

funding in the amount of \$250,000 was obtained by CPW for the project. The remaining project funding is through State aid (Chapter 90) program. The bridge was opened to vehicular traffic in November.



*The failing parapet wall of the Nashawtuc Bridge was repaired with Community Preservation Act funding.*

#### *Geographic Information System (GIS)*

Concord's GIS program continues to grow and become more integrated into daily operations. Water & Sewer field personnel now have the use of field laptops loaded with GIS software and data, saving them time in the field. The Engineering Division will utilize similar technology to develop a mobile right-of-way permit system which will increase overall productivity.

The Highway and Engineering Divisions have spent considerable time inspecting outfalls and other drainage system structures, and using the new information to update these layers in the GIS system. The drainage information within the GIS has been updated based on these inspections.

PeopleForms use continues to expand within the GIS Program. The GIS Program Coordinator coordinated the Town-wide project to develop a Web311 system, called "Ask Concord". The system is accessible to the public through the Town website and allows residents to view a frequently asked questions data base.

The Engineering Division continues to enhance the attribute information available for drainage system data as structures are cleaned and inspected. Every day, more and more pictures and inspection sheets become available to CPW staff through the CPW WebGISstaff site.

#### *Technical Support*

Engineering staff provides engineering and construction management support services for CPW and various Town departments, boards and commissions.

The Town Engineer represented the Town on the Route 2 Corridor Advisory Committee (CAC) to address several projects:

- Crosby's Corner – MassHighway/MassDOT has submitted a Notice of Intent to continue the final stage of the environmental permitting required for the project. The Engineering Division is in the process of obtaining peer review engineering services for the review of the stormwater management of the project. This will be used to supplement in-house review. CPW has been in discussions with MassHighway/MassDOT to provide improvements to Cambridge Turnpike to address the volume increase in stormwater that will be generated by the Crosby Corner Project. The construction bid advertisement for the project date is anticipated to be published in September.
- Route 2/Concord Rotary – MassHighway design consultant is in the process of preparing the filing of the Environmental Impact Report with MEPA along with preparing the 25% design plan set. Subsurface boring tests are being performed in critical locations of the project including proposed bridge, drainage basin, and retaining wall locations. No construction timeline is planned at this time as the project is not within the current Transportation Improvement (TIP) Program.

## **HIGHWAY & GROUNDS DIVISION**

Dickinson Fowler,  
Highway & Grounds Superintendent

Approximately 107 miles of public streets and 55 miles of sidewalks are maintained by the Highway and Grounds Division of Concord Public Works. The compost facility is managed and cared for by the Highway staff as well as the maintenance and replacement of 2,700 road signs. More than 90 pieces of CPW equipment and vehicles are cared for by CPW mechanics and staff. The Park and Tree Supervisor, who is also the Town's Tree Warden, directs the care of all public shade and park trees. All 82 acres of public parks and grounds and 39 acres of active recreation areas, as well as ten athletic fields, including the new multi-use fields at Concord Carlisle Regional High School (CCRHS) are cared for by the Park and Tree staff.

### *Snow Removal Program*

Significant activity took place during the 2009 season. Winter maintenance personnel ensured that all roads and sidewalks were kept safe and passable through their diligent snow plowing and use of salt, sand and state-of-the-art brine applications for the thirty-six snow events. Six storms required full mobilization of Town staff and contractors, while only one event, just before Christmas, required a full snow removal operation. Highway and Grounds staff were able to handle all other snow removal operations for the season. The first reportable snowfall took place on December 17, with the largest storm occurring on the 19th and 21st of December, totaling 21 inches.



*Snow day*

### *Roads and Sidewalk Maintenance*

Catch Basin Cleaning and pavement preservation contracts for crack sealing and infra-red patching are managed by the Highway Division. These programs were completed in the spring and fall during cooler temperatures. Highway crews installed full-depth patches in preparation for roads projects as well as performing crack sealing. Streets and roads that received treatment included the landfill access, Mildred Circle, Powdermill, Sudbury, Hawthorne, Lexington, Commonwealth, and Nimrod. Berms were installed on Williams Rd. and Hawthorne Lane to better control water flow and limit erosion.

The Highway Division performs road repair and regular maintenance, sign repair and replacement, brush cutting, sweeping and sidewalk maintenance. Sidewalk reconstruction was performed on Old Bridge Rd. along

with a newly constructed path on ORNAC starting at Rollingwood and continuing on to the adjacent conservation land. A number of other smaller repair projects were completed in cooperation with CMLP. Highway staff assisted in the repair of the stairs at Junction Park facilitated with a donation by Concord resident Bob Moran. Work included construction of a walking path including all paving and the installation of drainage as well as installing new stairs and a railing, facilitating a safer and more convenient access.

### *Drainage*

Highway staff completed four major drainage projects on Wheeler Rd., Edgewood Rd., Wilson Rd. and Old Marlboro Rd. Each of these projects required numerous catch basin replacements and additions as well as headwall repairs and dewatering. In addition to these major projects, repair and replacement was carried out on drainage structures on Oak Hill Circle, Buckmaster Dr., Hill St., Lawsbrook Rd., Bedford Ct., River St., Main St., Ministerial Dr., Old Pickard Rd., and Highland St. as well as a major replacement and realignment of a basin on Powdermill Rd. Catch basin cleaning was carried out in the east part of Town on over 1,300 catch basins with catch basin cleaning in West Concord scheduled for 2010.

### *Parks and Playgrounds*

Since the addition of the new multi-use fields at CCHS, along with Emerson, Rideout, Ripley and Sanborn, almost 50 acres of athletic fields are maintained by the Park and Tree crew. These fields are heavily used from spring through fall by athletic programs including baseball, softball, soccer and lacrosse. Maintenance performed on these fields includes mowing, raking, line painting, cleaning, seeding, fertilizing and general upkeep. A new sprinkler system was installed at the High School in addition to the maintenance of all existing systems. A baseball field at Emerson Field was “skinned” and converted from baseball to softball. Maintenance of various conservation areas, the Town’s Visitor Center grounds and the community gardens was ongoing as well as numerous gateway traffic islands and business district public access areas. The Park and Tree crew also managed the hanging plant program in West Concord as well as painting traffic signals and poles at Baker Ave., the intersection of Commonwealth and Main, and Church St.

### Trees

Over 70 public shade and park trees were planted in accordance with the Division’s policy of “the right tree in the right place.” Public Shade Trees were planted on private property in accordance with the shade tree setback planting policy. Six streetscape trees were planted on Thoreau St., Main St. and Bedford St. Ten trees were planted at the High School by Park and Tree staff with the assistance of students. In addition to new plantings, over 35 trees were pruned and another 137 were taken down because they were in hazardous condition, jeopardizing public safety. Trees continue to be removed in the Sleepy Hollow Cemetery by Concord Tree Crews in accordance with the Cemetery Committee’s hazardous tree study.



The “public shade tree protection policy” administered by the Tree Warden and Park and Tree staff continues to be shared with the public, contractors and Town Departments. The Division’s goal remains to replace at least one public shade tree for every public shade tree that is removed or dies. This continues to be a challenge based on budget constraints, since the needed take downs have exceeded the planting options. A newly created memorial tree program was successfully implemented with receipt of \$3,500 in donations and which allows for recognition on the Town Geographic Information System (GIS) with a picture and “virtual” plaque.

### Cemetery

In addition to routine maintenance, mowing, and burial activities, the cemetery staff worked on numerous projects and provided contractor oversight. The planning layout and survey work at the Knoll was completed and

35 lots were sold. Project plans for historical restoration and improved functionality of the Sleepy Hollow Administration building were approved and commenced utilizing Town staff and contractors. This building will be used for Town offices. Cemetery operations and administration will be moved to the Knoll location, where needed space was obtained through the relocation of a donated garage from the Nashoba Brook School. Once relocated and reassembled, Town staff installed water and sewer services, allowing cemetery operations to be moved in early 2010.

In the eighth year of a multi-phase monument restoration program in the older cemeteries, preservation consultants completed the assessment at “Old Hill” and continued the second year of physical conservation efforts at this location.

## RECYCLING AND WASTE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Rod Robison,  
Environmental Services Program Administrator

### Curbside Collection, Disposal, and Processing

The municipal curbside collection program provided trash and recycling services to 3,323 households. Subscribers to the municipal curbside collection program set out 1,331 tons of mixed paper, 533 tons of commingled containers, and 2,387 tons of trash for collection. The average household that subscribes to the Town program recycled 0.56 tons of materials and threw away 0.72 tons of trash.

Year	Subscribers (as of June 30)			Recycling Rate
	Number of Subscribers	Recyclables collected (tons)	Trash collected (tons)	
FY98	2,518	1,264	2,351	35%
FY05	3,218	1,998	2,571	44%
FY06	3,224	1,986	2,552	44%
FY07	3,184	1,982	2,559	44%
FY08	3,305	2,025	2,467	45%
FY09	3,323	1,864	2,387	44%

(FY = July 1 through June 30)

### Curbside Recycling Rate

Residents using Concord's municipal curbside collection program recycled 44% of the materials they set at the curb. This figure does not include yard waste, which residents manage at home or drop off at the Composting Site on Saturdays, April through November. It also does