



TOWN OF CONCORD

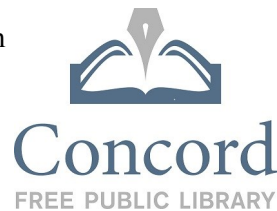
Town Manager's Report

Week of: November 2nd 2015

Library News

Contact: (978) 318-3300

The Concord Free Public Library has just adopted a new logo which is the result of a thoughtful and collaborative design process. Special thanks to all who provided feedback toward the development of this attractive design.



Two groups of Concord Academy literature students will be visiting the Library on 11/5, one for a show-and-tell by Curator Leslie Wilson about the 19th century Concord authors and related Special Collections materials, and the other for a gallery tour to explore the current exhibition on Thoreau as a surveyor.

Last week the Fowler Branch Library hosted its 2nd annual Halloween Party, which was attended by 45 people, including several Concord police officers who greeted the kids and handed out their collectible cards.



Nina Simonds, author of *Spices of Life: Simple and Delicious Recipes for Great Health* will be at CFPL on Tuesday, November 10th at 12:30 p.m. in the Main Library's Trustees' Room to kick-off a new cookbook club. Each month the library will select a cookbook and have multiple copies of it available for participants to check-out. Everyone will select one recipe to prepare at home to bring to the following month's meeting to share.



Energy Rebates!

With weatherization services such as insulation, sealing of air leaks, and installation of programmable thermostats, most residents can save as much as 20-30% off of their energy bills. In addition to saving you money, weatherization can make you and your family more comfortable in your home by reducing drafts. And reducing the energy used to heat and cool your home can reduce fossil fuel emissions that contribute to climate change by as much as 20-30%.

Go to www.greenyourheatconcord.com or call 617-963-8141 for more information.



Board/Committee Vacancies

Ever consider becoming a part of a board/commission/committee in your local government? The Town is looking for residents to fill positions on a variety of boards/commissions/committees.

If interested, please call (978) 318-3000, or find info online: www.concordma.gov/Pages/ConcordMA_BOS/vacancies

CONCORD FIRE AND CONCORD FINANCE TEAM UP

Fire Chief Mark Cotreau and Finance Director Tony Logalbo conducted an all-day class on Municipal Budgeting and Finance for 32 municipal fire department officers from across the Commonwealth. The session took place Thursday, October 29th, at the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy in Stow and was geared to the particular needs of fire department senior officers. The session is part of a multi-week professional development certificate program. Mark and Tony have teamed up to present this program the past three years. Prior to that, since 2007, Tony had joined former (now retired) Concord Fire Chief Ken Willette to lead the Municipal Budgeting session.

This is one of numerous examples where Concord town officials throughout all town departments are sharing their expertise beyond Concord's borders.



HUMAN SERVICES DIVISIONS

RECREATION • COUNCIL ON AGING • COMMUNITY SERVICES • YOUTH SERVICES • VETERANS OUTREACH

Community Services

Contact: 978-318-3034

This week the Community Services Coordinator received 35 phone calls, 100 emails and had 12 office/home visits all related to assistance requests. 10 of those contacts had never before contacted the Community Services Coordinator for assistance. The requests for assistance this past week mostly focused on assistance with paying utility bills, finding permanent low cost housing, applying for fuel assistance, applying for holiday gift assistance, food assistance, needing heating oil, lower cost home repairs, needing domestic violence resources and finding rental payment assistance.

SMOC Fuel Assistance – 2015-2016 Fuel Assistance Program Season is now open! If you are a Concord resident under the age of 60 and are interested in applying for fuel assistance, please contact Aileen Buford, MSW at 978.318.3034 or abuford@concordma.gov for an informational packet. Eligibility is based on household size and household income.

‘OPEN TABLE’ IS IN NEED OF DONATIONS especially non-perishable sources of protein, such as canned fish, ham, hash, chili, beef stew and spam. Donations are accepted at 105 Everett Street on Thursdays from 12-3pm. For further information please contact 978.369.2275.

Open Table offers a community supper in Concord on Thursdays at First Parish Church (20 Lexington Road) at 5:30pm and has pantry items available at this location from 4:30pm-6:30pm for anyone who is in need of food. No application required, everyone is welcome. For additional information call 978.369.2275 or visit the website at www.opentable.org.

HELPFUL RESOURCES

Family Services of the Merrimack Valley – is a non-profit, social service organization committed to helping children & families build a better life by developing inner strengths, teaching life skills and providing vital community-based resources. The Samaritans of Merrimack Valley provides a free & confidential 24 hour crisis help line to those who are lonely, despairing or suicidal. Confidential Crisis Help Lines 1-866-912-4673 toll free or 978-327-6607 local

HELPFUL RESOURCES (continued)

REACH – BEYOND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE – committed to advancing the safety, healing and empowerment of those who experience domestic or relationship violence through direct services and education while promoting social justice for individuals and families of all backgrounds. Services include a shelter, a 24 hour hotline and community-based services as well as child and adolescent therapy and prevention programs. 24 Hour Hotline : 800.899.4000 www.reachma.org

Thanksgiving
FOOD DRIVE

PRESENTED BY



CONCORD RECREATION

Donations of non-perishable food items will be accepted from

NOVEMBER 9TH– 24TH

At the Hunt Recreation Center, The Beede Center, & Harvey Wheeler

8:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday

**DONATIONS WILL BE GIVEN TO CONCORD OPEN TABLE TO HELP
OUT LOCAL FAMILIES THAT ARE IN NEED**

Open Table is preferably looking for nonperishable sources of protein. All those who donate can enter a free raffle for a signed baseball from Rick Porcello of the Boston Red Sox, Harvard Men’s Basketball and Hockey Tickets, Providence Bruins Tickets, & more!

If you have any questions, please contact Zachary Vaillette at 978-369-6460 or at zvaillette@concordma.gov





CONCORD PUBLIC WORKS (CPW)

ADMINISTRATION • ENGINEERING • HIGHWAY & GROUNDS • SOLID WASTE & RECYCLING • WATER & SEWER

Contact: (978) 318-3206

2015/2016 Water Main Replacement Program – Hunters Ridge Road - CPW Water Division Contractor, Cedrone Trucking (North Billerica, MA) successfully completed the replacement of over 3,100 feet of 8-inch transite water main with new water main along Hunters Ridge Road. Work included the installation of a new three way valve assembly (and removal of old valve assembly) at the intersection of Old Marlboro.

It is anticipated that the roadway will be reconstructed by project subcontractor PJ Albert beginning on 11/9 and completed prior to winter shut down. Hunter's Ridge Rd. will remain at binder course pavement for the winter. Crews will return in the spring of 2016 to complete the top course of pavement, driveway apron reconstruction, and sidewalk replacement.

Lowell Road Water Main Break - On October 28, 2015, an emergency repair was performed on a 12-inch cast iron water main (circa 1908). The leak occurred on one of two active mains located on Lowell Road near the intersection of Bow Street. Given the location and complexity of the water system coupled with significant localized flooding, the isolation of the break was especially challenging. Once isolated, the repair required replacement of approximately 8 feet of water main, including the replacement of a fire hydrant branch. Temporary roadway repairs are in place with permanent repairs scheduled to be completed as weather conditions allow.

Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MADEP) Sanitary Survey –Last week the MADEP completed a two day, comprehensive sanitary survey of the entire water system. The survey is performed on all public water systems once every three years and is designed to ensure the system is managed and operated in accordance with federal and state requirements and guidelines. The assessment included a review of financial, operational and Safe Drinking Water Act compliance activities. While no notable deficiencies were identified, findings and a final report are pending.

Strawberry Hill Road Tree Removal - On October 25, CPW Grounds Division crews safely removed a hazardous white pine located at 64 Strawberry Hill Rd. It was necessary to close Strawberry Hill Road from Barrett's Mill Road to Finigan Way in order to establish a safe work zone. College Rd. and Annursnac Hill Rd. were utilized as a detour around the impacted area. CPW crews worked diligently all day and were able to reopen Strawberry Hill Rd. at 3:00pm, substantially ahead of schedule. CPW appreciates everyone's cooperation with the road closure and necessary detour.

178 Virginia Road Construction Improvements – CPW Highway Division crews have been working in an area adjacent to 178 Virginia Road to correct drainage deficiencies resulting in erosion to the side of the road and flooding to nearby properties. Improvements include, installation of two trench drains, removing and replacing the asphalt berm, and sidewalk reconstruction. Crews will continue to work on this project with the final completion expected within the next week.

Westford Road Culvert Replacement – Due to a delay in the precast manufacturing of the culvert and headwalls, the commencement of the culvert replacement is being postponed until the next available start date which coincides with the beginning of the "low-flow" season of 2016. The anticipated start date will be July 1, 2016. Currently, CPW Engineering Division anticipates filing a Change Order with project contractor Aqua Line to extend the contract to September 30, 2016. A period of performance modification has been filed with MEMA officials to ensure compliance with the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program requirements.

Fitchburg Turnpike – The work on Fitchburg Turnpike is being completed with the installation of guard rail and installation of loam and seed in the area of the culvert replacement. It is anticipated that all work will be completed by 11/4. CPW Engineering Division has contacted MEMA officials to conduct a final inspection of the culvert replacement that was funded as part of the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.



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Contact: (978) 318-3206

Belknap Street – Project general contractor, Lazaro, is finalizing work on the Roads Program on Belknap Street. The last phase of work is to reconstruct a driveway apron, install loam and seed, and clean up. The section of Belknap between the train tracks and Thoreau St. was successfully reconstructed on 10/21 and 10/28.

Riverdale/Southfield Road Neighborhood – Project general contractor, Lazaro, is nearing completion with only minor cleanup prior to winter shut down remaining. Please note that the majority of the neighborhood paving work is complete. Final paving for the back end sections of Pilgrim and Southfield Roads, which received full box reconstruction treatments and significant improvements to the drainage system, will be paved with top course of pavement in the spring/summer of 2016 to allow the drainage improvement work to go through a freeze/thaw cycle and trench settlement.

Thoreau Court – Cedrone Trucking is scheduled to begin drainage and roadway improvements at the intersection of Thoreau Ct. and Thoreau St. on Monday 11/2 and finish on Friday 11/9. The improvements include the installation of two catch basins, a drain manhole, and associated pipe work. The roadway will be re-graded in this area to facilitate positive drainage. CPW Engineering Division held an on-site neighborhood outreach meeting on 10/30 to discuss the project with residents and answer questions. Notification letters were provided to all the residents on Thoreau Court.

2015 Crack Seal Bid – On Friday, 10/30 the CPW Engineering Division opened sealed bids for the 2015 Crack Seal Program. Staffs are in the process of bid tabulation activities and qualification review to ensure the project is awarded to the lowest qualified bidder. Notice of award and contract execution is expected in the coming weeks.

Main Street Sidewalk Project – In anticipation of the cold weather setting in, the remaining items to be completed within the contract have been postponed until the beginning of the 2016 construction season next spring. Due to the nature of work remaining and the negative impacts the cold weather can have on the tolerances of these activities, CPW determined that it was in the best interest of the Town to have project general contractor, Century Paving, postpone their activities until more favorable conditions exist. Currently, the Engineering Division anticipates filing a Change Order to extend the contract deadline to June 1, 2016 with a re-commencement date of May 1, 2016.

Plastic Bag Reduction Bylaw- Informational meeting - An informational meeting has been scheduled for business owners who may be impacted by the plastic bag reduction bylaw that bans the use of thin-film single-use plastic bags for checkout in Concord retail and grocery stores effective January 1, 2016.

The informational meeting will be held in the Hearing Room at the Town House on Wednesday, November 18th @ 7:00PM. The meeting will include a brief PowerPoint presentation and there will be ample time for any questions pertaining to the bylaw.

For questions pertaining to the bylaw, contact Rod Robison, Concord Public Works, Environmental Services Program Administrator at (978) 318-3241 or via e-mail: rrobison@concordma.gov. You can also visit www.concord.ma.gov for additional information regarding the plastic bag reduction bylaw.

DropOff-SwapOff Results - The October 17th DropOff-SwapOff was well attended. There were 928 vehicles in attendance at the DropOff portion of the event alone. Among the numerous items collected for recycling were five 30 yard roll-off containers of scrap metal, five 30 yard roll-off containers of construction & demolition materials, 1.71 tons of carpeting, 1.67 tons of bulky plastic, 179 bags of Polystyrene and one 30yd. roll-off container of upholstered furniture.

The DropOff portion of the event included an unwanted medication & Sharps collection. Four boxes of unwanted medication and four boxes of Sharps were collected, in addition to a container of controlled substances which were collected by the Police Department. Emerson Hospital provided a pharmacist for the unwanted medication collection.



Department of Planning & Land Management (DPLM)
BUILDING INSPECTION · PLANNING · NATURAL RESOURCES · BOARD OF HEALTH · ZONING

Building Inspections Division

Contact: (978) 318-3280

Sign Bylaw complaint: Acting under an attorney's written zoning complaint, the Inspections Division has been working with a West Concord property owner who wishes to keep their "Black Lives Matter" sign up within the Town Right of Way longer than the two week period allowed by the Sign Bylaw.

2015 Selectmen license renewals: Building Inspection staff has completed review of all the Concord 'liquor-serving' establishments required under Chapter 304 of the Acts of 2004, "An Act Relative to Fire Safety in the Commonwealth". Each town's Fire and Building Departments are required to inspect all locations within the Town serving alcoholic beverages. Laurie Livoli, Local Building Inspector, and Tom Judge, Deputy Fire Chief, have been working as an inspection team to inspect the twenty (20) Concord "liquor serving" establishments. All establishments have all been inspected, building and fire code issues identified, the necessary repairs have been completed, and the repairs have been re-inspected. The "Fire Safety Inspection Certificates" for these facilities have been signed by both the Fire Chief and the Building Commissioner. Added to the list this year was the Woods Hill Table restaurant located at 24 Commonwealth Avenue and Saltbox Kitchen located at 84 Commonwealth Avenue.

All other Selectmen license renewals were also reviewed, which includes Automatic Amusement Device, Class I, Class II Motor Vehicle, Common Carrier, Common Victualler, Inn holder & Lodging House, Livery/Taxicab, and Alcoholic Beverage (sold for off premise consumption). No zoning issues were identified with any of these and the Building Commissioner recommended that the Selectmen issue these license renewals.

Health Division

Contact: (978) 318-3275

Septic system permitting: 5 septic plan designs reviewed and septic permits issued; 3 septic plans reviewed and revisions requested; 5 Certificates of Compliance issued. 2 Deep test holes witnessed; 9 septic field inspections. 2 sewer reviews and 3 building reviews completed. Investigated 1 large system failure at a condominium in Lincoln (under an agreement to provide services to the Town of Lincoln).

Food service: 6 food service inspections and 2 retail food inspections conducted. 2 temporary food permits issued. Provided guidance to 2 food establishments affected by the water main break on Lowell Rd. who temporarily had no potable water service. Worked with staff at Colonial Inn and Trails End Café to cease operation for several hours until water service was restored and then assisted staff of both facilities to flush their systems and sanitize sinks prior to returning to service. Both facilities were able to open for dinner that evening and there was minimal loss of operation as the crews were quick to isolate and restore service.

Annual Barn Inspections: In her capacity as the Town's Animal Inspector, Health Inspector Gabrielle White completed 30 MDAR-required annual barn inspections this week. Approximately 107 properties which hold permits to keep animals must be inspected.

Weights and Measures inspections: All required annual weights and measures inspections have been completed. The Town of Concord contracts with the Massachusetts Division of Standards (MA DOS) to provide weights and measures inspections to ensure that the Town meets the minimum requirements of all pertinent state laws. The accuracy of all weighing and measuring devices used for sale to the public are inspected, sealed or condemned as required. Inspections are conducted at all gasoline and diesel dispensing devices (pumps), home heating (fuel oil) delivery trucks, and bar code pricing devices (scanners) and scales used at supermarkets, delis, meat/seafood markets, retail checkout counters, farm stands, pharmacies, and any other facility using a weighing or measuring device for sale of product.



Department of Planning & Land Management (DPLM)
BUILDING INSPECTION • PLANNING • NATURAL RESOURCES • BOARD OF HEALTH • ZONING

Planning Division
Contact: (978) 318-3290

Bruce Freeman Rail Trail: MassDOT has scheduled the public information meeting for the 75% design plans for the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail for Tuesday, November 17th at the Harvey Wheeler Community Center. There will be an open house scheduled at 6:15 p.m. for residents to view the plans and talk one-on-one with BFRT Advisory Committee members, Town staff and representatives from MassDOT about the trail in relation to their abutting property, with the meeting scheduled to begin at 7:00 p.m.

Black Horse Place/140 Commerford Road Planned Residential Development (PRD): On remand from the Land Court, the Zoning Board of Appeals held a public hearing on the Commerford Road PRD (also known as the Black Horse Place) on October 29th. After hearing the presentation by the developer and consultants and public comment, the hearing was closed and the Board deliberated, taking a 3:0 vote to approve the project, including the recommended conditions from the original Planning Board recommendation as well as the items discussed at the hearing.

Comprehensive Plan: The kick-off event for the Comprehensive Plan was held on October 27th. Approximately 40 people attended the event where Town staff provided an update on many of the items completed from the 2005 plan; allowed participants to register their priorities for items that remain to be completed and introduced an updated approach to Comprehensive Planning as defined by the American Planning Association. The event was videotaped by CCTV for future broadcast and documents prepared for the event will be posted on the Town's website at: http://concordma.gov/pages/ConcordMA_Planning/Comprehensive%20Plan%20Update.

