

Conservation Administrator's Report
Jo-Anne Crystoff, Conservation Administrator and Agent
March 2020

The PFAS treatment plant at Spectacle Pond has applied for a Wetlands Permit for construction. A Public Hearing was opened and the Commission will be issuing a permit as soon as possible for this important project.

An RFP for the 2020 weed treatment season has been issued by the Commission. The Commission hopes to choose a contractor for this work in early April. The Commission also submitted a Warrant Article for Spring Town Meeting to raise funds to cover the expense of weed treatment in Ayer's ponds.

The Kohler Place conservation restriction needed one more detail to be attended to before it can be recorded. This important conservation restriction protects approximately 19 acres of land close to Sandy Pond from development. We hope to conclude this conservation restriction soon.

An RFP for peer review of Ayer Solar IIB has been issued by the Commission. Four firms responded with proposals to review the project. The Commission hopes to choose a firm in early April.

Enforcement Orders were issued to a resident and a business owner for unpermitted work in the buffer zone to an intermittent stream. The Commission is working to resolve these issues and has reached out to DEP for guidance.

North County Land Trust and the conservation administrator had a very productive Zoom call to continue the work of meeting Ayer's conservation land stewardship goals. The arrival of Covid-19 has brought with it new ways of using technology to complete our work.

As a way to keep up with Commission projects, the Conservation Commission hears applications for permits of the first monthly meeting and reserves the second monthly meeting for Commission business. Please contact the Conservation office at 978-772-8249, or by email at concom@ayer.ma.us, or drop by with any questions or concerns. Thank you!