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

June 19, 2017

Monthly Report of the Conservation Commission, May 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. Older permits continue to be identified and closed out, and the burden of the process removed from any future land transactions or home sales. The database was completed, and the quality control to remove any errors has begun, and should be completed in short order. Again, this database is limited to the tracking of Orders of Resource Area Delineation, and Orders of Conditions – those forms that get assigned a tracking number from the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). 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.

The treatment of the ponds to reduce nuisance and invasive vegetation has commenced, with survey work done on all ponds. Flannagan's/Fletcher's pond received its initial treatment. This work was approved at the autumn 2016 town meeting.

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