



Town of Concord

Weekly Operations Report

2024 Volume 18/May 24th, 2024

General Administration

Town Manager Office

Much thanks to Aaron Miklosko & Steve Dookran from CPW and Communications Manager Donna McIntosh for their assistance to the West Concord Junction Cultural District's installation of the Poetry Phone on the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail! The new piece of public artwork was unveiled at the Spring Into West Concord event on May 18th and is anticipated to remain on site for a period of about three years.

Like the much-loved murals on this side of town, West Concord's Poetry Phone provides pedestrians of all ages a spontaneous opportunity to pause to experience place-centered art. The Poetry Phone builds the identity of West Concord as a cultural center and fosters a unique, vibrant neighborhood. The Poetry Phone structure is comparable to an old phone booth. All are invited to enter the booth, lift the handset of the repurposed payphone, and to hear a recording of an original poem.

A number of other dial-a-poem projects across the country have been successful. For Concord's effort, Jennifer Hurley-



Wales enlisted local artists Mike Sprague to design and construct the booth and Ed Feather to facilitate the electronics for the repurposed phone. Original poems by students and the general public were selected by representatives of writing programs within local organizations, schools, and the public library, then passed on to the Poetry Phone team. The team was inspired by artist Ryan McGuire's creation, The Smile Phone in Granville, Ohio. McGuire provided technical support to the Concord team.



Police Department

Calls for Service

Thursday, May 16th - Wednesday, May 22nd, 2024

- Log items: **669**
- Traffic enforcement: **52**
- Motor vehicle stops: **103**
- Motor vehicle crashes and/or paper exchanges: **10**
- Arrests: **5**

Inspector Holsinger, Officer Brady, and Officer Lordan assisted with Bike to School for the Alcott School on May 16th.

Officers Lordan, Sellards, and Miller assisted the Massachusetts State Police and Acton Police on May 17th with an OUI Checkpoint.

Officers assisted with the traffic detours for the annual Drop-Off-Swap-Off events on Keyes Road on May 18th.

On May 18th, SRO Detective Rodriguez accompanied CCHS students at the Senior Prom in Boston.

Officer Mailloux assisted with the National Brain Tumor Society bike ride through Town held on May 19th.

After successfully graduating from the Merrimack College policing program, Officer Athlyn “Attie” Wood was sworn in on May 20th by Town Clerk Kaari Tari.

Chief Mulcahy and Captain Goldman attended a training and exercise design meeting at MEMA on May 21st for the upcoming 250th Celebration.

Planning and Land Management

Planning

Historical Commission

The Town of Concord and the Concord Historical Commission is looking for feedback from residents *and* non-residents as they develop a community-wide Historic Preservation Plan for the 21st century. As a part of the Historic Preservation Planning process (now in the public outreach phase) the Town has posted a [survey](#) to get feedback on people’s favorite historic resources, what they cherish, value & take pride in, historic preservation goals, and other key questions for the community. The Commission is working with a historic preservation consultant, holding several focus group sessions and planning meetings on Natural Resources, Economic Vitality & Tourism, Education, Archeology, and Historic Preservation stakeholders.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation recognized Minute Man National Historic Park and Concord historic sites through their America’s 11 Most Endangered Historic Places program, bringing national attention to Concord.

Planning Board

At the May 21st meeting, the Planning Board held a joint meeting with the West Concord Advisory Committee to discuss ways to improve the coordination between the PB and WCAC, changes to the WCAC Charge & geographic area of interest, and whether to pursue updating the West Concord Village Master Plan & Design Guidelines. The Board also finalized their goals and project for the next year, which includes MBTA Communities Zoning Site Plan Rules & Regulations, updates to the Subdivision Rules & Regulations,

updates to the Tree Preservation Bylaw Rules & Regulations, further analyzing the Zoning Bylaw parking requirements & potential Zoning Bylaw amendments for Industrial Zoning Districts, Additional Dwelling Units, combined business/residence, and various housekeeping amendments.

Zoning Board of Appeals

At the May 16th meeting, the ZBA continued the public hearing without discussion for the Comprehensive Permit application at 275 Forest Ridge Road – Residences at Thoreau to July 25th at 7 p.m. The Chair noted that the applicant was in the process of redesigning the project based on issues and concerns raised at the first public hearing and at the site visit.

Planning Division

Senior Planner Ann Clifford has gathered and synthesized updates on all 38 open Community Preservation Committee projects and finances. Of those 38 projects, five were completed and closed. Updates for each project have been uploaded to the [CPC Current Meeting Documents](#) webpage. Now that Town Meeting approved funding for 19 new CPA applications, Ms. Clifford has begun drafting the required MOUs for Town projects and Grant agreements for non-profit applicants.

Concord Public Works

Water/Sewer

Water Use Restriction: Level 1 Update

With the warm weather this week, Concord Public Works wanted to remind water customers that we are currently in a Level 1 – Water Use Restriction which limits lawn watering to 1 day per week.

Why? One of our water supplies (Nagog Pond) continues to need work on the intake (the pipe which brings the water from the pond to the treatment plant). We are working hard to complete the necessary work. **When can I water?** One day a week before 9 am or after 5 pm. Your watering day is based on the municipal trash pickup schedule. You can find your



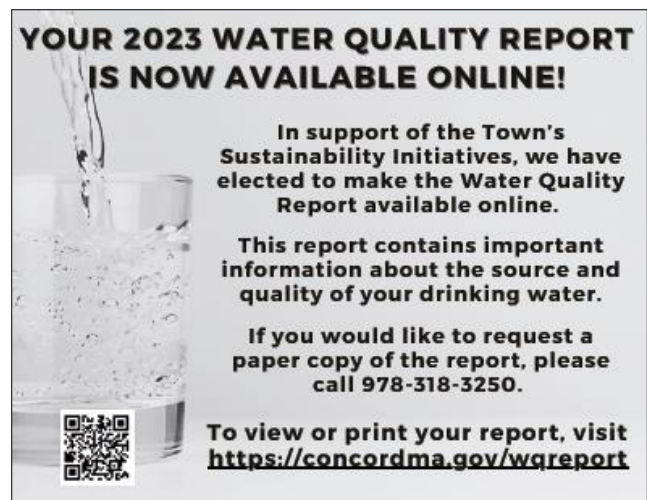
watering day and more information about the watering restrictions at <https://concordma.gov/irrigation>. Thank you for your support.

Annual Water Quality Report: Now Available

The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) requires Public Water Systems like Concord Public Works' Water & Sewer Division to prepare and deliver an Annual Water Quality (WQ) Report to all customers to inform them of important health and safety issues associated with their drinking water. To view Concord's 2023 Annual WQ Report, please visit

<https://concordma.gov/wqreport>. This report is available in PDF format, which can be easily viewed, downloaded, or printed from your computer or smartphone. Not only does electronic delivery allow for easy access, it also enables Concord Public Works to see the number of web page hits and evaluate which outreach methods are most effective for reaching out to our customers.

This is the twelfth year that Concord has used the electronic distribution approach, resulting in increased readership and a cost savings of over \$4,000 in printing and distribution costs. While these savings are meaningful, it is most important that we reach as many customers as possible with the information provided. As such, Concord Public Works has made a concerted effort to make our water customers aware of this electronic delivery method for the Annual WQ Report by providing notice in the Concord Bridge, as well as by sending a mailing with the direct link to the report to all postal patrons in town.



A limited number of paper copies have been printed and are available to those interested upon request. Additionally, hard copies of the Annual WQ Report can be found at the following locations:

- Concord Post Office and West Concord Post Office
- Crosby's Marketplace (211 Sudbury Road)
- Concord TownHouse (22 Monument Square)
- Concord Free Public Library, Main & Fowler Branches
- Concord Public Works' Offices, including the Water & Sewer Division (135 Keyes Road)
- Concord Health Department (141 Keyes Road)
- Beede Fitness Center (498 Walden Street)
- Concord Social Services (55 Church Street)
- Concord Council on Aging (1276 Main Street)

If you would like to request a paper copy be mailed to you, please call 978-318-3250.

Council On Aging

New England Botanic Garden at Tower Hill

All aboard for the New England Botanic Garden at Tower Hill in Boylston, MA. A van load of Concord residents headed out on a Thursday morning to experience the wonder of plants and cultivate friendship. COA program director Tina Close led the group for only a half day adventure because the rain came. Better luck next year!





COA regulars and supporters, Marcia and Paul White (front) and Betsy Spaulding and Linda Benua (back) took in as much of the grounds as they could before the thunder rolled in.