



TOWN OF CONCORD

Town Manager's Report

Week of: July 25, 2016

Property Tax Bills Due August 1

The first quarter payments of Concord's Fiscal Year 2017 property tax bills are due in the Treasurer-Collector's Office at the Town House by 5:00PM on Monday, August 1. Taxpayers that have not paid their property taxes yet are reminded that interest at the rate of 14% per year will accrue on all overdue property tax bills from the due date until the payment is received, according to Anthony T. Logalbo, Town Treasurer.

The Treasurer also reminds taxpayers that postmarks ARE NOT USED to verify timely payment. State law requires that property tax payments must arrive in the Treasurer-Collector's Office in order to be considered paid by the due date.

Questions about tax payments should be directed to the Treasurer's Office at 978-318-3050. Please contact the Assessor's Office at 978-318-3070 if you have not received a tax bill.

Please note that the Treasurer's Office hours for the week of 7/25-7/29 are 8:30am-4:30pm and until 5pm on the tax due date, August 1

2016 White Pond Beach Pass Program

The Town of Concord has partnered with the White Pond Associates for the 2016 Season to provide discounted access to Concord Residents and their families to the beach and parking area. Residents may obtain a one-day beach pass for family (one car-load) access to White Pond Associates swim area.

Beach cards are limited and may be reserved through the Recreation Department up to three days in advance. Passes must be paid for, in full, at time of reservation.

Beach cards will be available for Resident reservation and/or pick-up at the Hunt Recreation Center located on 90 Stow Street in Concord Monday through Friday from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM. Passes are good for 24-hours.

Citizens may also inquire about pass availability, or arrange alternative pick-up arrangements, by calling the Recreation Department directly at (978) 287-1050 during normal business hours.

Concord Welcomes New Community Services Coordinator

We are happy to announce the hiring of Bonny Wilbur as the Community Services Coordinator. Bonny has a Master's degree in counseling and comes to us from our Senior Services Division, where she served as Program Supervisor. She started her new role as of June and has been making positive contributions to the community by linking residents to key resources in and around Concord, as well as coordinating efforts with other Town Departments.

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, and we'll share your ideas with others.



DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & LAND MANAGEMENT (DPLM)
Natural Resources • Planning • Building • Health

Planning Division

Contact: (978) 318-3285

Bruce Freeman Rail Trail update: Comments from the MBTA Canvass were submitted and reviewed by Town staff and design engineers at GPI. Town Counsel reviewed the MBTA License Agreement and MassDOT Rail Lease; discussed insurance requirements with the Town Manager and Assistant Town Manager; reviewed the proposed ANR plan for the future transfer of State land to the Town for the small parking lot off Commonwealth Ave. and sent a follow up email to the State's Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance regarding the land transfer and easement.

Comprehensive Long Range Plan Committee (CLRPC) meeting of July 22nd: Committee members decided to move forward with a table of contents similar to the one used in the Nashville master plan, which received an award from the American Planning Association this year. The CLRPC will begin with a broad community outreach process to develop the vision for 2030, identify the issues and trends facing the community, the goals and objectives to support the community vision and the strategies for reaching those goals. The Committee also reviewed two of the six APA sustainable principles: Livable Built Environment and Harmony with Nature to reach consensus on the definition and begin to identify information needed to support further discussion. An important topic for consideration of the Livable Built Environment will be the impact of an aging population on services.

Natural Resources Division

Contact: (978) 318-3285

Natural Resources Commission meeting of July 20th: The following matters were heard: the continued Notice of Intent (NOI) for Concord Public Works to replace a culvert on Lowell Road; the continued NOI for Middlesex School to replace a culvert; a new NOI for Concord Public Works to replace three culverts on Shadyside Avenue; an NOI to replace a culvert at 296 Bedford Street; and an NOI to demolish and reconstruct a single family house at 269 Sudbury Road. Orders of Conditions were issued for the Lowell Road, Middlesex School, and 296 Bedford Street culvert projects. An Order was also issued to construct a garage at 91 Hayward Mill Road.

New Trails Committee Appointment: The Natural Resources Commission voted to appoint Carlene Hempel as the newest member of the Trails Committee to replace the seat left vacant with the resignation of Murray Nicolson. Carlene has served as a trail steward and currently sits on the West Concord Advisory Committee.

Health Division

Contact: (978) 318-3275

Concord Museum - 200 Lexington Road: Health Division staff met with Museum staff and the Museum's architects to discuss design considerations for the new kitchen that will be constructed as part of the Museum's proposed expansion.

Building Inspections Division

Contact: (978) 318-3280

Food Trucks: The Building Division is receiving a greater number of requests to allow food trucks to set up in public and private parking lots and in the two centers of Town. The response to these requests has always been that the Concord Zoning bylaw does not allow this use. A request has been sent to the Concord Planning Board asking if they wish to change this as a future zoning bylaw change.

1888 Main Street - Ingham Lane Planned Residential Development (PRD): This Building Inspections Division completed a final inspection on the last house in the Ingham Lane PRD off Main Street in West Concord. The Ingham Lane PRD is made up of 7 detached single family dwellings with one of the units deed-restricted for affordable housing purposes. The project is accessed by a 20-foot wide private drive that terminates with an emergency turnaround and two public parking spaces. The project includes a sidewalk from Main Street along one side of the drive to a common open space area at the rear of the development that includes a community garden and walking path. The sidewalk, walking path and community garden will be open to the general public.