



# Mason Conservation Commission Minutes

March 10, 2010  
7:00 pm to 9:30 pm

## In Attendance

- Anna Faello
- Liz Fletcher
- Bob Larochele
- Barbara Devore
- Cynthia Hajjar
- Ann Moser

Voted unanimously to accept Feb. minutes.

Liz told Dan McGuire to pick up the sign for Florence kiosk in the second floor office.

DES bill for \$100 was paid last month. It is a fee the State levies on all hazardous waste. We are now on the state list of hazardous waste generators!

Liz says DES has informed her the MBTE leak at the fire station has been resolved and the state file is closed (*see DES closure letter on last page*). They thought it was created by a minor gas spill.

Bob L to supply laptop and projector for Allan Eaton (tick man) Wed May 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm. *See page 3 & 4 for schedule of events.*

Liz thinks the Esau Stanley land should get a bench similar to the one for Florence Roberts land.

Charlie will contact Maureen Vaillancourt (Mason Brook Nursery) to coordinate the gift certificates (for seedling to plant) for trash bags picked up for the Earth day clean up. The town picks up the bags if they are left on the side of the road.

Bill Downs says the forestry committee agreed the 2008 ice storm damage needs to be cleaned up. The worst areas may need help. Fed program BCAP (biomass crop assistance program). Starting Sept. 09 US gov. will assist with money for crops and supplement payments for low value wood as fuel to help reduce oil dependence. Chips usually get \$1-2 per ton but with this program can get \$8 per ton. Right now the program is on hold because there is a lot of interest but also fraud. It may not come back online until Aug. 2010.

Bill thinks there will be maybe one more season where we can get money for broken pine trees (if they are still alive) during the clean up operation. Bill is willing to look at the CC properties using aerials or visual inspection and report back to us. If we don't pay him it won't be official and he prefers it that way. He can also look at the view shed at the top of the hill on Bronson's land. Bill thought it might be done for free as a part of other projects to attract buyers. He recommended several acre clear cuts to change the age class of the forest and encourage wildlife habitat.

Mark Archambault gave Liz info since he could not make our meeting but he wants us to consider participating in the working forum first meeting in April or May at the NRWA...*see page 2 for more.*

Liz and Anna are planning to attend. We also went over questions Mark asked about protecting water resources in Mason and 9 surrounding towns and working together. Last question: Main issues CC has been dealing with in the past few years have been Bronson cleanup, land acquisition and management.

Money paid for Moheban land (\$285k cash) gives us a chip match for future land acquisition. Liz brought in a Rocky Brook target land preservation corridor (G-23, 72, E-26 & 27, E-10 & 37) can continue now that Mann's property MBTE case is closed. Liz and Barbara want to contact Mann, Shwank, and Marsden (E-37) to gauge the potential interest.

From Mark Archambault  
Smart Growth Circuit Rider  
Nashua River Watershed Association

Here's what I was going to hand out and discuss had I been able to be there and in Townsend at the same time. I have to work on that bi-location thing!:

MEETING WITH THE MASON CONSERVATION COMMISSION, March 10, 2010

Discussion Points

1. Grant received from the ENVIRON Foundation: "Crossing Boundaries and Barriers: A New Way of Working Together".
2. The grant seeks to promote intermunicipal and interstate cooperation in protecting the water resources of the Squannacook-Nissitissit sub-watershed in NH and MA. It aims to do so by:
  - a. Convening a working forum of the nine towns by establishing a series of meetings of key public officials and stakeholders. The first few meetings will be devoted to identifying the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats facing the Squannacook-Nissitissit sub-watershed in each town and across town and state boundaries.
  - b. These meetings would take place every other month.
  - c. In addition to Conservation Commissioners; members of Planning Boards, Boards of Health and Selectmen will be invited to attend, as well as interested and concerned citizens.
  - d. Ideally, the first meeting would take place in April or early-May at the NRWA's offices in Groton, MA.
  - e. It would be great if the Mason Conservation Commission could identify a person to attend these working forum meetings at this meeting, or get back to me very soon.  
--- Liz and Anna can do this.
  - f. Question: Would the Mason Conservation Commission participate in an internet listserv comprising the towns of the sub-watershed? Would you find such a communication tool to useful?  
---- Yes!
  - g. Question: Should an intermunicipal 'communication protocol for emergencies' be pursued? Would it 'add value' to existing arrangements for intermunicipal communication and cooperation, such as they exist for the Fire Dept. / mutual aid? (Note: Mark is researching what protocols are in place now.)  
--- Good to research this, we hope something is in place, not sure how Cons Com would be part of it.
  - h. Question: Can you think of any other ways that towns can 'work together in a new way' to promote the protection of their shared water resources?  
--- meeting for sharing goals and ambitions, innovative ideas; controlling invasive plants
3. What are the main issues that the Conservation Commission has been dealing with over the last few years?  
--- land acquisition and conservation easements, resulting in land management issues. Also Natural Resources Inventory.  
trying to improve wetlands and groundwater protection ordinances, not hopeful in present climate

## **Contact and Fee Info**

### **Spring '10 Programs**

**Salamander Migration with Rick Glatz**

**on Wednesday, March 17**

Contact information:

Rick Glatz

Mastricola Middle School

Madeline Bennett Drive

Merrimack, NH 03054

[rickglatz@hotmail.com](mailto:rickglatz@hotmail.com)

cell phone number is 381-1593

Fee: \$125

**This Yard is for the Birds ~ Landscaping for Wildlife**

**by Margaret Hagen on Wednesday, April 7**

University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension

329 Mast Road

Goffstown, NH 03045

phone: 603-641-6060

fax: 645-5252

email: [Margaret.Hagen@unh.edu](mailto:Margaret.Hagen@unh.edu)

Fee: \$30 for mileage

**Ticks and Human Diseases They Spread in New Hampshire**

**by Dr. Alan Eaton on Wednesday, May 5**

**Professor at UNH and with UNH Extension Service**

[Alan.Eaton@unh.edu](mailto:Alan.Eaton@unh.edu)

Fee: \$70 for mileage

**CC needs to provide a screen, laptop computer and LCD projector.**

**Dragonflies with Tom Young on Thursday, June 17 at 7:30 pm and Saturday, June 19 for a morning field experience**

Tom Young

20 Trowbridge Drive

Merrimack, NH 03054

[rustysnaketail@yahoo.com](mailto:rustysnaketail@yahoo.com)

Home phone 603-424-4512

Mobile phone 603-493-1776



The State of New Hampshire  
**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**



**Thomas S. Burack, Commissioner**

July 31, 2009

David Cook  
Town of Mason  
16 Darling Hill Road  
Mason, NH 03048-4615

**CERTIFICATE OF NO FURTHER ACTION**

**SUBJECT:** **MASON – Highway Garage and Fire Department Properties, 83 and 101 Depot Road, DES Site #199706053, ETHER, Project #1**

**Groundwater Monitoring Data Transmittal – May 2009**, prepared by StoneHill Environmental, Inc., Dated June 11, 2009, Activity #148675

Dear Mr. Cook:

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (DES) has reviewed the above referenced report and information in our file relative to the subject site. This report, prepared on your behalf, transmits analytical data for the May 2009 groundwater sampling event at the subject site. A request for site closure is also included in the report. This information was compared with the criteria for issuance of a *Certificate of No Further Action* as contained in New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules Env-Or 600, *Contaminated Site Management*. These criteria are outlined below:

1. All human health hazards associated with direct exposure to contaminants through dermal contact, ingestion, and inhalation have been eliminated;
2. All necessary activity and use restrictions have been implemented;
3. All sources of groundwater contamination have been eliminated;
4. All on-site and off-site dissolved contamination levels meet groundwater quality criteria as specified in Env-Or 603.01;
5. All recorded release of recordation notices are on file with DES as required by Env-Or 607.09;
6. Any penalties or fines issued under RSA 146-A, RSA 146-C, RSA 147-A, and RSA 485-C have been paid;
7. All fees or costs due under RSA 147-F have been paid.

DES Web Site: [www.des.nh.gov](http://www.des.nh.gov)

P.O. Box 95, 29 Hazen Drive, Concord, New Hampshire 03302-0095

Telephone: (603) 271-3644    Fax: (603) 271-2181    TDD Access: Relay NH 1-800-735-2964

David Cook  
Town of Mason; DES #199706053  
July 31, 2009  
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DES has concluded that the conditions at this site meet the above closure criteria. Through issuance of this Certificate of No Further Action, DES certifies that no additional investigation, remedial measures, or groundwater monitoring will be required by DES for the ETHER project. Accordingly, DES will remove this project from our active project list and close the regulatory project file.

DES reserves the right, under New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules Env-Or 600 Contaminated Site Management, to require additional investigations, remedial measures, or groundwater monitoring if further information indicating the need for such work becomes known.

### **Site Closure Activities**

Your consultant should decommission the inactive groundwater monitoring wells on the site. Please direct your consultant to use the unit-based and project-based costs for Monitoring Well Decommissioning as detailed in the Oil Fund Disbursement Board *Guidance Manual: Policies, Procedures & Rules for Reimbursement*. In order to be reimbursed for well decommissioning activities, Abandoned Well Registration Report forms must be completed and submitted to the New Hampshire Water Well Board and the DES Oil Remediation and Compliance Bureau. This form is available on our website at [http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pip/forms/wwb/documents/wwb\\_abandoned\\_well.pdf](http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pip/forms/wwb/documents/wwb_abandoned_well.pdf)

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding this letter.

Sincerely,



David Reid, P.G.  
Oil Remediation & Compliance Bureau  
Tel: (603) 271-3431  
Fax: (603) 271-2181  
E-mail: david.reid@des.nh.gov

cc:        Gary Lynn, P.E., DES ORCB (by email)  
            Chad Tomforde, P.G., StoneHill Environmental, Inc. (by email)  
            Mason Health Officer (by email)

Route:    Joshua C. Whipple, P.G., DES ORCB