



TOWN OF CONCORD

Town Manager's Report

Week Of: October 5th 2015

SeeClickFix Goes Live

The Town of Concord is excited to announce a new program that will allow residents to report quality-of-life issues and request Town of Concord services through an online and mobile interface. Powered by SeeClickFix, the place-based reporting *Commonwealth Connect* platform allows residents to document neighborhood concerns and improvements alike, ranging from litter and flooding to damaged sidewalks and malfunctioning traffic signals.

With the online and mobile reporting platform, residents can report quality-of-life concerns through service request categories via the Town website, mobile applications (iPhone, Android), Facebook App, and SeeClickFix.com. When submitting issues via mobile app, for example, residents can provide locational, descriptive, and photographic information as they see the issue in real time. Once the resident submits an issue, the reporter, Town Staff, and anyone 'watching' the area will receive an alert. The Town can then acknowledge the service request, route it to the proper department, and update the request—and residents following the issue—once it's been resolved.

For questions/comments about this new feature, please contact Sean Dugan, Public Information Officer, at sdugan@concordma.gov

Mosquito Surveillance

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) announced two recent human fatalities from West Nile Virus (WNV) in residents of Suffolk County, and announced that Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) virus has been detected in a mosquito in Massachusetts for the first time this year in the Town of Northbridge in Worcester County. Although the MDPH risk level for WNV and EEE remains low in Concord, MDPH reminds residents that it is important to take steps to protect themselves against mosquito bites: use insect repellent, cover up, and avoid outdoor activities at dusk and after nightfall when mosquitoes are the most active.

Senior Flu Clinic

The Senior Flu Clinic has been scheduled for Thursday, October 15th from 10am to Noon at the Harvey Wheeler Community Center. Immunizations for influenza and pneumonia will be available at no cost to seniors. All seniors are invited to attend; there is no need to pre-register or sign up for this clinic.

Town of Concord Social Media

As of this week, we have 339 'likes' on Facebook, and 93 followers on Twitter.

Residents are encouraged to share any pictures or information that would be interesting to the community. Send submissions to Sean Dugan, Public Information Officer, at sdugan@concordma.gov

www.facebook.com/concordmass
www.twitter.com/concord_MA



Learn more about how you can receive energy rebates up to \$1,000 @ www.greenyourheatconcord.com

Commonwealth Connect
Report potholes and other problems to your town on the go!

Download on the App Store
Get it on Google play

SeeClickFix



HUMAN SERVICES DIVISIONS

RECREATION • SENIOR SERVICES • COMMUNITY SERVICES • YOUTH SERVICES • VETERANS OUTREACH

Community Services

Contact: Aileen Buford, 978-318-3034,
abuford@concordma.gov

The Community Services Coordinator received 40 emails, 15 phone calls and had 4 home/office visits this week all related to assistance requests. The focus of the requests were for assistance with paying utility bills, rent payments, food assistance, housing/landlord issues, domestic violence issues, fuel assistance and SNAP application assistance.

The Community Services Coordinator has received **Beacon Santa Applications**. Any Concord resident with children under the age of 18 living in the household and who is in need of financial assistance for holiday gifts, please contact Aileen Buford, MSW for an application and program details. Application DEADLINE is 10/30/15.

Any Concord resident under the age of 60 who is interested in applying for **FUEL ASSISTANCE**, please contact Aileen Buford for an application/informational packet about the SMOC fuel assistance program. Eligible households receive assistance paid directly to their heating vendor including oil, electric, gas and propane. Eligibility is based on gross annual income and family size. Fuel Assistance season opens November 1st, 2015.

SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) assists individuals and families with funds to purchase food. You can apply in person, online or by mail. Anyone under the age of 60, a resident of Concord and interested in determining eligibility or applying for SNAP benefits, please contact Aileen Buford.

Concord Cares – is an emergency oil disbursement program providing up to 75 gallons of emergency heating oil—only in crisis. To apply, contact the Community Services Coordinator, Aileen Buford, OR, if 60 or older, contact the Concord Council on Aging at 978.318.3020. After Hours EMERGENCY NEED contact the Concord Fire Department at 978.318.3488 or the Concord Police Department at 978.318.3400.

Community Services

Donations Accepted at:

- **Harvey's Treasure Chest**, supporting local senior citizens, donations to 1276 Main St. Concord, MA
- **Open Table**, donations of food, personal hygiene, dish washing/laundry detergents, etc...www.opentable.org
- **Hugh Cargill Trust**— Assists eligible residents with emergency bill assistance up to \$500. Call 978-318-3100, extension 2030.

Veterans' Services

The Veteran Services Officer (VSO) assisted a resident veteran with emergency transportation to Emerson Hospital. The veteran made arrangements to get home.

The VSO contacted a resident veteran about the "Mass Health Buy In" application that needs to be completed and mailed in to receive her Chapter 115 veteran benefit.

Two VSO's from Massachusetts communities have contacted Concord requesting information relative to similar situations that were handled in Town.

A local veteran was assisted with his application for his "100% Service-Connected Annuity." The annuity is given twice a year to veterans who are 100% disabled via military service. The veteran must prove residency.

The family of a disabled veteran contacted the VSO requesting assistance with tax relief forms required to continue receiving a residential real-estate tax break. Paperwork was supplied to the family member.

The VSO was contacted by the widow of a veteran requesting information on surviving spouse benefits.

The VSO was contacted by several veterans requesting help with groceries from the food pantry, obtaining a VA Identification card, veterans conference in Portland, Maine, and assisting a qualifying veteran, who is low income, with prescription benefits.



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

Planning Division

Planning Board Meeting of September 29: The Board met with Trinity Church representatives to discuss a requested amendment to the approved Landscape Plan to delete the hedge in front of the cottage. The Board also discussed potential Zoning Bylaw amendments for the 2016 Annual Town Meeting. The Board is considering the following Warrant Articles: Flood Plain Conservancy District to incorporate the new Letter of Map Revision for the Mill Brook; Agricultural Exemptions in compliance with State Law, additional evaluation criteria for Site Plan Review for educational, religious or child care facilities; PRD amendments to increase diversity and clarify the type of affordable housing; and amend the affordable housing requirement for Combined Business/Residential projects. Following up with the Site Plan Review amendment discussion, the Board determined that there was a need for a more deliberative process for recommending the granting of relief from parking requirements to the Board of Appeals. The Board continued to discuss potential Bylaw amendments to address ‘mansionization’ and will have further discussions at the November 10th meeting. The third item of discussion for the Board was the creation of a Tree Preservation Subcommittee to assist the Board in exploring various options to address the clear-cutting of single residential lots. A Board member will be drafting a charge for the Subcommittee for review and discussion by the Board at the October 13th meeting.

Historic Districts Commission Meeting of October 1st: The HDC reviewed two continued and one new application for changes within the Historic Districts. The Commission approved one new Certificate of Appropriateness for new lighting at 469 Lowell Road. The Commission also reviewed the latest plans for the proposed new market at Millbrook Tarry. While they agreed to leave the application open until after the Planning Board has reviewed the project, they came to the consensus that the proposed design is appropriate to the Historic District. The Commission also continued its review of 427 Lowell Road to the October 15th.

Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Advisory Committee Meeting of October 1st: The BFRTAC reviewed the updated memo from Director Rasmussen and compilation of Town staff comments to clarify the comments. They also reviewed the design plans for the bridge over the Assabet River, the tunnel under Powder Mill Road and completed their comments and questions on the 75% design plans.

Natural Resources

Upcoming Natural Resources Commission Meeting on October 7th: The NRC will hear the following matters: continued Notices of Intent (NOI) for the Concord Greene Condominium Association to implement an Aquatic Management Program for the ponds on the property, and for 2112 Main Street to construct a new garage; a new NOI for the Town – Engineering to install two overflow pipes and rip-rap swales at Assabet Avenue; a new NOI to construct a floating dock at 1250 Lowell Road; a new Request for Determination of Applicability (RDA) to install a septic tank and utilities at 469 Lowell Road; a new NOI to construct a restaurant building and hotel addition at 740 Elm Street; a Request to Amend an Order of Conditions to expand the existing lawn at 144 Park Lane; and a new NOI for Phase 2C of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail.

Health Division

Permitting: 3 septic system plan reviews; 4 septic permits issued; 3 septic plan designs denied; 6 septic variances issued; 1 Letter of non-compliance issued. 4 deep test holes witnessed; 20 septic field inspections and 4 Certificates of Compliance issued; 8 sewer reviews and 10 building reviews completed. 2 Well permits were issued. 8 catering permits and 2 temporary food event permits issued.

Building Inspections Division

Brookside Square: A temp. Certificate of Occupancy was issued in time for an open house event on Friday. Residents are expected to begin moving into the 74 residential units on Saturday, October 3rd.
Black Birch PRD: The first building permit was issued for construction to begin on the first house.
Rooms for Rent through AIRBNB require a special permit: A complaint regarding ads advertising rooms for rent in Concord was filed, and the Building Commissioner found that the 11 ads for Concord included properties in surrounding towns and that the others are properties that have received a special permit to operate.



CONCORD PUBLIC WORKS (CPW)

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

Crosby's Corner Reconstruction - Project Update

The Mass. Department of Transportation (DOT) continues efforts around the installation of the center median barrier along Route 2 that enables the shift of traffic in the eastbound direction up on to the bridge. For the remainder of the construction season efforts will be focused around:

- Installing new traffic lights at the Crosby's Corner intersection
- Constructing concrete sidewalks and installing curbing at the Crosby's Corner intersection.
- Removing temporary pavement and replacing it with loam and seed along Route 2 westbound
- Constructing Stormwater Basin #7 along with the building of a gabion wall in this area (between Orchard Lane and Oak Knoll in Lincoln)
- Installing landscape plantings at Service Road 3 and 7 in Lincoln and around the bridge area
- Re-constructing Service Road 2 near Brooks Road due to a grading revision in this area
- Potentially constructing the berm and relocation of the driveway at Drake Park Road

It is anticipated that the majority of the Crosby's Corner project will be completed before winter shutdown. The current project completion date is October 31, 2016. Following the 2015 winter shutdown the majority of remaining work will consist of additional plantings during the spring and fall of 2016 and final paving and pavement markings in summer or fall of 2016.

CPW Storm Response

The heavy rain that fell on September 30th kept CPW crews busy throughout the day clearing catch basins, monitoring and clearing culverts, and responding to minor street flooding issues. At 2:00 PM Cambridge Turnpike was closed to through traffic due to flooding but it was reopened before the morning commute on October 1st. There were no other detours or road closures needed.

Household Hazardous Waste Disposal

There will be two more household hazardous waste collections this year at the Minuteman Household Hazardous Products Facility located at 60 Hartwell Ave. in Lexington. The dates are:

Saturday, October, 17th, 9:00AM- 2:00PM

Saturday, November 7th, 9:00AM- 2:00PM

Curbside program subscribers can receive a free pass for up to one load of hazardous waste (25 lbs. or 25 gallons) by calling (978) 318-3240 or stopping by CPW at 133 Keyes Rd. during business hours. Non-curbside subscribers and businesses pay the vendor, Clean Harbors, directly (check only, payable to Clean Harbors).

This is a great opportunity to properly dispose of a variety of household hazardous waste including cleaning products, chemicals, pesticides, herbicides, solvents, bleach, flammable liquids, lighter fluids, anti-freeze, and other hazardous products. For a complete list of acceptable products, visit www.concordma.gov or contact CPW at (978) 318-3206.

Curbside Solid Waste Collection - Fall Barrel Stickers

The fall barrel stickers (\$39.00) for the current six-month subscription period (10/1/15 – 3/31/16) are now available for sale at the Town House and the following stores: Crosby's, CVS, Concord Lumber, W. Concord 5&10, W. Concord Pharmacy.