

Conservation Commission
Monthly Report
November 2023

The Commission continues its work enforcing the Wetlands Protection Act and local Bylaws and Regulation through site inspections on new and continuing projects, as well as community outreach. The Commission held one meeting in November due to the Thanksgiving Holiday.

At the Commission's November 9th meeting the Commission reviewed revised plans for the proposed development of two lots at 71 Sandy Pond Road and voted to issue an Order of Conditions. The hearing was continued to the next meeting on December 14th to allow for the Special Conditions to be drafted. The Commission then reviewed a Request for Determination of Applicability for 111 Fitchburg for a replacement sewage disposal system on an existing property. The Commission voted to issue a negative Determination for the project as the location of the system is located outside the 200-foot river front and in the best location for the site to limit impact. Lastly the Commission reviewed a request for an extension for the Order of Resource Area Delineation for DEP file number 100-0445, Stratton Hill. The Commission voted to allow for a one-year extension as the project is before the Planning Board for Definitive Subdivision review.

As the weather gets colder and the Commission typically sees a slowdown in permitting requests which gives them more time to focus on possible grant opportunities and projects for the spring. The Conservation Agent is working on possible grants for rain gardens for pond area residents, as well as improvements for the Pine Meadow Conservation Area.

Submitted by Heather Hampson, Conservation Agent for the Conservation Commission