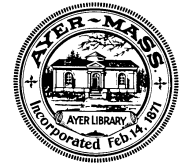


Town of Ayer

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Town Hall ♦ One Main Street ♦ Ayer, MA 01432
Phone 978-772-8249 ♦ Fax 978-772-8208



May 19, 2017

Monthly Report of the Conservation Commission, April 2017:

Beyond the work carried out to prepare for, and implement the decisions of the month's public meetings, this office has been busy with many other topics. Currently, two single major projects take up the majority of the time not dedicated to past or upcoming public meetings. These are the continued development of a geospatially based database of all Commission permits, and the preparations related to vegetation management in several of Ayer's ponds.

The database development project continues to show its value. Several older processes have been formally closed, and the burden of the process removed from any future land transactions or home sales. The full history of many properties with complex wetland histories has emerged. Due to a significant increase in the time needed to prepare for, and respond to, complex projects currently before the Commission, the completion of the database was put off until May. Again, this database only be limited to the tracking of Orders of Resource Area Delineation, and Orders of Conditions. Further time will be required to input all Determinations of Applicability and Enforcement information, which will be put off until at least the winter. This distinction is due to the Orders being much more significant documents with greater potential for long term impacts on properties in town.

Additionally, the Commission continued preparations for the upcoming ponds treatment work. This work was approved at the autumn 2016 town meeting. Preparations with the contractor, Solitude Lake Management were made, and several scheduling details were attended to.

I look forward to continuing these projects, while ensuring that the Commission is as informed as possible for upcoming public meetings.

Brian Colleran, Conservation Administrator