



# Town of Concord

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## Concord Asks Land Court to Clarify Rights in the Nagog Pond Watershed

CONCORD, MA— The towns of Concord and Littleton are in discussions about how the communities might address water resource interests in and around the Nagog Pond Watershed.

Littleton is experiencing economic growth that is causing the town to consider what water resources are available to meet its expected increase in demand due to commercial development. To address this need, Littleton is looking to establish three new groundwater wells near Cobbs Hill and located within approximately 1,500 feet of Nagog Pond.

Concord and Littleton have engaged in conversations to determine if the towns can agree on a plan to share waters from the Nagog Pond watershed to meet Littleton's expected new growth. During these discussions, Littleton indicated that in addition to its three proposed wells, it also has an interest in taking water directly from Nagog Pond potentially leaving Concord without an important water source. The discussions come at a critical time for Concord as it is set to begin construction on a federally required water treatment plant at Nagog Pond which will require significant investment.

Nagog Pond has been an important water supply for Concord for more than a century. Over the years the town has proven to be a wise steward of that resource by acquiring 100 acres of land surrounding the pond to protect its water quality and the ecosystem, developing a comprehensive resource protection plan, and establishing a water conservation plan.

Given the importance of Nagog Pond to Concord's public drinking water infrastructure, Concord has asked the court to determine which of two laws, the 1985 Water Management Act or Chapter 201 of the Acts of 1884, is superior. The answer to this question is important to both communities as they contemplate significant financial investments to provide quality drinking water to their respective customers. The Court's decision may provide a basis for determining the type of agreement the towns may secure going forward. A full copy of the Land Court filing can be [viewed here](#).

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