



# TOWN OF CONCORD

## Town Manager's Report

Week of: June 27, 2016

### Outdoor Water Use Restriction In Effect

Contact: (978) 318-3250

The Public Works Commission Has Declared a State of Water Supply Conservation

Due to an extended period of extreme heat and lack of precipitation, customer demand has reached the limits of our available water supply. To curtail water use, the following Outdoor Water Use Restrictions have been put in place, until further notice.

#### Outdoor Water Use Restriction

Limit Outdoor  
Water Use  
<2x/week



[www.concordma.gov/water](http://www.concordma.gov/water)

### Help Reduce the Summer Peak Demand for Electricity

Contact: (978) 318-3101

The summer peak demand season began June 1 and continues through August 31. Whenever a peak demand for electricity is predicted, CMLP will post a message – usually the day before the event – to News & Notices, CMLP's Twitter followers, Facebook, and the CAP (Concordians Addressing the Peak) Google Group asking citizens to voluntarily reduce electric use during peak demand.

Fifteen percent of your electric bill is directly related to the amount of electricity Concord uses for just one hour during the entire year. That one hour, the *peak demand hour*, occurs on a hot weekday afternoon during the summer months typically between the hours of 12PM – 6PM.

By reducing electric use during these peak demand hours, everyone benefits with lower electric rates and a cleaner environment as the least efficient generating plants operate during peaks. Here are some ideas to try:

- shut off some or all of your lights
- turn up your AC thermostat several degrees
- curtail the use of pool pumps, dryers, and washing machines
- plan a cold picnic supper or cook dinner on the grill
- use a timer for appliances such as a dehumidifier to avoid operation during peak hours

Share your ideas. Do you have more ways to reduce electricity usage on peak demand days? Let us know by emailing your ideas to [concordlight@concordma.gov](mailto:concordlight@concordma.gov), and we'll share your ideas with others.

Share the word. Follow CMLP on Twitter @CMLPmedia. Also, family and friends in Concord can subscribe to CMLP's CAP Google Group by sending an email with the Subject and Body blank to: [Cmlp-cap+subscribe@googlegroups.com](mailto:Cmlp-cap+subscribe@googlegroups.com). Google Groups will reply requesting verification of your request. This is a one-way email system so members can only receive emails from this site. We will try not to send out more than six notices during the summer season.

### Community Services

Contact: (978) 318-3034

The Office received 28 phone calls and 31 emails all related to requests for assistance focused mainly on summer camp scholarships, transportation, food assistance, applying for food stamps, parenting support, and housing/utilities assistance.

Saturday marks the start of Concord's Food for Families Program presented by Gaining Ground Farm. This year over 75 families will be participating. Each Saturday morning throughout the summer volunteers harvest fresh produce to distribute to Concord residents in need.

The Back-to-School Backpacks Program provides free new/unused backpacks that contain school supplies for children going into Kindergarten through the 8th grade. CC Youth & Community Services has over 70 K-8 children signed up to receive a back-to-school backpack and school supplies for the 2016-17 school year.

If interested in receiving a backpack or if you know someone who might benefit from this program, please contact Bonny Wilbur by phone (number above) or [bwilbur@concordma.gov](mailto:bwilbur@concordma.gov).

If you or a group would like to assist with donating a backpack, please use the drop-box at the Harvey Wheeler Community Center (1276 Main St) until July 15th or contact CC Youth Services Coordinator, Jennifer Clarke, at 978.318.3043 or [jclarke@concordma.gov](mailto:jclarke@concordma.gov). Donated backpacks must be new/unused. Donations of pencils, glue sticks, rulers, pencil cases, pens, pencil sharpeners, loose-leaf paper, folders, and notebooks are also welcome. Backpack donations will be accepted through the end of July and early August.



**DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & LAND MANAGEMENT**  
Natural Resources • Planning • Building • Health

## Planning Division

Contact: (978) 318-3285

**Bruce Freeman Rail Trail updates:** a) This week the Town was notified via MassDOT Highway Division that Governor Baker has signed, and DEP has issued, the Chapter 91 Waterways License for the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail, which will allow construction of a bridge over the Assabet River for the rail trail; b) Planning Division staff continue to work with the Appraisers and Town Counsel in preparing appraisals of the easements and the draft deed grants for the easements; c) Town Counsel has been talking with the MassDOT Rail Division about the lease agreement of the State's right of way for the trail; and, d) the MBTA has begun its 30-day 'canvas' of the project, which allows the many groups within the MBTA an opportunity to review the easement over its property in West Concord.

**Concord Historical Commission Preservation Awards:** On Monday, June 20<sup>th</sup> members of the CHC presented the first annual Preservation Awards at the Select Board's meeting. Commission Chair Geoffrey Taylor and Member Annette Bagley gave a brief presentation on the six awards presented this year to Trinity Church and the owners of 277 Main Street, for the sensitive new additions to their historic structures; the owners of 411 Lowell Road for their restoration of the former Emerson Studio; to the Concord Academy and the owners of 68 Great Meadows Road for the restoration and preservation of historic landscape features; and the owner of 93 Monument Street for the restoration of its historic windows and exterior elements. Award recipients included both the property owners and the architects and craftsmen responsible for the award winning work, many of whom were present and recognized during the Select Board presentations. The CHC is very pleased with the success of this first award cycle and looks forward to making this an annual Concord tradition.

**Battle Road Scenic Byway Committee meeting on Thursday, June 23:** The Battle Road Scenic Byway Committee (regional Committee) is pleased to announce that it has received a \$5,000 grant from the Freedom's Way National Heritage Area, which will be used along with other funding to develop a website for the Byway to highlight the area's history and visitor resources. This work is expected to begin in the fall.

**Planning Board meeting of June 21<sup>st</sup>:** The Planning Board met with members of the Tree Preservation Subcommittee to receive an update on the Subcommittee's progress and to provide direction on developing potential tree preservation guidelines and/or a general bylaw. The Board then met with members of the Community Preservation Committee to hear information about the future CPA revenue and the CPC's plans for community engagement to discuss additional funding options, such as raising the CPA levy from 1.5% to 3%. The Board endorsed an ANR Plan for property located at 944 Old Road to Nine-Acre Corner to divide the existing lot into two lots. The Board discussed its goals and objectives for the next year; the top priorities are updating the Comprehensive Long Range Plan and the Subdivision Rules & Regulations; reviewing the proposed guidelines and/or bylaw from the Tree Preservation Subcommittee; and, taking a more active role in furthering alternative transportation options in the community. The Board also intends to develop Site Plan Rules & Regulations, discuss with the Building Inspections staff interpretation of Gross Floor Area and the Floor Area Ratio and potential amendments to Section 6.2.13 and 7.1.5, and; if Senate Bill 2311 "*An Act Promoting Housing & Sustainable Development*" is passed, begin discussing what amendments to the Zoning Bylaw and Subdivision Rules & Regulations will be required.

**Comprehensive Long Range Plan Committee meeting of June 24<sup>th</sup>:** The Committee discussed questions, insights and observations from member's review of the 2005 Comprehensive Long Range Plan, reviewed a preliminary draft of a Request for Proposals for consultant (including a discussion of where to focus efforts), and discussed the process for organizing the Plan using the APA matrix as a guide.



**DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & LAND MANAGEMENT**  
Natural Resources • Planning • Building • Health

**Natural Resources Division**

Contact: (978) 318-3285

**Activity at the former Rogers Land on Harrington Ave.:** The new community garden and 2-acre farmland at the former Rogers land are well underway for the season. Division of Natural Resources staff recently completed a project to install a bedrock irrigation well on the property, and a separate slope restoration project is nearing completion. The irrigation work was funded in part by a generous contribution from the Stone Soup Dinner corporation. Work is in the planning stages for a footbridge at the Second Division Brook Conservation Land, and the Trails Committee has begun to establish a trail from the Second Division Brook land to Harrington Park.

**Natural Resources Commission up-coming meeting :** 12 new applications were received this week for the July 6th meeting including: a Request for Determination of Applicability (RDA) for 83 Pilgrim Road to confirm wetland boundaries; an RDA for 332-334 Bedford Street to install a swing set; an RDA for 69 Gifford Lane to confirm the wetland boundary for construction of a deck; a Notice of Intent (NOI) for 91 Hayward Mill Road to construct a detached garage; an RDA for 87 Elsinore Street to reactivate and modify an existing irrigation system, remove a pump house and fill the well; an NOI for the Concord Museum for the demolition of an existing building and construction of a 4,800-square foot addition, including a new access driveway, parking lots, and utility work; an NOI for 136 Laurel Street to demolish and reconstruct a single family house; an NOI for 63 Virginia Road to install solar panels; an Amendment Request for 40 Squaw Sachem Road to re-grade and construct retaining walls; an NOI for the Middlesex School to replace a culvert; an NOI for Concord Public Works to replace a culvert; and an NOI for the Division of Natural Resources to construct a foot bridge at the Second Division Brook Conservation Land.

**Health Division**

Contact: (978) 318-3275

**Board of Health:** After serving two consecutive terms on the Board of Health, Dr. Woodward’s term officially ended on May 31, 2016. Board members and staff extended their sincere appreciation and gratitude to him for his dedicated service and uncompromising commitment to public health issues, particularly around teen smoking and the rising opioids crisis, as well as his guidance throughout the controversy concerning artificial turf playing fields.

**Septic Betterment Loan Program:** There has been an increase in applications for low interest loans available to homeowners replacing their septic systems. The Health Division has processed 6 loans in the past three months for a total of



See something in the community that could use some fixing? Maybe it's a pesky pothole or a street light that's out. Let us know via SeeClickFix/ Commonwealth Connect on the web or on your mobile phone!