on the Town's website. One copy of the album will be sent to the Town's archives at the Concord Library and the other will be filed with other BFRT records in the Planning Division.

*Historic Districts Commission:* The HDC met on Thursday night to review five new applications for changes within the Historic Districts. The Commission approved Certificates of Appropriateness for modifications to the stone wall and stairs proposed at Heywood Meadow; for a new front entrance stoop and walkway at 61 Lang St. and for new windows, new porch, and roof work at 215 Lexington Rd. The Commission also opened discussions on proposed additions at 20 Lang St. and Concord Academy - these applications were continued until the April 23 meeting to allow for site visits over the next few weeks. In addition, the Commission reviewed a request from the Bay Circuit Trail to replace their trail blazes within the Historic Districts. Members agreed that this change did not require further review and could be done at the Applicant's discretion.

*Joint Historic Districts and Historical Commission Meeting:* The Concord Historical Commission has invited the Historic Districts Commission to attend the April 9th meeting to discuss existing preservation challenges in Concord and how the two Commissions can work together to address them. This meeting will be held in the Second Floor Conference Room at 141 Keyes Road beginning at 7:00 P.M.

*Music & Campus Center at Middlesex School:* This week Middlesex School submitted a site plan application to the Planning Board for a new Music & Campus Center located on the main campus (southeast of the Athletic Center and northerly from Bateman's Pond). The new building, converted from the existing facilities building with an approx. 7,480 sq. ft. addition, will house performance space, classrooms, public gathering areas, restrooms and offices. The project includes significant site improvements with the removal of existing pavement, subsurface stormwater drainage, a new access driveway around the building, pedestrian sidewalks, a pedestrian courtyard seating area and site lighting.



### NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION

#### *2015 Open Space and Recreation Plan*

The Massachusetts Division of Conservation Services has approved the Town's 2015 Open Space and Recreation Plan. Copies are available for purchase at the Division of Natural Resources Office at 141 Keyes Road and the document can be viewed on the town website at: [http://concordma.gov/pages/ConcordMA\\_NaturalResources/OSRP/OSRP](http://concordma.gov/pages/ConcordMA_NaturalResources/OSRP/OSRP).

#### *Punkatasset/Estabrook Trail Guide*

The Division of Natural Resources and Trails Committee are proud to present the first of nine Trail Guides for Concord's Conservation Lands: the Punkatasset/Estabrook Trail Guide. Copies are available at the Punkatasset Trailhead, at the Division of Natural Resources Office, and on the town website at: [http://concordma.gov/pages/ConcordMA\\_NaturalResources/plans](http://concordma.gov/pages/ConcordMA_NaturalResources/plans).



#### *Chamberlin Park*

With the snow receding, plans are underway to replace the split rail fence at Chamberlin Park. The replacement is anticipated to be completed over the next week.

### BUILDING INSPECTIONS DIVISION

*58 Stow Street/Emerson Annex Condo Association:* The Building Inspections office received a complaint regarding the lack of a handicapped parking space in the Emerson Annex and municipal parking lot across the street from the Annex at 58 Stow Street. This parking lot is owned by the Town of Concord where half of the lot is used as a municipal parking lot and half the parking spaces are dedicated to the Emerson Annex Condominium Association for owners parking needs. The Town and the Condominium Association will be working to have the lot swept, patched and re-stripped to provide the required handicap space.

*CC @ Play Playing Fields Project Phase 2:* The Building Inspections office has been in discussions with CC @ Play regarding the design and construction of Phase-2 of the playing fields project at the Concord-Carlisle Regional High School.

*Concord Academy Science Center Addition:* This week Concord Academy submitted a site plan application to the Planning Board to renovate the existing Science Center and construct a 19,500 sq. ft. addition. The new building will include laboratory space, classrooms, offices, mechanical rooms, student study area, elevator and accessible green roof, along with site improvements. The Planning Board will discuss this application and the above-noted Middlesex School application at the May 12th meeting.



**Volunteer Service Awards 2015: Apps. Available**

The Concord-Carlisle Community Chest is pleased to announce that is accepting nominations for the 2015 Volunteer Service Awards. All high school students from Concord and Carlisle who are in good academic standing and who have demonstrated a minimum of 10 hours of volunteer commitment towards human services are encouraged to apply. Completed applications are due on April 10, 2015. Awards will be presented at the Class Act event at CCHS on May 20, 2015.  
<http://www.cccommunitychest.org/events.php>



**Community Services**

**Aileen Buford, MSW: [abuford@concordma.gov](mailto:abuford@concordma.gov)**

The Community Services Coordinator had 5 home/office visits, 10 phone calls and 55 emails this week. Requests were made for assistance with housing, fuel assistance, food assistance, transportation, utility bills and summer camp scholarships. The SMOC Fuel Assistance program deadline has been extended until May 15, 2015. Anyone under the age of 60 interested in learning more about the fuel assistance program, please contact Aileen Buford, MSW for an application packet. 978.318.3034 or [abuford@concordma.gov](mailto:abuford@concordma.gov)

**Council on Aging**

**Ginger Quarles, Director: [gquarles@concordma.gov](mailto:gquarles@concordma.gov)**

The Concord Garden Club has once again chosen the Harvey Wheeler Community Center to be the recipient of a grant to be used toward the cost of flowers to fill the planters in front and in back of the building. All of the users of Harvey Wheeler enjoy the beautiful flowers throughout the growing season and we are very grateful to the Garden Club for making this possible for us.

The Nashoba Brooks School will put on the their annual concert at the COA at 11:30 on Wednesday, April 8 at 11:30am. No cost or reservation needed for the concert, but if you plan to stay for lunch afterwards, you will need a reservation.

The COA is happy to make van transportation available to Concord seniors who would like to attend the Annual Town meeting, which begins on Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup> at 1pm and continues during the evenings of April 13<sup>th</sup> – April 16<sup>th</sup> as needed. Please call to make a reservation as seats are limited and available on a first come first served basis.

**VETERAN'S SERVICES**

The VS Office received a phone call from the commander of the MA branch of the National Guard requesting information on a former commander of the MNG who took residence in Concord some years ago. The VSO also met with several community leaders to discuss improvements to the memorial park located on the Mill Dam. Included in this discussion was a permanent location for the Concord Bell that was given to the Town by the Navy after the decommission of the USS Concord in 1946.

**Concord Free Public Library**

**Kerry Cronin, Director: [kcronin@concordma.gov](mailto:kcronin@concordma.gov)**

**Poetry Reading:** The Friends of the Concord Free Public Library will host a weekend poetry reading with award-winning poet, Karina Borowicz on Sunday, April 12, 2015 at 3:00 p.m. in the Main Library's Trustees' Room at 129 Main Street, Concord, MA. A reception and book signing with immediately follow the reading.

**Shake-Scene with Actor Stephen Collins:** From the evil machinations of Richard III, to the philosophical bantering of Falstaff, to the brilliant oratory of Brutus and Antony, Stephen Collins brings the Bard's words to life in this exciting show. All are welcome to attend this free performance on Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. at the Fowler Branch Library, 1322 Main Street, Concord, MA.

**Lego Challenge:** Students in Kindergarten – Grade 5 are welcome join the Lego challenge, which focuses on different themes each month. Participants are welcome to exhibit their work at the Branch during the month. This month's challenge will take place on Thursday, April 9 at 4:00 p.m. at the Fowler Branch Library.

**Database of the Month – Consumer Reports**

Consumer Reports provides ratings and recommendations for a wide range of products from cars to baby food, as well as articles and advice on current topics. April's Consumer Reports includes: a survey of America's supermarkets, advice on getting rid of clutter in your garage, and tips for avoiding home improvement scams, among other helpful suggestions. Check out this useful database at <http://www.concordlibrary.org/pages/reference/databases.html> Remote access is free and available to Concord residents with a library card. For additional information, please call the Concord Free Public Library's Reference Department at 978-318-3347.



**New Color Printer at Fowler:** Color printing services are now available at the Fowler Branch Library. This enhancement has been incorporated into our current pay for print system at a rate of .25 per/printout.

**The Friends of the Concord Free Public**

**Library:** On Tuesday, April 7<sup>th</sup> the Friends of the Concord Free Public Library will hold their monthly meeting at the Fowler Branch Library at 7:00 p.m. The Friends of CFPL is a nonprofit, charitable organization that supports the library by supplementing its activities with additional materials, performances and programs. All are welcome to attend their monthly meetings and are encouraged to become members. Please mark your calendars to attend the Friends' Annual Book Sale on Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. with a rain date of Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup>. This fun community event and important fundraiser is not to be missed

