



TOWN OF CONCORD

Town Manager's Report

Week of: May 30, 2016

Lt. Governor Polito Visits Concord

Contact: (978) 318-3000

We were proud to have hosted Mass. Lt. Governor Karyn Polito and our friends from Stow for the signing of the 205th and 206th Community Compacts last Thursday. These compacts represent support from the Governor's Office in implementing best practices in government all across the Commonwealth!



Concord Firefighter Graduates State Firefighting Academy

State Fire Marshal Peter J. Ostroskey and Massachusetts Firefighting Academy Director George D. Kramlinger announced the graduation of the 243rd class of the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy's forty-five-day Career Recruit Firefighting Training Program on May 20, 2016, including one of our very own, Mike Allain. "This rigorous professional training provides our newest firefighters with the basic skills to perform their jobs effectively and safely," said State Fire Marshal Peter Ostroskey. The Massachusetts Firefighting Academy (MFA), a division of the Department of Fire Services, offers this program, tuition-free. The ceremony took place at the Department of Fire Services in Stow, MA.

Today's firefighters do far more than fight fires. They are the first ones called to respond to chemical and environmental emergencies, ranging from the suspected presence of carbon monoxide to a gas leak. They may be called to rescue a child who has fallen through the ice or who has locked himself in a bathroom. They rescue people from stalled elevators and those who are trapped in vehicle crashes. They test and maintain their equipment including self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), hydrants, hoses, power tools, and apparatus.

At the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy they learn all these skills and more from certified fire instructors who are also experienced firefighters. Students learn all the basic skills they need to respond to fires and to contain and control them. They are also given training in public fire education, hazardous material incident mitigation, handling flammable liquids, stress management, confined space rescue techniques, and rappelling. The intensive, nine-week program for municipal firefighters involves classroom instruction, physical fitness training, firefighter skills training, and live firefighting practice.



Starting with Class #200, the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy changed its training format from 72 students in a 12-week program to a smaller class size of 24 students in a 9-week class. With a new class starting every three weeks, there are 72 students on campus at any one time, but the smaller class size achieves time efficiencies without compromising learning, and in fact may improve education with smaller student/instructor ratios.

2016 Concord Preservation Awards

The Concord Historical Commission (CHC) is pleased to announce the winners of the 2016 Preservation Awards. The program was established by the CHC in 2015 and is aimed at honoring property owners, architects, contractors, local organizations, and individuals for their contributions in maintaining and enhancing the architectural, historical, and cultural heritage of the Town of Concord. The full list is available on the concordma.gov webpage on the right-hand side under News and Notices.

Commonwealth Connect

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



See something in the community that could use some fixing? Maybe it's a pesky pothole or a street light that's out. Let us know via SeeClickFix/ Commonwealth Connect on the web or on your mobile phone!



DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & LAND MANAGEMENT

Natural Resources • Planning • Building • Health

Planning Division

Contact: (978) 318-3290

Planning Board meeting of May 24th: The Planning Board heard additional information regarding the proposed Concord Market at Millbrook Tarry and asked the Town Planner to prepare a draft recommendation to the Zoning Board of Appeals for consideration at the June 7th meeting.

Comprehensive Long Range Plan Committee: Planning Division staff met with Select Board members Jane Hotchkiss and Mike Lawson to discuss the initial meeting of the CLRP Committee, scheduled for 8:00 a.m. Wednesday, June 15th. Director Rasmussen was asked to update the schedule in the Charge to the Committee and create an agenda for that meeting.

Bruce Freeman Rail Trail: Director Marcia Rasmussen followed up with the design engineer to discuss potential revisions to the easement over the MBTA/West Concord Depot property in response to concerns raised by the owner of 24 Commonwealth Ave. regarding truck and vehicle movement between the buildings. Director Rasmussen provided follow up information to four property owners after meeting with the appraiser last week.

Building Inspections Division

Contact: (978) 318-3280

11-13 Derby Street: Inspections staff notified the property owner that the landscape contractor had dumped earth and debris onto adjacent property owned by the State that will soon become the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail. The property owner informed Inspections staff that the contractor will be completing the project and will remove the earth and debris.

Concord Carlisle Regional High School landscaping: This past week Planning Division staff confirmed that the landscaping proposed for the high school site has been installed per the revised plans.

Natural Resources Division

Contact: (978) 318-3285

Heywood Meadow: With the completion of the wall at Heywood Meadow, plans are underway to plant native pollinator-friendly plantings on the west Meadow. Members of the Heywood Meadow Stewardship Committee and Natural Resources staff staked out locations to plant 300 butterfly milkweed and 15 New Jersey tea. The native plantings are funded through a generous grant from the Concord Garden Club.

Trails Committee: Staff is diligently working with the Trails Committee to finalize the Barretts Mill Conservation Area Trail Guide, the eleventh guide in the series. This guide includes historical information about the Barretts Mill area and includes trails in the Finigan Way Conservation Land. Assistant Director Lori Capone will be meeting with the Historic Districts Commission next Thursday to obtain permission to install a kiosk at the Barretts Mill Conservation Area parking area.

National Trails Day: The Town is hosting the Appalachian Mountain Club on June 4th to construct bog bridges along the Emerson-Thoreau Amble and to plant native seedlings at Heywood Meadow. Anyone interested in volunteering should contact the DNR office at 978-318-3285.

Warner's Pond Dredging Feasibility Study: Two proposals were received this week to develop a Dredging Feasibility Study for a limited dredge at Warner's Pond. Proposals will be evaluated over the next week to determine a recommendation on a selected contractor.

Health Division

Contact: (978) 318-3275

Preparing for summertime activity: Health Division staff focused on inspecting and licensing swimming pools, bathing beaches and recreational camps this past week. Four semi-public beaches underwent the first round of water sampling, which will be done weekly until Labor Day, and all met acceptable water quality limits. All public and semi-public pools that requested to be licensed for the Memorial Day weekend were inspected and opened.