

AGENDA
Mansfield Conservation Commission
Regular Meeting
Wednesday, September 18, 2013
Audrey P. Beck Building
CONFERENCE ROOM B
7:30 PM

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Roll Call**
3. **Opportunity for Public Comment**
4. **Minutes**
 - a. August 21, 2013
5. **New Business**
 - a. IWA Referrals: W1522 – Galey, 85 Coventry Road, Fire Pond and Dry Hydrant
 W1523 – Hussey, 500 Mansfield Avenue, Caretaker Dwelling
 - b. Other
6. **Continuing Business**
 - a. Review of Town-Owned Easements
 - b. Mansfield Tomorrow | Our Plan ▶ Our Future
 - c. Swan Lake Discharge Mirror Lake Dredging and other UConn Drainage Issues
 - d. UConn Agronomy Farm Irrigation Project
 - e. Eagleville Brook Impervious Surface TMDL Project
 - f. UConn Hazardous Waste Transfer Station
 - g. Ponde Place Student Housing Project
 - h. CL&P "Interstate Reliability Project"
 - i. Protecting Dark Skies in the Last Green Valley
 - j. Water Issues
 - k. Other
7. **Communications**
 - a. Minutes
 - Open Space (8/20/13)
 - PZC (9/3/13)
 - IWA (9/3/13)
 - b. Wetlands Agent Month Business Report
 - c. Fall 2013 CLEARscapes
 - d. Other

8. **Other**
9. **Future Agendas**
10. **Adjournment**

Town of Mansfield
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Meeting of 21 August 2013
Conference B, Audrey P. Beck Building
(draft) MINUTES

Members present: Aline Booth (Alt.), Robert Dahn, Neil Facchinetti, Quentin Kessel, Scott Lehmann. *Members absent:* Joan Buck (Alt.), Peter Drzewiecki, John Silander, Michael Soares. *Others present:* Leigh Duffy, David Freudmann, Rick Hossack, Alison Hilding, Sherry Hilding, Grant Meitzler (Wetlands Agent), Linda Painter (Town Planner), Susan & Philip Spak, Patricia Suprenant, Betty Wassmundt.

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:31p by Chair Quentin Kessel. Booth was designated a voting member for the meeting.

2. **Public comment.**

- a. In a letter dated 8/21 and e-mailed to Commission members, Winifred Gordon expresses concern about sacrificing green space for UConn's Tech Park and about importing water to support expansion at UConn and development elsewhere in Mansfield. The letter is attached.
- b. Rick Hossack also voiced concern about UConn's expansion and urged the Commission to object to the Town's joining UConn in contracting with the Connecticut Water Company (CWC) to import water (primarily from the Shenipsit Reservoir).
- c. Betty Wassmundt objected to the Town Council's timeline for a decision on the CWC proposal – why 60 days? There should be no rush to judgment. A better case for Mansfield's involvement in what is basically a UConn project should be made, in her view. She also expressed concern about protecting the Fenton River watershed, as UConn will continue to draw water from the Fenton well-field.
- d. Alison Hilding asked whether UConn needs the Town's participation to import water. Linda Painter noted that the Tech Park legislation requires cooperation with the Town on that project, which will require additional water from somewhere; she added that development at Four Corners requires sewerage and additional water. Ms. Hilding predicted that the CWC project will increase development pressure – and, inevitably, development – in Mansfield, and maintained that what will be lost as a result outweighs the benefits of additional water for Four Corners and the assisted living facility proposed by Masonicare. In her view, UConn's interests are driving fundamental changes in Mansfield, detrimental to quality of life here. She also doesn't like inter-basin water transfers.
- e. Pat Suprenant viewed water importation as a benefit to UConn and (on balance) a cost to Mansfield. She doubted that an overlay zone would be adequate to control induced development. The Town should realize that its interests do not coincide with UConn's and go its own way. She also expressed disappointment that growth-control provisions in the draft State Plan of Conservation and Development were watered down in the final document to the point of having no effective force.
- f. Sherry Hilding, who likes Mansfield the way it is, thought the Town should not abet UConn's expansion plans by signing on to the CWC proposal.

3. The (amended) draft minutes of the 19 June 2013 meeting were approved as written.

4. **Town Council Referral: CWC proposal.** The Commission has been asked by the Town Council to review the Water Source Study's Record of Decision (ROD), in which the Connecticut Water Company was selected over Windham Water Works and the Metropolitan

District Commission as the preferred supplier of new water for UConn and Mansfield. In advance of the meeting, Kessel circulated by e-mail a draft comment, which served as the basis for discussion. The Commission did not directly address the broad issues raised in the public comments. Kessel's draft comment and the Commission's discussion of it focused more narrowly on the ROD and statements made by Tom Callahan in his presentation to the Town Council on 8 August 2013.

Lehmann asked for clarification of "statements at the August 8, 2013 [Council] meeting that the Tech Park might put the University in charge of any off-campus improvements somehow related to the Tech Park." (draft, paragraph 4) What exactly was said and what authority is being claimed? Painter supplied copies of Tom Callahan's power-point presentation and Sec. 92 of Public Act 11-57, which he cites in slide 3. She thought that water importation is probably not within the scope of "off-campus improvements undertaken as part of said [= Tech Park] project," but noted that she is not a lawyer. Dahn suggested recommending that the Town get a legal opinion on the extent of powers granted to the University by the Tech Park legislation. Also unclear is what Callahan means by "normalization" of the "University role in town development decisions" (slide 14).

Facchinetti wondered if the Commission shouldn't express concern about the inter-basin water transfer, as this was an important consideration in its stated preference for obtaining any new water from Windham Water Works. Kessel replied that, in his view, the ROD did a good job of arguing that inter-basin transfers should not be dismissed out-of-hand and that the environmental impacts of the CWC proposal were indeed limited.

Facchinetti also worried that the CWC's proposed Customer Advisory Commission will be weaker than a Water Board and that water rates for Mansfield customers now getting water from UConn will go up to cover the capital costs of the new water line (which CWC has proposed to assume). David Freudmann noted that the state has budgeted money for additional UConn water and suggested applying it to the CWC project instead of having CWC front all the capital cost. There was general agreement that the Council should look closely at financial aspects of this project.

A motion (Dahn, Lehmann) authorizing Kessel to revise his draft comment on the ROD in light of the discussion and to submit it to the Council was approved unanimously. It is attached.

Most of the visitors left the meeting at this point.

5. Conservation Easement monitoring. The Commission has been asked to monitor the Town's conservation easements on some regular basis. The last time anybody did this was about twenty years ago, when there were a lot fewer easements. Kessel suggested monitoring on a 10-year cycle, which would reduce the annual load to a manageable number. Further planning was deferred to the September meeting.

6. Continuing business. Jessie Shea wonders if the unchanging list of continuing business items should be pruned. Instead, "Water issues" will be added to the list.

7. Adjourned at 9:23p. Next meeting: 7:30p, Wednesday, 18 September 2013.

Scott Lehmann, Secretary, 24 August 2013.

Attachment 1: 21 August 2013 letter from Winifred (Winky) Gordon.

To the Member of Mansfield's Conservation Commission:

I am writing to ask that you exercise your powers in advising the PZC and Town Council about best practices for preserving Mansfield's rural character and ensuring wise use of natural resources.

Like many others, I am disturbed by UConn's plans to build on a major parcel of green space when there are alternatives that would make better use of existing infrastructure. I am horrified by the vision of ultra-modern structures that will equal 3 times the size of the Eastbrook Mall displacing what is currently woodlands, wetlands, and prime agricultural soils. As you are aware, this sort of development is in direct opposition to the recommendations of the State Plan of Conservation and Development. The concurrent proposal to bring water from the Shenipsit Reservoir to feed UConn's expansion and Mansfield's development makes this an even greater environmental travesty.

My questions to the town of Mansfield: do we really want another small city on the UConn campus? How will this benefit our town? How can we reimagine the Four Corners development to make it an appropriate size for sourcing local water? Don't we think that the State of CT (UConn) should be held to its own best advice about water use and development through the State POCD and the call for a statewide water plan?

We are at a critical time in planning our town's future. Do we want to simply go along with what UConn thinks is best or do we want to be an active participant in determining Mansfield's future? Perhaps the Mansfield Tomorrow project can be the vehicle for letting residents weigh in on how we want to live with our very large neighbors.

Respectfully,

Winifred T. Gordon
36 C Charter Oak Square
Mansfield Center 06250

Attachment 2: Conservation Commission Comment on Record of Decision for Supplemental Water, 24 August 2013.

At the Town of Mansfield Town Council (TC) meeting on August 8, 2013, the Council referred the Record of Decision (ROD) and its choice of the Connecticut Water Company (CWC) to the Mansfield Conservation Commission (CC) for comment. The forwarding of the following comments was agreed to at the CC August 21, 2013 meeting. Not only was the ROD considered, but also comments made at the TC meeting by representatives of the University and the law firm of Pannone, Lopes, Devereaux & West (PLDW) on the governance of the proposed water system for the Town of Mansfield and the University of Connecticut. Further input was provided by the numerous citizens who attended our August meeting and provided well-reasoned input on this matter.

The CC believes that the Town of Mansfield should insist upon an equitable agreement between the Town, the University, and the CWC. This agreement must be transparent and fair to the taxpayers of Mansfield and should provide an adequate water supply to meet the stated needs of the University and Mansfield into the future.

PLDW states that “With regard to growth management off-campus, Mansfield’s authority through its zoning regulations would be controlling.” At the September 4, 2012 Special Meeting of the PZC Regulatory Review Committee, Mansfield Director of Planning and Development, Linda Painter, stated that she would work with the EIE on a timeline to ensure that new regulations are adopted prior to the submission of permits to the DEEP and coordinated with the upcoming POCD update. As noted below, the CC recommends a moratorium on lot- and sub-division approvals along any proposed pipeline route until the proposed overlay zone, or a similar measure to prevent undesirable development along the pipeline route is a part of Mansfield’s PZC regulations.

The CC is concerned about statements made by the University's Tom Callahan at the August 8, 2013 TC meeting that the Tech Park legislation would put the University in charge of any off-campus improvements somehow related to the Tech Park: "Section 92 *The university shall have the charge and supervision of all aspects of the project* authorized under this section (as provided for pursuant to UConn 2000), as provided in section 10a-109n of the general statutes. Such *charge and supervision shall extend to any off-campus improvements* undertaken as part of said project. *The university shall work in consultation with the town of Mansfield regarding any on-site or off-site utilities* that are financed pursuant to this section." (slide 3, emphasis in original) This is an odd statement to make when the Tech Park is projected to increase water demand by about only 10% over the next 45 years – sort of like the tail wagging the dog. Also, Mr. Callahan's statement about “normalization” of the University role in Town development decisions (slide 14) is worrisome. This does not seem to bode well for an equitable governance agreement between the Town and the University. The CC recommends that the Town pursue legal opinions on the intent and extent of the powers granted to the University by Public Act 11-57. The Town's rights, or lack of rights should be established before entering into negotiations with the University and CWC.

In these negotiations, it is important to protect the taxpayers of Mansfield from unreasonable charges. No agreement should, by itself, result in assessment fees for non-users and forced hookups to the new system. The CWC is run as a profit-making business. One can only assume that the seemingly generous offer of the CWC to front the money for the pipeline and other improvements will be more than recaptured by the water-use fees charged the Town of Mansfield and the University. CWC rates may be regulated by PURA, but these rates will certainly take into account the capital costs of establishing the new system. How does the University plan to use the \$8 million in tech Park funding for water and the \$18 million for water in the Next Generation funding now that CWC has offered to pay these costs? An analysis should be provided to determine whether a portion of this \$26M invested into the infrastructure costs that CWC has proposed to assume might not make long-term fiscal sense (through lower water rates to the Mansfield and the University).

Footnote 2 to Table 1-1 in the ROD raises several questions:

Footnote 2 includes 0.35 mgd from the Fenton well field in their safe yield, when during the summer there are periods it is not appropriate to pump any water from the Fenton wells.

There is also reference to Well D, which has been scheduled for repairs. Have these repairs been carried out, and if not, when will they be? The CC notes that inadequate maintenance of the Willimantic River well fields resulted in over-pumping from the Fenton in the 1990s and early 2000s.

The CC hopes the plan to move Pumping Station A farther from the Fenton River will be implemented at some point. This is projected to increase the yield from this portion of the

Fenton River aquifer while lessening its impact upon the river itself.

The following section numbers refer to the ROD.

2.2.13 (p. 37). "UConn submits that reliance upon the Mansfield overlay zone ... addresses the need to mitigate potentially more intensive development resulting from the availability of a pipeline water supply."

The CC members have no knowledge of this overlay zone. The CC recommends a moratorium on lot and sub-division approvals along any proposed pipeline route until the overlay zone, or some other form of protection, is a part of Mansfield's PZC regulations (*cf.* Mansfield's recent moratorium on subdivisions, while those regulations were rewritten).

2.12. "Any new developments in the Eagleville Brook drainage basin will need to show that there will be no net increase in storm water runoff for storm events up to and including the 1% annual chance storm event to be consistent with the TMDL and the requirements of the Floodplain Management certification."

There should be a clear statement detailing just who will be responsible for the implementation of this requirement and how it will be overseen and enforced.

2.18. MDC Statement: The CC notes that unless service connections to other municipalities were allowed along the proposed pipeline to UConn, UConn might have to own and maintain the pipeline from East Hartford. Not only would the MDC option have been more expensive to the Town of Mansfield, but the additional interconnections might have encouraged undesirable urban sprawl (induced development).

CWC Statement: The CC was impressed with the CWC's stated support of Mansfield's interests, especially not having a "wheeling fee" for the transfer of water through the University system and support of establishing a formal governance structure and a Customer Advisory Council. As stated earlier regarding the agreement, this governance structure should be transparent and establish an equitable governance process.

The CC believes it is logical to bring the additional water by a route entering the UConn system along the to-be-constructed Tech Park road. This should minimize disturbance, if the work is coordinated with the road construction, and deliver the water more directly to the UConn storage system.

PAGE
BREAK

APPLICATION FOR PERMIT
MANSFIELD INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY
4 SOUTH EAGLEVILLE ROAD, STORRS, CT 06268
TEL: 860-429-3334 OR 860-429-3330
FAX: 860-429-6863

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
File # 621522
Fee Paid \$185
Date Received 7-24-13

Applicants are referred to the Mansfield Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Regulations for complete requirements, and are obligated to follow them. For assistance, please contact Grant Meitzler, Inland Wetlands Agent at the telephone numbers above.

Please print or type or use similar format for computer; attach additional pages as necessary.

Part A - Applicant

Name Jim Galej

Mailing Address 85 Coventry Road, Mansfield, CT

Zip 06268

Telephone-Home 860-424-2226 Telephone-Business _____

Title and Brief Description of Project

Construct 4,900 SF fire pond and dry hydrant

Location of Project Northwest corner of lawn area

Intended Start Date 09/15/2013

Part B - Property Owner (if applicant is the owner, just write "same")

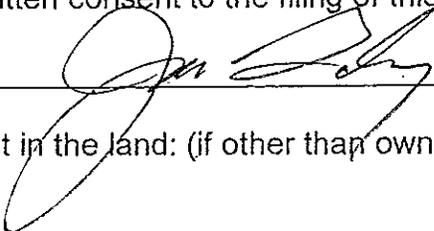
Name James Galej

Mailing Address 116 Sean Circle, Coventry, CT

Zip 06238

Telephone-Home 860-742-0640 Telephone-Business 860-646-2469

Owner's written consent to the filing of this application, if owner is not the applicant:

Signature  date 7/12/13

Applicant's interest in the land: (if other than owner) Son and permanent tenant

Part C - Project Description (attach extra pages, if necessary)

1) Describe in detail the proposed activity here or on an attached page. (See guidelines at end of application – page 6.)

Please include a description of all activity or construction or disturbance:

- a) in the wetland/watercourse
- b) in the area **adjacent** to (within 150 feet from the edge of) the wetland/watercourse, even if wetland/watercourse is **off** your property

Construct a 4,900 SF fire pond and dry hydrant. Excavated material will be generated from the existing lawn area (estimated quantity to be excavated - 900 cy). No wetland area will be disturbed. The nearest wetlands is located across the driveway to the east, approximately 60 feet away from the proposed pond site. The pond will drain away from the wetlands. This area is the best location for a pond on the property and provides fire trucks access without affecting the wetlands. The excavation will be performed with 324 excavator, loading directly to truck which will haul material from the site. The pond will be encircled with silt once wetlands are located up gradient from the site. This is the only known wetlands application related to this site.

2) Describe the amount or area of disturbance (in square feet or cubic yards or acres):

- a) in the wetland/watercourse
- b) in the area **adjacent** to (within 150 feet from the edge of) the wetland/watercourse, even if wetland/watercourse is **off** your property

- Affected wetland - 0 SF

- Adjacent area (60' from wetlands) - 4,900 SF

3) Describe the type of materials you are using for the project: Silt fence

- a) include **type** of material used as fill or to be excavated Grass turf and subsoil will be excavated.
- b) include **volume** of material to be filled or excavated Approximately 900 cy

4) Describe measures to be taken to minimize or avoid any adverse impacts on the wetlands and regulated areas (silt fence, staked hay bales or other Erosion and Sedimentation control measures).

The location was selected to mitigate any wetlands impact. The excavation will be protected by silt fence.

Part D - Site Description

Describe the general character of the land. (Hilly? Flat? Wooded? Well drained? etc.)

The existing lawn is flat.

Part E - Alternatives

Have you considered any alternatives to your proposal that would meet your needs and might have less impact on the wetland/watercourse? Please list these alternatives.

Pond could be dug in rear of house, however at this location it would not provide fire truck access.

Part F - Map/Site Plan (all applications)

1) Attach to the application a map or site plan showing existing conditions and the proposed project in relation to wetland/ watercourses. Scale of map or site plan should be 1" = 40'; if this is not possible, please indicate the scale that you are using. A sketch map may be sufficient for small, minor projects. (See guidelines at end of application – page 6.)

2) Applicant's map date and date of last revision _____

3) Zone Classification _____

4) Is your property in a flood zone? Yes No Don't Know

Part G - Major Applications Requiring Full Review and a Public Hearing

See Section 6 of the Mansfield Regulations for additional requirements.

Part H - Notice to Abutting Property Owners

1) List the names and addresses of abutting property owners

Name Address

See Attached

2) **Written Notice to Abutters.** You must notify abutting property owners by certified mail, return receipt requested, stating that a wetland application is in progress, and that abutters may contact the Mansfield Inland Wetlands Agent for more information. Include a brief description of your project. Postal receipts of your notice to abutters must accompany your application. (This is not needed for exemptions).

Part I - Additional Notices, if necessary

- 1) Notice to Windham Water Works is attached. If this application is in the public watershed for the Windham Water Works (WWW), you must notify the WWW of your project within 7 days of sending the application to Mansfield--sending it by certified mail, return receipt requested. Contact the Mansfield Inland Wetlands Agent to find out if you are in this watershed.
- 2) Notice to Adjoining Town. If your property is within 500 feet of an adjoining town, you must also send a copy of the application, on the same day you sent one to Mansfield, to the Inland Wetlands Agency of the adjoining town, by certified mail, return receipt requested.
- 3) The Statewide Reporting Form (attached) shall be part of the application and specified parts must be completed and returned with this application.

Part J - Other Impacts To Adjoining Towns, if applicable

- 1) Will a significant portion of the traffic to the completed project on the site use streets within the adjoining municipality to enter or exit the site? ___ Yes X No ___ Don't Know
- 2) Will sewer or water drainage from the project site flow through and impact the sewage or drainage system within the adjoining municipality? ___ Yes X No ___ Don't Know
- 3) Will water run-off from the improved site impact streets or other municipal or private property within the adjoining municipality? ___ Yes X No ___ Don't Know

Part K - Additional Information from the Applicant

Set forth (or attach) any other information which would assist the Agency in evaluating your application. (Please provide extra copies of any lengthy documents or reports, and extra copies of maps larger than 8.5" x 11", which are not easily copied.)

Part L - Filing Fee

Submit the appropriate filing fee. (Consult Wetlands Agent for the fee schedule available in the Mansfield Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Regulations.)

___ \$1,000. ___ \$750. ___ \$500. ___ \$250. ___ \$125. ___ \$100. ___ \$50. ___ \$25.

___ \$60 State DEP Fee 185

Note: The Agency may require you to provide additional information about the regulated area which is the subject of the application, or about wetlands or watercourses affected by the regulated activity. If the Agency, upon review of your application, finds the activity proposed may involve a "significant activity" as defined in the Regulations, additional information and/or a public hearing may be required.

The undersigned applicant hereby consents to necessary and proper inspections of the above mentioned property by members and agents of the Inland Wetlands Agency, at reasonable times, both before and after the permit in question has been granted by the Agency.

X

Applicant's Signature

Date

APPLICATION FOR PERMIT
MANSFIELD INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY
4 SOUTH EAGLEVILLE ROAD, STORRS, CT 06268
TEL: 860-429-3334 OR 860-429-3330
FAX: 860-429-6863

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
File # W1523
Fee Paid \$185-
Date Received 8-26-13

Applicants are referred to the Mansfield Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Regulations for complete requirements, and are obligated to follow them. For assistance, please contact Grant Meitzler, Inland Wetlands Agent at the telephone numbers above.

Please print or type or use similar format for computer; attach additional pages as necessary.

Part A - Applicant

Name Farah Hussey
Mailing Address PO Box 511
Mansfield, CT Zip 06250
Telephone-Home 860-625-8813 Telephone-Business 860-423-1187

Title and Brief Description of Project
Construct a caretaker dwelling on existing farm.

Location of Project 500 Mansfield Avenue
Intended Start Date November 2013

Part B - Property Owner (if applicant is the owner, just write "same")

Name Bruce and Franca Hussey
Mailing Address 500 Mansfield Avenue
Mansfield, CT Zip 06250
Telephone-Home 860-450-9340 Telephone-Business _____

Owner's written consent to the filing of this application, if owner is not the applicant:

Signature Franca Hussey Franca Hussey date 8/15/13

Applicant's interest in the land: (if other than owner) Caretaker

Part C - Project Description (attach extra pages, if necessary)

1) Describe in detail the proposed activity here or on an attached page. (See guidelines at end of application - page 6.)

Please include a description of all activity or construction or disturbance:

- a) In the wetland/watercourse
- b) In the area *adjacent* to (within 150 feet from the edge of) the wetland/watercourse, even if wetland/watercourse is *off* your property

a) no proposed disturbance in wetlands

- b) site grading - 3 feet at its closest point
- dwelling - 33 feet at its closest point to swale
- foundation drain outlet - 4 feet at its closest point to swale
- driveway - 55 feet at its closest point to pond
- well - 29 feet to pond
- primary septic system - 70 feet at its closest point to swale
- reserve septic area - 120 feet at its closest point to swale

2) Describe the amount or area of disturbance (in square feet or cubic yards or acres):

- a) In the wetland/watercourse
- b) In the area *adjacent* to (within 150 feet from the edge of) the wetland/watercourse, even if wetland/watercourse is *off* your property

a) no proposed disturbance

b) 0.50 acres of disturbance in upland review area

3) Describe the type of materials you are using for the project: gravel and clean fill

- a) include *type* of material used as fill or to be excavated gravel and clean fill
- b) include *volume* of material to be filled or excavated approximately 100 cu.yds. of gravel for driveway and approximately 300 cu.yds. of clean fill around dwelling.

4) Describe measures to be taken to minimize or avoid any adverse impacts on the wetlands and regulated areas (silt fence, staked hay bales or other Erosion and Sedimentation control measures).

Silt fencing will be installed down gradient of proposed disturbance and maintained until all disturbed areas are stabilized. Hay bales will also be available on site in case of emergency.

Part D - Site Description

Describe the general character of the land. (Hilly? Flat? Wooded? Well drained? etc.)

open field with slopes between 2 to 3 percent

Part E - Alternatives

Have you considered any alternatives to your proposal that would meet your needs and might have less impact on the wetland/watercourse? Please list these alternatives.

The proposed residential use will be less impact on wetlands than the
present agricultural use.

Part F - Map/Site Plan (all applications)

1) Attach to the application a map or site plan showing existing conditions and the proposed project in relation to wetland/ watercourses. Scale of map or site plan should be 1" = 40'; if this is not possible, please indicate the scale that you are using. A sketch map may be sufficient for small, minor projects. (See guidelines at end of application - page 6.)

2) Applicant's map date and date of last revision August 8, 2013

3) Zone Classification PVCA

4) Is your property in a flood zone? Yes No Don't Know

Part G - Major Applications Requiring Full Review and a Public Hearing

See Section 6 of the Mansfield Regulations for additional requirements.

Part H - Notice to Abutting Property Owners

1) List the names and addresses of abutting property owners

Name	Address
<u>see attached sheet</u>	

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Part I - Additional Notices, if necessary

- 1) Notice to Windham Water Works is attached. If this application is in the public watershed for the Windham Water Works (WWW), you must notify the WWW of your project within 7 days of sending the application to Mansfield--sending it by certified mail, return receipt requested. Contact the Mansfield Inland Wetlands Agent to find out if you are in this watershed.
- 2) Notice to Adjoining Town. If your property is within 500 feet of an adjoining town, you must also send a copy of the application, on the same day you sent one to Mansfield, to the Inland Wetlands Agency of the adjoining town, by certified mail, return receipt requested.
- 3) The Statewide Reporting Form (attached) shall be part of the application and specified parts must be completed and returned with this application.

Part J - Other Impacts To Adjoining Towns, if applicable

- 1) Will a significant portion of the traffic to the completed project on the site use streets within the adjoining municipality to enter or exit the site? ___ Yes X No ___ Don't Know
- 2) Will sewer or water drainage from the project site flow through and impact the sewage or drainage system within the adjoining municipality? ___ Yes X No ___ Don't Know
- 3) Will water run-off from the improved site impact streets or other municipal or private property within the adjoining municipality? ___ Yes X No ___ Don't Know

Part K - Additional Information from the Applicant

Set forth (or attach) any other information which would assist the Agency in evaluating your application. (*Please provide extra copies of any lengthy documents or reports, and extra copies of maps larger than 8.5" x 11", which are not easily copied.*)

Part L - Filing Fee

Submit the appropriate filing fee. (Consult Wetlands Agent for the fee schedule available in the Mansfield Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Regulations.)

___ \$1,000. ___ \$750. ___ \$500. ___ \$250. X \$125. ___ \$100. ___ \$50. ___ \$25.

X \$60 State DEP Fee

Note: The Agency may require you to provide additional information about the regulated area which is the subject of the application, or about wetlands or watercourses affected by the regulated activity. If the Agency, upon review of your application, finds the activity proposed may involve a "significant activity" as defined in the Regulations, additional information and/or a public hearing may be required.

The undersigned applicant hereby consents to necessary and proper inspections of the above mentioned property by members and agents of the Inland Wetlands Agency, at reasonable times, both before and after the permit in question has been granted by the Agency.

Applicant's Signature

Date

Paul H. [Signature]

8/15/13

Mansfield Open Space Preservation Committee

DRAFT Minutes of August 20, 2013 meeting

Members present: Jim Morrow (chair), Vicky Wetherell, Quentin Kessel, Ken Feathers, Jennifer Kaufman (staff).

1. Meeting was called to order at 7:35.
2. Vicky was appointed acting secretary.
3. Minutes of the July 16, 2013 meeting were approved.

Old Business

4. *Mansfield Tomorrow* Committee members reviewed a draft of the Natural Systems and Open Space sections for the new Plan of Conservation and Development.
 5. *Consideration of holding a conservation easement at the Atwood property* Joshua's Trust has asked the Town to consider holding an easement on their newly acquired Atwood property. The committee discussed potential issues and requested that the Trust provide information about Atwood's intent and restrictions before the committee makes a recommendation.
 6. Meeting adjourned at 9:00.
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BREAK

DRAFT MINUTES
MANSFIELD INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, September 3, 2013
Council Chambers, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building

Members present: Chairman J. Goodwin, B. Chandy, R. Hall, K. Holt, P. Plante (7:03 p.m.),
B. Pociask (7:02 p.m.), K. Rawn, B. Ryan
Members absent: G. Lewis
Alternates present: A. Marcellino, V. Ward, S. Westa
Staff present: Grant Meitzler, Wetlands Agent

Chairman Goodwin called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Westa was appointed to act in Lewis' absence.

Minutes:

07-01-15 - Regular Meeting- Hall MOVED, Chandy seconded, to approve the 07-01-13 minutes as written.
MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Communications:

The Draft Conservation Commission Minutes and the Wetlands Agent's oral presentation of his Monthly Business report were noted.

Old Business: None.

Pending:

W1502 - Wetlands Violation Ordinance

Item was tabled– no new information.

New Business:

W1522 – Galey, 85 Coventry Road, Fire Pond and Dry Hydrant

Holt MOVED, Ryan seconded, to receive the application submitted by Jim Galey (File #1522) under the Wetlands and Watercourses Regulations of the Town of Mansfield for the construction of a 4,900 square foot fire pond and hydrant on property located at 85 Coventry Road, as shown on a map with a date of 07/15/2013 and as described in application submissions, and to refer said application to staff and Conservation Commission for review and comments. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

W1523 – Hussey, 500 Mansfield Avenue, Caretaker Dwelling

Holt MOVED, Ryan seconded, to receive the application submitted by Farrah Hussey (File #1523) under the Wetlands and Watercourses Regulations of the Town of Mansfield for the construction of a caretaker dwelling on an existing farm on property, located at 500 Mansfield Avenue, as shown on a map with a date of 08/08/2013 and as described in application submissions, and to refer said application to staff and Conservation Commission for review and comments. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Both new business items were scheduled for a Field Trip on 9/11/13 beginning at 3:30 p.m.

Other Communications and Bills: Noted.

Adjournment:

The Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Katherine Holt, Secretary

DRAFT MINUTES

MANSFIELD PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION
INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
FIELD TRIP
Special Meeting
Wednesday, September 11, 2013

Members present: J. Goodwin, B. Pociask, B. Ryan, V. Ward, A. Marcellino (Item #3)

Staff present: G. Meitzler, Wetlands Agent
L. Painter, Director of Planning and Development (item #3)

The field trip began at 3:30 p.m.

W1523 – Hussey, 500 Mansfield Avenue, Caretaker Dwelling

Members were met on site by Ed Pelletier. Members observed current conditions, and site characteristics. No decisions were made.

W1522 – Galey, 85 Coventry Road, Fire Pond and Dry Hydrant

Members were met on site by Jim Galey. Members observed current conditions, and site characteristics. No decisions were made.

PZC File #1049-7- 28 Dog Lane, Paideia Greek Theater Project Exhibit Building

Members were met on site by Elias Tomastos. Members observed current conditions, and site characteristics. No decisions were made.

The field trip ended at approximately 5:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

B. Ryan, Acting Secretary

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DRAFT MINUTES
MANSFIELD PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, September 3, 2013
Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building

Members present: J. Goodwin (Chairman), B. Chandy, R. Hall, K. Holt, G. Lewis, P. Plante (7:08 – 9:25),
B. Pociask, K. Rawn, B. Ryan
Alternates present: A. Marcellino, V. Ward (7:08- 9:06), S. Westa
Staff Present: Linda Painter, Director of Planning and Development
Curt Hirsch, Zoning Agent

Chairman Goodwin called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

Minutes:

August 19, 2013 Regular Meeting: Hall MOVED, Rawn seconded, to approve the 8/19/13 Meeting Minutes as presented. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. Chandy, Holt and Pociask noted for the record that they reviewed the recording of the meeting.

Zoning Agent's Report:

Noted

Public Hearings:

a. Storrs Center Alliance Applications:

- **Application to Amend the Zoning Regulations; Storrs Center Alliance, LLC, applicant, (File #1246-14)**
- **Application to Amend the Zoning Map; Storrs Center Alliance, LLC, applicant, (File #1246-15)**

Chairman Goodwin opened the Public Hearing at 7:09 p.m. Members present were Goodwin, Chandy, Hall, Holt, Lewis, Plante, Pociask, Rawn, Ryan and alternates Marcellino, Ward, and Westa, none of whom were seated. Painter read the legal notice as it appeared in The Chronicle on 8/20/13 and 8/28/13 and noted the following communications received and distributed to all members of the Commission: a letter from Sherry Hilding dated July 14, 2013; a letter from the Windham Regional Planning Commission dated August 7, 2013; a letter from Windham Water Works dated August 9, 2013; a letter from Dennis O'Brien, Town Attorney, dated August 15, 2013; a memo from Fran Raiola, Fire Marshal, dated August 26, 2013; an email from Bhikhu Gandhi dated August 27, 2013, with an attached June 27, 2013, letter and supplemental water usage data; a September 3, 2013, email from Alison Hilding; and a September 3, 2013, letter from Barry Jessurun of Dog Lane Café.

Attorney Thomas P. Cody, of Robinson & Cole, LLP, represented the applicant, Storrs Center Alliance, LLC. He stated that these two applications pertain only to the Storrs Center Special Design District (SC-SDD). The first proposes to amend the regulations to include "limited service hotel" to the list of approved uses within the SC-SDD and the second proposes to amend the zoning map to include a specific hotel in a stated location. He summarized the history of Storrs Center and reported that the Mansfield Downtown Partnership Board has approved the applications and concurred with the applicant that the inclusion of a hotel in Storrs Center is an appropriate use.

Geoffrey Fitzgerald, of BL Companies, the engineer working on the project, reviewed changes to the infrastructure occasioned as a result of changing the residential use to a hotel use, including updates to the Master Parking Plan, Master Traffic Plan, and Master Stormwater Drainage Plan. He reviewed the "entrance only" drive from Route 195/Storrs Road, and he noted that the Connecticut Department of Transportation

approved the proposed one-way entrance drive and curb cut. He stated that compared to apartments, the hotel would post only a slightly increased trip generation in the morning and a decreased trip generation in the evening. The majority of the patrons would park in the parking garage, which had already allocated parking for the residential use, or the hotel developer might propose parking under the structure for the convenience of the patrons. Fitzgerald stated that the hotel use would have slightly less impervious surface than the planned residential units and the height of the proposed building would be reduced from 85 feet to 65 feet.

Attorney Cody stated that the zoning regulations do not require the submission of a market study showing the impact to existing businesses.

A water-usage estimate from three hotels of similar size operating in areas similar to Storrs, in central Connecticut, was presented by the applicant.

Chairman Goodwin asked for questions/comments from the Commission:

Chandy asked where the next closest curb cut south of the entrance drive is located.

Pociask asked where the crosswalk and entrance drive are located in relation to E.O. Smith High School.

Lewis questioned when "actual numbers" can be used for traffic counts. Fitzgerald responded that once the Market Square is built they will have actual numbers.

Raw questioned how many people would have been housed if it remained apartments as opposed to the 100-room hotel.

Hall questioned that if the apartments are being rented quickly and the market seems to be working, why change it from apartments to a hotel. Attorney Cody replied that his client feels there is a market in the area for another hotel.

Lewis requested more information about the water usage data submitted; specifically, if laundry is done on site at these facilities. Lou Marquet, Storrs Center Alliance, responded that they will get more specifics for the next meeting.

Goodwin questioned the traffic study assumption that a hotel would have no greater impact on traffic than apartments, and noted that if the apartments housed students that assumption would be false.

Chairman Goodwin asked for comments from the public:

John Lenard, Deerfield Lane, questioned what the reason was for proposing a hotel instead of apartments.

Mark Okin (sp?), New England Carpenters Union, expressed concern for the safety of the students with the hotel proposed directly across from the High School.

Harry Birkenruth, 81 Ball Hill Road, member of the Mansfield Downtown Partnership, speaking on his own behalf, is in favor of the hotel and feels that the inclusion of a hotel will help make the entire Storrs Center a success. He noted that apartments aren't the only thing needed, noting that many travelers will only stay at brand name hotel chains. He added that those who stay at this hotel will patronize other local businesses.

Art Smith, 74 Mulberry Road, spoke against the application.

Nelson Rowett, Co-Owner of One Tribe, noted that being a new business in the Storrs Center he feels that a community is being built and people will travel here to visit their students or to visit the college as a potential university for their children. Those people who visit will also patronize the local businesses.

Attorney Tim Hollister, representing Campus Associations (Nathan Hale Hotel), spoke against the application and submitted a September 3, 2013, opposition "tabbed booklet". He also requested that all materials submitted at the previous public hearing be entered into the public hearing of this application. He noted that all the reports and presentations did not show any impact outside Storrs Center and that a comprehensive market study should be made.

Sherri Hilding, Courtyard Lane, felt Storrs Center can succeed without adding a hotel and that the proposal will put the existing hotels out of business. She is also concerned with traffic, housing numbers and safety.

Stephen Bacon, Vice President of Mansfield Downtown Partnership, noted that as part of the review process the Mansfield Downtown Partnership has a responsibility to review the application as part of the overall plan to

determine whether the change is acceptable based on impacts on air quality, traffic, water, sewer, stormwater, parking and the number of jobs created.

William Jordon, New England Carpenters Union, expressed concern for the safety of the high school students if prostitution became a problem, because of the hotel's proximity to the high school.

Holly Upton, Birch Road: spoke in favor of the applications stating that the Town and University are growing and this will help all businesses, noting that visitors often could not find rooms at local hotels and had to stay as far away as Manchester.

Curt Hirsch, Courtyard Lane, Mansfield Zoning Agent and member of the Downtown Partnership Subcommittee, speaking on his own behalf and not in any official capacity, stated that he is not expressing an opinion on the applications, but noted that other competitive businesses in town strive to offer good services and stimulate each other to improve their goods and services. He cited examples of the pairs of businesses that seemed to improve each other: two service stations at Four Corners, Starbucks and Dog Lane Café, Wooster Street Pizza and Husky Pizza, Froyo and Peach Wave, etc.

At 9:18 p.m. Holt MOVED, Hall seconded, to continue the Public Hearing to the 9/16/13 meeting. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

b. Special Permit Application, Retail and Retail Sale of Automotive Fuels, 1659 Storrs Road/625 Middle Turnpike; OMS Development LLC, Owner and Applicant (File #1319)

Chairman Goodwin opened the Continued Public Hearing at 9:25 p.m. Members present were Goodwin, Chandy, Hall, Holt, Lewis, Pociask, Rawn, Ryan and alternates Marcellino and Westa. Marcellino was appointed to act in Plante's absence. Linda Painter, Director of Planning and Development, noted the following communications received and distributed to members: an August 19, 2013, memo from Linda Painter, Director of Planning and Development; an August 27, 2013, letter from David L. Spear, P.E. of DLS Traffic Engineering, LLC; and a letter from Samuel L. Schrager dated August 26, 2013.

Attorney Samuel L. Schrager, speaking on behalf of the applicant, reviewed items on a revised sheet of plans (revision dated 8/27/13) which he distributed to the Commission. He discussed the items of concern that were raised at the last meeting.

Noting no further comments from the Commission or the public, Holt MOVED, Hall seconded, to close the Public Hearing at 9:30 p.m. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Old Business:

a. Special Permit Application, Building Addition, Charles River Laboratories, Inc, 65-67 Baxter Road (File #1320)

Hall MOVED, Holt seconded, to approve with conditions the special permit application (File #1320) of Charles River Laboratories, Inc. to expand an existing non-conforming research and development laboratory use. This approval is based on the project as described in the application dated June 5, 2013 and subsequent information submitted by the applicant, and as shown on plans dated June 5, 2013 as revised to July 15, 2013 and as presented at a Public Hearing on July 15, 2013.

This approval is granted because the application is considered to be in compliance with Article V, Section B and other provisions of the Mansfield Zoning Regulations, and is granted with the following conditions:

1. Extent of Approval. This approval is specifically tied to the applicant's submissions and the conditions cited in this motion. Unless modifications are specifically authorized, the proposed uses and site improvements shall be limited to those authorized by this approval. Any questions regarding authorized uses, required site improvements and conditions cited in this approval shall be reviewed with the Zoning

Agent and Director of Planning and Development, and, as deemed necessary, the PZC.

2. **Permits.** No Zoning Permits shall be issued and no construction shall commence until all applicable state and federal permits have been obtained.
3. **Use.** Use of the property is specifically limited to the research and development activities identified in the Statement of Use as clarified by the supplemental explanation dated June 27, 2013. All research and development activities shall comply with the limitations on bio-safety levels identified in Article VII, Section U.3.a of the Zoning Regulations.
4. **Final Plans.** Final plans shall incorporate the following revisions:
 - a. Notes shall be added regarding monitoring and maintenance procedures for the rain garden.
 - b. The landscape plan shall be revised to add a mix of evergreen and deciduous trees at the intersection of Forest Road and Baxter Road to complement the proposed shrubs and provide some initial height.
 - c. The dumpster enclosure shall be relocated/aligned to provide sufficient 90° access for garbage trucks.
 - d. Note 11 on the Site Plan shall be deleted as the issues identified were addressed in the 7/15/13 plan revision.
5. **Validity.** This permit shall not become valid until the applicant obtains the special permit form from the Planning Office and files it on the Land Records.

Motion PASSED with all in favor except Pociask who disqualified himself.

b. Application to Amend the Zoning Regulations; Joshua's Tract Conservation and Historic Trust, owner/applicant (File #1321)

Holt and Ryan recused themselves. Marcellino and Westa were appointed to act.

Pociask MOVED, Rawn seconded, to approve the application of Joshua's Tract Conservation and Historic Trust, (File #1321), to amend Article VII, Section G, Uses Permitted in the RAR-90 Zone to add a new subsection 14 and Article X to add a new Section U, Preservation Uses. The revisions are approved as submitted to the Commission in an application dated June 12, 2013, and heard at a Public Hearing on August 19, 2013. A copy of the subject regulations shall be attached to the Minutes of this meeting, and this amendment shall be effective as of October 1, 2013. Reasons for approval include:

1. The revisions are considered acceptably worded and suitably coordinated with related zoning provisions.
2. The revisions are consistent with Plan of Conservation & Development goals and objectives promoting preservation of historic and cultural resources, specifically Policy Goal 1, Objective d and Policy Goal 2, Objective b.
3. The revisions are consistent with the provisions Section 8-2 of the Connecticut General Statutes and Article I of the Zoning Regulations, specifically Sections B.3 and B.9.
4. The requirement that any new Preservation Use obtain special permit approval allows for a case-by-case determination as to whether a Preservation Use is appropriate in a specific location and ensures that potential land use impacts will be addressed.

MOTION PASSED with all in favor except Holt and Ryan who recused themselves.

c. **Special Permit Application, Retail and Retail Sale of Automotive Fuels, 1659 Storrs Road/625 Middle Turnpike; OMS Development LLC, Owner and Applicant (File #1319)**
Holt volunteered to work on a motion for the next meeting.

d. **Application to Amend the Zoning Regulations; Storrs Center Alliance, LLC, applicant, (File #1246-14)**
Tabled for continued Public Hearing on 9/16/13.

e. **Application to Amend the Zoning Map; Storrs Center Alliance, LLC, applicant, (File #1246-15)**
Tabled for continued Public Hearing on 9/16/13.

f. **Approval Request: Revised Plans for Paideia Greek Theater Project Exhibit Building, 28 Dog Lane (File #1049-7)**

Linda Painter, Director of Planning and Development, reviewed her 7/11/13 memo including a history of the project. She noted the following communications from neighbors and staff received and distributed to members of the Commission: a 6/12/13 report from Fran Raiola, Acting Deputy Chief/Fire Marshal; a 7/10/13 report from Grant Metzler, Assistant Town Engineer; a 9/3/13 email from Richard Bass; a 9/1/13 email from William Stark; a 9/3/13 email from Patricia (Meredith) Poehlitz; a 6/10/13 email from Sheila Musiek; a 6/17/13 email from George Soroka; a 6/10/13 email with attached letter from Suzanne Bansal.

After extensive discussion among staff, Commission members and Mr. Tomazos, the consensus of the Commission was that Mr. Tomazos must return to the Commission once he has plans that accurately illustrate the actual work done to date and that incorporate the exact modifications for which he is seeking approval from the Commission. At such time as the plans come before the Commission for consideration, Mr. Tomazos should appear with his architect and engineer. Suzanne Singer Bansal chose to speak in opposition to the requested modifications, although she was advised that the Commission would take no action until the appropriate plans were submitted. The matter was added to the Field trip agenda of September 11 and then tabled.

g. **Town Council Referral – Water Supply EIE Preferred Alternative**

After discussion of the Draft Memo prepared by the Director of Planning and PZC/IWA Chairman, members requested that reduction of pipeline sprawl be added to the letter. Holt MOVED, Pociask seconded, to authorize the Planning and Zoning Commission Chairman to sign a revised letter and send it to the Town Council. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

h. **Proposed Revisions to the Pleasant Valley Residence/Agriculture (PVRA) and Pleasant Valley Commercial/Agriculture Regulations, PZC File #907-40**

Tabled pending 10/7/13 Public Hearing.

New Business: None.

Mansfield Tomorrow | Our Plan ▶ Our Future: No new updates.

Reports from Officers and Committees: None.

Communications and Bills: None noted.

Adjournment: The Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 10:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Katherine Holt, Secretary

Memorandum:

August 29, 2013

To: Inland Wetland Agency
From: Grant Meitzler, Inland Wetland Agent
Re: Monthly Business

W1419 - Chernushek - hearing on Order

3.10.09: The hearing on the Order remains open and should continue until the permit application under consideration is acted upon.

(The Order was dropped on approval of the application required in the Order.)

4.30.09: Former rye grass seeding is beginning to show green. I spoke with Mr. Chernushek this afternoon who indicated health problems that delayed his starting but indicated he will be working this weekend. I will update on this Monday evening.

5.26.09: A light cover of grass growth has come in. Mr. Chernushek indicates health problems and two related deaths have delayed his start of work since the permit approval was granted. It appears that some light work has started. He has further indicated that he will start a vacation on June 22, 2009 to finish the work.

6.13.09: Work is underway.

6.21.09: Bulldozer work has been completed - finish work remains. The additional silt fencing has been placed along the northerly wetlands crossing, and the additional pipe under the southerly crossing has been installed. Remaining work includes finish grading along edges, spreading stockpiled topsoil, and establishing grass growth.

7.01.09: I spoke with Mr. Chernushek who indicated he expects work to be completed by September 1, 2009. (Site photo attached).

9.03.09: Mr. Chernushek has been working on levelling and grading. The formerly seeded areas have become fairly thick growth surrounding the central wet areas. He has further indicated that with the combination of weather and the slower moving of earth with the payloader compared to the earlier rented bulldozer has led him to contact contractors for earth moving estimates which have not yet been received. The site is not yet finished but has remained quite stable.

9.12.09: I met with Mr. Chernushek today and discussed again what his plans are for stabilizing this work site.

10.01.09: Mr. Chernushek indicated he has not heard back from the contractor he had spoken with about removing material, and is in progress of contacting others. In discussion is removal of material from the site either within the 100 cubic yard limit or obtaining a permit for such removal.

10.28.09: Mr. Chernushek has indicated he has made arrangements with DeSiato Sand & Gravel to remove 750 cubic yards of material. ~~Staff is in the process of clarifying permit requirements.~~

W1445 - Chernushek - application for gravel removal from site

11.30.09: Packet of information representing submissions by Mr. Chernushek, Mr. DeSiato and myself is in this agenda packet as Mr. Chernushek's request for modification.

12.29.09: Preparation of required information for PZC special permit application is in progress. Tabling any action until the February 1, 2010 meeting is recommended.

1.12.10: 65 day extension of time received.

2.18.10: No new information has been received.

- 2.25.10: This application has been **withdrawn**.
- 6.30.10: As viewed from the adjacent property, the upstream and downstream areas have grown to a decent protected surface. I did not see indication of sediment movement.
- 10.26.10: A sale of the East portion of the Chernushek property has been in negotiation.
- 12.27.10: The property exchange has been completed. The owner is now the neighboring property owner Bernie Brodin. He has indicated his intention to stabilize the area as weather permits.
- 4.25.11: Mr. Brodin indicates he is starting with grading and spreading hay and seed to stabilize disturbed areas.

Mansfield Auto Parts - Route 32

- 8.16.12: Inspection - no vehicles are within 25' of wetlands.
- 9.19.12: Inspection - no vehicles are within 25' of wetlands.
- 10.05.12: Inspection - no vehicles are within 25' of wetlands.
- 11.01.12: Inspection - no vehicles are within 25' of wetlands.
- 11.20.12: Inspection - no vehicles are within 25' of wetlands.
- 12.13.12: Inspection - no vehicles are within 25' of wetlands.
- 1.14.13: Inspection - no vehicles are within 25' of wetlands.
- 2.25.13: Inspection - car storage areas are snowed in, not accessible.
- 3.12.13: Inspection - no vehicles are within 25' of wetlands.
- 4.25.13: Inspection - no vehicles are within 25' of wetlands.
- 5.17.13: Inspection - no vehicles are within 25' of wetlands.
- 6.06.13: Inspection - no vehicles are within 25' of wetlands.
- 7.10.13: Inspection - no vehicles are within 25' of wetlands.
- 7.22.13: Inspection - no vehicles are within 25' of wetlands.
- 8.13.13: Inspection - no vehicles are within 25' of wetlands.

In This Issue

- Outreach**
- Teens Master Mapping at NRCA
- Smartphones & GPS
- Research**
- On the Track of Nitrogen
- Program Updates**
- New Riparian Tool
- New GTP Training Class
- Recent Awards
- Rain Garden App



A Newsletter of the Center for Land Use Education and Research at the University of Connecticut.

Outreach

Teens Master Mapping

By Cary Chadwick

The second annual **Natural Resources Conservation Academy (NRCA)** was held in early July at the University of Connecticut Storrs campus. The NRCA is an innovative program in conservation and land use planning for a select group of Connecticut high school students, run out of UConn's Department of Natural Resources and the Environment. The Academy includes a comprehensive week-long field course at UConn where students from around the state are immersed in topics focused on the study and conservation of water, forests, wildlife, soils and more. What makes NRCA unique is that in addition to field notes, sampling jars and mosquito repellent, the element that ties the week's endeavors together is the almost constant presence of geospatial technology.

CLEAR Geospatial Extension Educators Cary Chadwick and Emily Wilson teach

... continued on pg 2

Smartphones and GPS

By David Dickson

Smartphones are the swiss army knife of the digital world. They have replaced countless single-function gadgets from calculators to cameras to pagers to, um, phones! But for mapping geeks, one of the gadgets they have not quite been able to shake is the handheld GPS unit—at least until now.

The Geospatial Training Program (GTP) at UConn CLEAR, in collaboration with the Connecticut Land Conservation Council, recently developed a GPS training for land trust volunteers. The one-day training teaches participants to collect data (way-points, notes, tracks) in the field using a GPS unit, download that to a computer, and then create an online map using the collected data that they can share with the public. However, there might be a new way to collect GPS data that doesn't require a handheld unit costing hundreds of dollars.

According to the Pew Research Center, **a majority of American adults (56%) now own a smartphone; this is an increase of 20% in just the last two years.** Most smart phones today are built to include a decent GPS chip that is useful for finding the nearest



David Dickson helps a participant at the GTP training *Using GPS for Monitoring and Mapping Land Trust Holdings* use his smartphone in place of a GPS unit.

Starbucks, letting the word know where you are, and tracking your run, ride, or hike. Why not geo-referenced data collection, too?

For years, we have been scouring the app stores for the perfect navigation app that does everything a handheld GPS unit can, and maybe more. Our requirements were that it is easy to use; collects tracks, way-points, notes, and photos; exports data in a wide variety of geospatial formats; requires minimal processing to create an online map; works on iPhone and Android; and is **CHEAP!** After many downloads and numerous fits and starts, we believe we are close. As a result, GTP is solidifying plans to develop and teach a "Smartphone GPS" course some time in 2014 (funding permitting). Set a reminder on your phone to remind you to look up the GTP course offerings in the spring! ☺



Rain Garden App

A mobile app for designing, installing, and maintaining a rain garden

Now Available for Both Android & iPhone
nemo.uconn.edu/raingardens



Teens Master Mapping at UConn's Natural Resources Conservation Academy



on the web at: nrca.uconn.edu

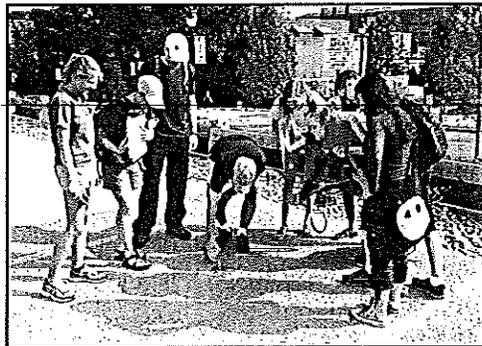
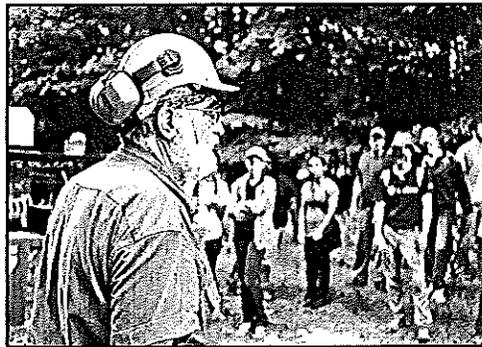
the first day of the field course, training students in geospatial information system technology, GPS and online mapping techniques. As an ode to technology of yesteryear, the day begins with "old fashioned" paper maps and compass skills before transitioning to "modern day" technology including GPS data collection and online mapping including CTECO and ArcGIS Online. By the end of the day, students are armed with the skills and tools to collect, compile and create informative maps. For the remainder of the week they are set loose upon the land to collect data and map their activities in the streams, forest and fields surrounding the UConn campus. These activities include a day studying water resources taught by CLEAR's Mike Dietz, and a focus on forest resources taught by CLEAR's Tom Worthley and NRE Department Head John Volin.

The last day of the field experience is devoted to project work. Students are divided into small teams and tasked with completing and presenting a comprehensive project. In 2012, students mapped out nature hikes in the UConn forest and created trail markers and interpretive signs for visitors. In 2013, NRCA team projects targeted a broader range of topics including

analysis of suitable wildlife habitat; construction of bat boxes from lumber felled and milled on site; tree inventory and forest management planning; building a rain garden from the ground up; and mapping a visitor tour of low impact development practices on the UConn campus. Students used geospatial technology in the planning and implementation of all of these projects.

But wait! That's not all. To pass muster at the Academy in the months to come, students are required to complete a natural resource project in their community, using the skills and knowledge they gained in the field course. Many will choose to incorporate geospatial technology into their project work. To complete the Academy, students will present their capstone project at the annual Connecticut Conference on Natural Resources next spring. Check out the NRCA website for a look at student community projects completed by the inaugural crop of NRCA students in 2012. Impressed yet? Check out the NRCA's Facebook page and website, nrca.uconn.edu, for photos, stories and information about this year's crop of talented conservation ambassadors.

For more information about the Geospatial Training Program contact: Cary Chadwick 860-345-5216. cary.chadwick@uconn.edu



(Top) Extension Forester and CLEAR faculty Tom Worthley talks to NRCA students before getting into some serious tree management. (Bottom) CLEAR's Chet Arnold jeopardizes his hydration by demonstrating the infiltrating properties of porous concrete to a team of NRCA students.

Program Updates

► A New Online Tool for Coastal Landowners

The new *Coastal Riparian Landscaping Guide* is a tool for homeowners and municipalities to deal with shoreline erosion and coastal storms. This guide provides information on protecting riparian areas (the intersection between land and water) and how to plant a property with native vegetation that can withstand salt spray and occasional inundation while preserving water access and views. The tool section allows viewers to pull up a cross sectional drawing that best fits their property by providing information on local salt spray, sea wall presence/absence, and the slope of their property (figure, top right). The guide is the brainchild of CLEAR/CT Sea Grant Botanist Extraordinaire Juliana Barrett, and Professor Mark Brand of the Department of Plant Science and Landscape Architecture. The website can be found at: clear.uconn.edu/crlg.

For more information contact: Juliana Barrett, 860-405-9106, juliana.barrett@uconn.edu.

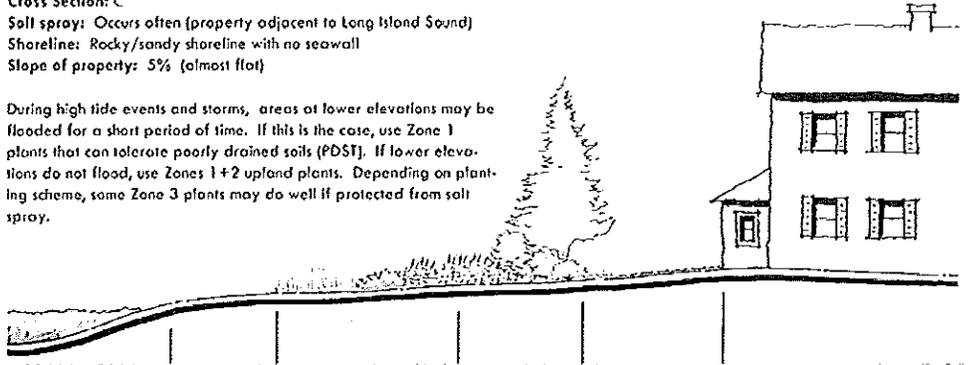
Cross Section: C

Salt spray: Occurs often (property adjacent to Long Island Sound)

Shoreline: Rocky/sandy shoreline with no seawall

Slope of property: 5% (almost flat)

During high tide events and storms, areas of lower elevations may be flooded for a short period of time. If this is the case, use Zone 1 plants that can tolerate poorly drained soils (PDST). If lower elevations do not flood, use Zones 1 + 2 upland plants. Depending on planting scheme, some Zone 3 plants may do well if protected from salt spray.



The tool section in the new *Coastal Riparian Landscaping Guide* website allows viewers to pull up a cross sectional drawing that best fits their property by providing information on local salt spray, sea wall presence/absence, and the slope of the property.

► GTP Partners with Land Trusts

Land trusts are a critical component of land conservation and natural resource management in Connecticut, yet most land trusts have no staff and few resources. However, new trends in geospatial science and technology hold enormous promise for helping these critical land stewards. Working in collaboration with the Connecticut Land Conservation Council, the CLEAR Geospatial Training Program has developed *Using GPS for Monitoring and Mapping Land Trust Holdings*, a hands-on one day training that teaches participants to collect GPS data, get it

onto a computer, and even boost the resultant maps up on the web (see pg 1 article)! The training has been held twice to date and has been a great success. The partners are currently on the lookout for funding support to enable continuation, and, ideally, expansion of the training. For more information contact: Cary Chadwick, 860-345-5216, cary.chadwick@uconn.edu.

► CLEAR Faculty/Staff in Evidence at Annual College Awards Ceremony

Several CLEAR faculty and staff were recognized at the 26th annual College of Agriculture and Natural Resources Awards of Excellence dinner held in April. CLEAR Graphic Designer Kara Bonsack won the *Arland R. Meade Communications Award* for her great work designing all of CLEAR's websites and publications. Mike Dietz and Dave Dickson won the *David and Nancy Bull Extension Innovation Award* for the creation of the Rain Garden smartphone application (page 4). Congrats to Kara, Mike and Dave! Later in the evening, Chet Arnold was recognized for 25 years of service to the College and the University—which by our calculations means that, child labor laws notwithstanding, he was hired at the age of 15.



Cary Chadwick helps participants at the GTP training *Using GPS for Monitoring and Mapping Land Trust Holdings*.

Research

On the Track of Nitrogen

CLEAR is working on two very different projects focused on improving our understanding of how nitrogen moves in the aquatic environment. Nitrogen (N), although an important nutrient in appropriate amounts, is increasingly being identified as a pollutant of concern in both coastal and inland waters.

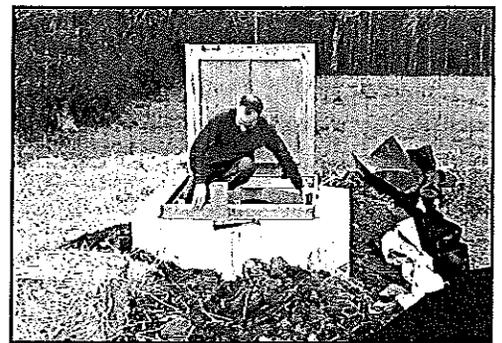
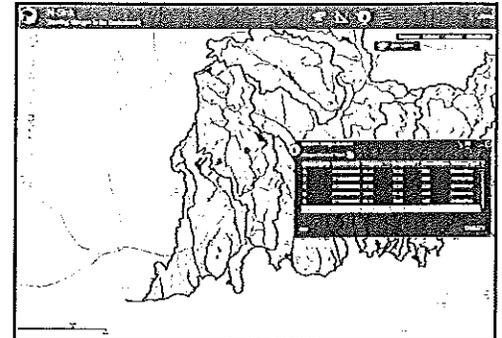
On the tech side, CLEAR has been working with our longtime partners at the University of Rhode Island to create “N-Sink,” a tool that estimates N delivery from coastal watersheds to their receiving water. “N-Sink” was created to provide a useful and accessible tool for local land use managers to explore the relationship of land use in their towns to nitrogen pollution of their waters. N-Sink uses the best available science on land use/nitrogen interactions, plus widely available basic datasets for hydrography, soils and land use, to highlight major sources and sinks of nitrogen within a watershed context. N-Sink was originally designed as an ArcMap® extension for use with desktop software, but during

the latest phase of the project, funded by EPA Office of Research and Development, it was redesigned as a geospatial web tool using ArcGIS Viewer for Flex that anybody can use (after a little orientation). N-Sink is still in “beta” form but will be made public this fall.

For more information contact: Chet Arnold, 860-345-5230, chester.arnold@uconn.edu.

Out in the real world, CT NEMO’s Mike Dietz is measuring N inputs and outputs from a new rain garden that he designed and built on the “ag” side of the UConn Storrs campus, with funding from the Long Island Sound Study (photo, right). N is a notoriously difficult pollutant to break down, so many stormwater experts are interested in innovative management practice designs that can boost N removal rates. The early results from Mike’s work are promising in this regard—we’ll be reporting on this in the next issue.

For more information contact: Mike Dietz, 860-345-5225, michael.dietz@uconn.edu. ●



(Top) Screen capture from N-Sink in the Niantic, CT watershed. From the user-chosen location (red dot), N-Sink creates a flow path to the outlet and estimates N removal. (Bottom) NEMO’s Mike Dietz emerges from the instrument bunker used to monitor his new experimental rain garden. True to form, there were 6 more weeks of winter after this picture was taken.

Program Updates continued from pg 3...

► Rain Garden App Update

CLEAR’s wildly successful rain garden smartphone application, released in January and developed initially as an iPhone app, is now available for Android users at the Android App Store. Rain gardens are small vegetated gardens planted in a depression that accept stormwater runoff from rooftops, driveways or other impervious surfaces. Because of their relative low expense and ease of construction, rain gardens are an increasingly popular stormwater management alternative



for homeowners, businesses, and towns alike. The app provides a mobile resource to guide the user through siting, sizing, digging, planting and maintaining a rain garden. The iPhone app has had over 2300 downloads in its first six months, and there has been a lot of interest nationally in adapting the app to other states. NEMO Appmasters Dave Dickson and Mike Dietz are busy working on a national version. Learn more about rain gardens at nemo.uconn.edu/raingardens. For more information contact: David Dickson, 860-345-5228.

david.dickson@uconn.edu. ●

Contact CLEAR at: University of Connecticut, CES, 1066 Saybrook Road, P.O. Box 70, Haddam, CT 06438 • Phone: (860) 345-4511
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 • Editor: Chet Arnold • Designer: Kara Bonsack

The University of Connecticut Center for Land Use Education and Research (CLEAR) provides information, education and assistance to land use decision makers, in support of balancing growth and natural resource protection. CLEAR is a partnership of the Department of Extension and the Department of Natural Resources and the Environment at the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, and the CT Sea Grant College Program. Support for CLEAR comes from the University of Connecticut and from state and federal grants.

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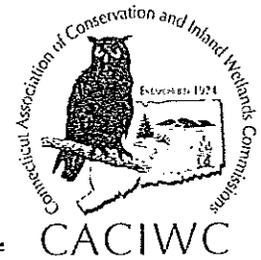


The Habitat

A newsletter of the Connecticut Association of Conservation and Inland Wetlands Commissions, Inc.

Summer 2013

volume 25 number 2



CACIWC's 36th Annual Meeting & Environmental Conference

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Celebrating Connecticut Parks and Open Spaces



Ms. Pamela Adams, former Director of Connecticut State Parks, will highlight CACIWC's 36th Annual Meeting and Environmental Conference with her keynote address on "Celebrating 100 Years of State Parks in Connecticut."

Connecticut's parks, forests, and open space parcels are an important part of the character of our state. These sites range from large, well-established state parks and forests to recently acquired town and land trust parcels. Together, these lands provide countless

opportunities for quiet walks and other enjoyable recreation activities for residents and visitors alike. Many of these beautiful places also serve an important conservation role by preserving critical habitats for native plants along with resident and migratory birds and other wildlife.

The management of these parks, forests, and open space parcels is frequently left in the hands of a single agency or organization. Unfortunately, these organizations are facing their efforts to appropriately manage these parks, forests, and open space parcels are an

"Connecticut's parks, forests, and open space parcels are an important part of the character of our state."

often faced with demands for access of habitat preservation. Many of these agencies, often faced with decreasing resources, are often faced with denow partnering with other organizations to better manage these challenges. Our member conservation commis- sions are in a unique position to help form coalitions to serve as effective stewards of both state and locally owned lands within their region.

During 2013, the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, State Parks Division, along with the Friends of Connecticut State Parks (FCSP) and the Connecticut Forest and Park Association (CFPA), organized a Connecticut State Parks Centennial Celebration to recognize the century of park

land preservation efforts in Connecticut. CACIWC is promoting this year-long celebration with various presentations scheduled for the 2013 annual meeting.

Pamela Adams worked for the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) starting in 1976 as an Environmental Analyst. In 1997 she became the Director

★ Inside	CACIWC News	2
	CEPA is Amended	3
	State Parks Centennial	5
	CT Roadside Vegetation Management	6
	Legislative Overview 2013	8
	Annual Recognition Awards	16

36th annual, continued on page 10

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www.caciwc.org

CACIWC News Briefings

This September will mark the 100th anniversary of the inaugural meeting of Connecticut's first State Park Commission. With this meeting, the six member commission began the process of identifying sites to preserve as Connecticut's first parks. To help honor these early efforts, support our existing parks, and promote a strong future state park system; the State of Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) State Parks Division partnered with the Friends of Connecticut State Parks (FCSP), and the Connecticut Forest and Park Association (CFPA) to organize a **Connecticut State Parks Centennial Celebration**. The Centennial Celebration has organized a year-long calendar of events starting this summer through the state park birthday parties planned for the summer of 2014. As this issue of *The Habitat* goes to press, CACIWC is making final plans to join the Centennial Kick-Off at Dinosaur State Park in Rocky Hill on Wednesday, August 1, 2013. CACIWC is also encouraging its member conservation commissions to support the Centennial "SoJourn" (Summer Outdoor Journey) beginning on Thursday, August 15 with visits to various state parks along a 169 mile route (to honor Connecticut's 169 municipalities) throughout Connecticut. For more information on these events, please visit the State Parks Centennial website at: www.ct.gov/deep/cwp/view.asp?a=2716&q=523470&deepNav_GID=2135.

1. To help promote this year-long celebration of Connecticut State Parks, CACIWC is dedicating our **36th Annual Meeting and Environmental Conference**, scheduled for **Saturday, November 16, 2013**, with the theme of *Celebrating Connecticut Parks and Open Spaces*. The Annual Meeting Committee is also organizing a series of informative workshops on how best to support existing open space parcels and preserve important local habitats. Please see the conference information in this issue of *The Habitat* and watch for additional conference news on our www.caciwc.org website. You may direct any questions on our annual meeting to us at: AnnualMtg@caciwc.org.

2. The CACIWC board of directors expresses its thanks to the commissions that have already paid their **2013-14 membership dues** in response to the recently distributed reminder and renewal form. A copy of this form and additional information has also been placed on our website: www.caciwc.org. Our website also provides a description of additional individual and business membership categories you or your company can use to provide additional support to CACIWC. We continue to very much appreciate any additional contributions that you can provide to support various CACIWC programs including

CACIWC news, continued on page 11



Journey to The Legal Horizon by Attorney Janet Brooks

The Connecticut Environmental Protection Act Is Amended: Public Act 13-186¹

In the "Land of Steady Habits," Don't Expect a lot of Changes

After a number of failed attempts in the past few legislative sessions, the General Assembly passed a law amending the Connecticut Environmental Protection Act (CEPA). The status quo prevails! Am I being facetious? Hardly. The General Assembly codified (put into statute) the holding of the Connecticut Supreme Court's 2002 decision in the *Nizzardo* case, which in turn affirmed the Connecticut Supreme Court's 1984 decision in *CFE v. Stamford*.

Review of CEPA

Let's remind ourselves of the elements of CEPA. It is supplementary to other environmental laws. So, a wetlands agency begins its duties by implementing the state wetlands act. CEPA only applies *when invoked*. For our discussion², we are concerned with the authority granted under CEPA to allow "anyone," broadly defined, to intervene in "administrative proceedings" where conduct is proposed which is "reasonably likely to have the effect of unreasonably polluting, impairing or destroying the public trust in the air, water or other natural resources of the state." Such intervenors are sometimes referred to by the statutory section, "section 22a-19 intervenors," or "environmental intervenors," or simply "intervenors."

CEPA is invoked upon the filing of a "verified pleading." A "verified pleading" is simply a written statement in which the intervenor asserts that the proceeding "involves conduct which has, or which is reasonably likely to have, the effect of unreasonably polluting, impairing or destroying the public trust in the air, water or other natural resources of the state." "Verified" means the intervenor has sworn to truth of the allegations, in the presence of a notary public or attorney, whose signature is also included. The intervenor does not have to prove the truth of the allegations in the petition in order to intervene.

How much the intervenor has to allege in the verified pleading is the subject of the amendment.

The intervenor becomes a party to the proceedings. As a party the intervenor may put on evidence to prove the allegations of unreasonable conduct, to rebut the applicant's presentation and may cross-examine the applicant or their representatives. It is not the applicant's duty to characterize the conduct, if the intervenor does not offer any expert evidence on the pollution, impairment or destruction. It is not the agency's job to investigate the intervenor's claims. The agency has the duty of "considering" the alleged unreasonable conduct. If an intervenor is successful at proving the harmful effect of the proposed conduct, the agency is not authorized to approve the application as "long as there is a feasible and prudent alternative." The intervention process starts with a sworn statement alleging unreasonable conduct to a natural resource. It ends with the agency determining whether there is proof of the unreasonable conduct, and if so, whether there is a feasible and prudent alternative to the proposal.

"If you believe that government should be transparent, you will appreciate how this amendment makes it easier for citizens to know what the court standard is upon first reading the statute."

The Amendment to CEPA

The amendment adds the following language to § 22a-19, by numbering the existing language in § 22a-19 as subsection (1) and creating the following subsection (2):

"The verified pleading shall contain specific factual allegations setting forth the nature of the alleged unreasonable pollution, impairment or destruction of the public trust in air, water or other natural resources of the state and should be sufficient to allow the reviewing authority to determine from the verified pleading whether the intervention implicates an issue within the reviewing authority's jurisdiction. For purposes of this section, 'reviewing authority' means the board, commission or other decision-making authority in any

legal, continued on page 4

legal, continued from page 3

administrative, licensing or other proceeding or the court in any judicial review.”

In *Nizzardo v. State Traffic Commission*³ the Supreme Court affirmed the 1984 decision in *CFE v. Stamford*, holding that CEPA does not expand the jurisdiction of the agency the intervenor appears before. If a wetlands agency has no jurisdiction over air, as in the *CFE v. Stamford* case, an intervenor is not authorized to use CEPA to expand the jurisdiction of the agency. The *Nizzardo* court explicitly imposed certain requirements in the verified pleading, as follows:

“(A) petition for intervention filed under § 22a-19 must contain specific factual allegations setting forth the environmental issue that the intervenor intends to raise. The facts contained therein should be sufficient to allow the agency to determine from the face of the petition whether the intervention implicates an issue within the agency’s jurisdiction.”⁴

If you compare the amendment to CEPA with the quote from the *Nizzardo* case (which I did), you will discover that the amendment incorporates the quote virtually verbatim, except for the last sentence of the amendment. The last sentence which defines “reviewing authority” is not derived from the court decision.

What the court determined was that it is not enough to just state (and that’s why I put a strike-through in the statement): “~~the conduct proposed will or is reasonably likely to have the effect of unreasonably polluting, impairing or destroying the public trust in the air, water or other natural resources of the state.~~” If a petition states that, it ought to go on to state, something like the following: “. . . by disturbing the upland directly adjacent to the wetland boundary, erosion of the upland will likely result in the deposition of materials in the wetlands and _____ River which will unreasonably impair the wetland and river and unreasonably diminish the wetlands’ ability to provide flood control, etc., etc.”

The Connecticut Business and Industry Association (CBIA) stated on its website that the public act “should cut down on frivolous interventions in permit proceedings.”⁵ That might have been true, if this public act had changed the law. Since the legislature is merely playing “catch-up” to the judicial decision of 2002 – which has been in effect for over a decade – we’re not likely to see any change in verified petitions that are accepted by agencies. What we will more likely see is that

citizens who create their own intervention petitions, without the use of attorneys – *which they have every right to do* – will not have their initial verified petition rejected by an agency which had its town attorney review the petition.

If you believe that government should be transparent, you will appreciate how this amendment makes it easier for citizens to know what the court standard is upon first reading the statute. The process to enact this amendment was anything but transparent. The purpose stated on the original bill was: “To require certain legal entities that fund environmental interventions to disclose their identity when funding an intervention in an administrative, licensing or other proceeding involving a business competitor.”⁶ That never happened. The Planning and Development Committee, where the bill originated, communicated that the bill was just a “placeholder” so the groups and individuals testifying or submitting letters at the public hearing on the bill talked about their own concerns about CEPA. Some suggested time limits on the right to intervene, others wanted no right to intervene in a court appeal if the person/entity hadn’t intervened in the agency proceeding.

In the end, the legislature just incorporated the wording of the court decision into CEPA. For most of us, it’s still “business as usual.” It is now clear to any citizen reading the amendment what is expected of them. Carry on – stay the course.

Janet P. Brooks practices law in East Berlin. You can read her blog at: www.ctwetlandslaw.com and access prior training materials and articles at: www.attorneyjanetbrooks.com.

Endnotes

¹ You can read the public act by pasting in the following URL into your browser: www.cga.ct.gov/2013/ACT/pa/pdf/2013PA-00186-R00SB-00814-PA.pdf.

² CEPA also provides a right to proceed directly to court in a legal action against the party who is claimed to be creating unreasonable pollution, impairment or destruction of natural resources of the state. See Connecticut General Statutes § 22a-16.

³ *Nizzardo v. State Traffic Commission*, 259 Conn. 131 (2002). The case can be read by putting this URL into your browser: www.jud.ct.gov/external/supapp/Cases/AR0cr/259cr131.pdf. You can also get there by googling: CT Supreme Court case. *Nizzardo*. The CT Judicial Branch’s online version (the URL in the previous sentence) appears as the first URL.

⁴ *Nizzardo v. State Traffic Commission*, 259 Conn. 131, 164-65 (2002).

⁵ Reported on the website of the Connecticut Business and Industry Association at: http://gov.cbia.com/issues_policies/article/environment-regulatory-changes-reforms, accessed on June 25, 2013.

⁶ www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Public+Act&bill_num=186&which_year=2013

Connecticut State Park Centennial – A Year of Celebrating the Past, Present and Future

by Pamela Adams, Chairman, Connecticut State Parks Centennial Committee

The State Park System. A little more than 100 years ago, Connecticut was in the throes of rapid industrialization and development. Businesses and industries were developing along waterways and, in cities. Infrastructure support systems such as railroads, fuel terminals, roadways, dumps and power supply systems were being constructed faster than ever before. Homes and new roads were springing up throughout the state and cities were expanding.

People started to become alarmed at the disappearance of river views and scenic landscapes. In 1909, Connecticut's Legislature introduced legislation to protect the lower Connecticut River. It failed to pass. Noting that every state surrounding Connecticut had already set aside land for public park systems, the General Assembly appointed a temporary Park Commission in 1911 to study the need and desire for a public park system. The report, which recommended pursuing a public park system, was completed and accepted in 1913. The Connecticut State Park Commission, comprised of six highly respected and influential businessmen, was established and held its first meeting in September of 1913. The first Chairman, General Edward Bradley of New Haven (for whom Bradley International Airport was named), was unanimously elected by the members. Thus, began Connecticut's State Park system.

It was important to the Commission that the right mix of properties be acquired for this new park

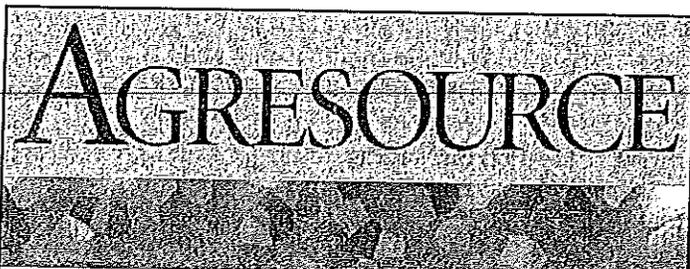
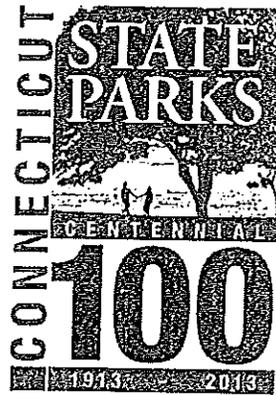
system. On March 1, 1914 the State Park Commission hired its first employee – Albert M. Turner. Turner was a Connecticut Yankee born in 1868 and raised in the Northfield section of Litchfield. He brought to the position his background as a Yale educated engineer and several years of personal experience in various planning capacities (see DEEP Centennial website). Albert Turner worked tirelessly scouring the state for the best properties to include in this new system. Within seven months, he had hiked hundreds of miles,

traveling along the entire shore and, on rivers. He viewed lakes and vistas and researched sites representing Connecticut's history. Turner compiled a list of the best properties and beautiful places exemplifying the beauty, natural resources and history of Connecticut.

Now that an acceptable inventory of properties was in front of them, the Commission, faced with the age-old issue of money, had to be diligent in parsing out their acquisition allotment of \$20,000.

After all, with shoreline property selling at \$6,500 for one acre, it would be a challenge to acquire a reasonable amount of land for the first state park. Not only were the Commission members good businessmen, there were shrewd negotiators as well. On December 22, 1914, the Commission closed on the first five acres of State Park property at Sherwood Island in Westport. Seven days later, they acquired 150 acres on the Connecticut River; now known as Hurd State Park located in East Hampton.

centennial, continued on page 12



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Connecticut's Roadside Vegetation Management: Progress and Challenges

by Jane Harris, Middletown Urban Forestry Commission, State Vegetation Management Task Force Member

Trees are the signature characteristic of the New England landscape. What does climate change mean for Connecticut's trees? Rising tides, storm surges, increased storm activity, invasive pests, greater extremes of temperature all play havoc with trees.

From a legislative point of view, two significant events were the crushing storms of 2011: Tropical Storm Irene, followed by the infamous Halloween Nor'easter, Alfred. Shortly thereafter, Governor Malloy appointed his Two-Storm Panel, which issued its report early in 2012. Their report dealt broadly with all forms of emergency responses to the storms, and included the very useful "Right Tree, Right Place" recommendations.
www.ct.gov/deep/lib/deep/forestry/vmtf/final_report/svmtf_final_report.pdf.

That panel further recommended the formation of a State Vegetation Management Task Force "to develop standards for road side tree care in Connecticut, vegetation management practices and schedules for utility rights of way, right tree/right place standards, standards for tree wardens, municipal tree inventories and pruning schedules." This task force was to consist of professionals from both municipal and State government, utilities, tree boards and other non-profit advocates for trees, as well as scientists from University of Connecticut and the CT Agricultural Experiment Station.

The State Vegetation Management Task Force, or SVMTF, met twice monthly from April to August of 2012 to issue its report in time for the first anniversary of Tropical Storm Irene. To effectively accomplish its work, the Task Force established

three primary working groups: 1) Public Education; 2) Regulations, Legislation; & Funding; and 3) Technical Standards.

Since that time, it has met less regularly, but sufficiently to help shepherd through two tree-related pieces of legislation.

The Final Report of SVMTF is available on the CT DEEP website at www.ct.gov/deep/lib/deep/forestry/vmtf/final_report/svmtf_final_report.pdf.

As explained in its Executive Summary, the task force strongly advocated that trees and other woody vegetation are significant for both the health and beauty of our communities. At the same time, they recognized that neglect and improper care of this resource has led to the endangerment of people and property.

Public Education

Much of the final report deals with the importance of recognizing the value of trees and woody plants, whether for traffic calming, real estate valuation, or an array of health and environmental benefits.

The report recognizes that, ever since roads were built, rights of way granted, and utility lines strung, there has been tension over the placement and maintenance (or lack thereof) of trees.

Roadside Vegetation Management: What Your Commission Can Do

1. Read final Task Force Report: All Commissioners
2. Establish Roadside Vegetation Management Subcommittee; research, advocate, educate, recommend.
3. Work with Tree Warden, Planning Commission other Community advocates.
4. Educate community; "Right tree, right place" guidelines.
5. Advocate for roadside tree planting with "Right tree, right place" guidelines.
6. Develop and recommend Roadside Vegetation Management protocols for Plan of Conservation and Development.

Generally speaking, everybody loves a well-placed tree. Cooling shade, storm water control, carbon sequestration, oxygen production, food for man and beasts – trees pretty much give their all. The report even quantified the economic value of a mature shade tree in the landscape.

But when a tree takes down electric, phone or cable wires – our lifeblood, these days – trees become the

management, continued on page 7

management, continued from page 6

villains. When trees even go so far as to block the roads so the utility trucks, fire trucks, ambulances and police can't get through, things get very tense indeed.

The sense that trees were being treated as the enemy was brought home almost immediately after Storm Alfred, when both State and utility crews began drastic roadside clearing along major highways. This highly visible activity transformed the roadside into a scene of destruction, and many residents complained loudly about the rash actions.

For these reasons, the Final Report begins by stressing the importance of funding one or more centers of competency where homeowners can obtain sound, professional advice about roadside trees. It further states that public education is key – and stresses that, on planting large native trees in places where they can be safely used.

Legislation

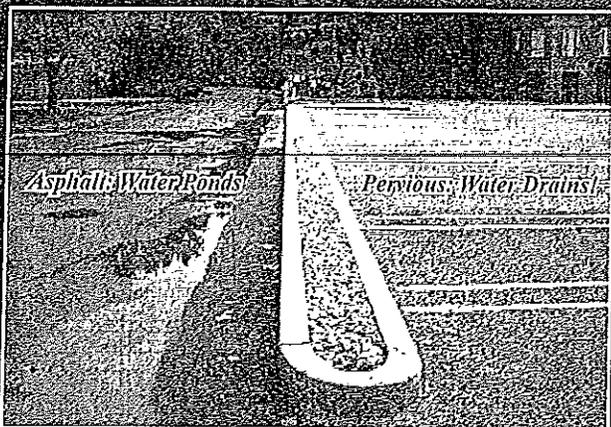
Two bills originally called for in the Final Report are Public Act 13-298 (An act concerning implementation of Connecticut's comprehensive energy strategy and various revisions to the energy statutes) and P.A. 13-203

(An act concerning Arborists Tree Wardens), the first of which responds to a Two Storm Panel directive regarding utility pruning. The language in PA 13-298 permits utility line clearance "ground to sky" for a width eight feet out from either side of the farthest line on a utility pole. This means, if the crossbar of the utility pole is six feet wide, there will be a swath 22 feet wide in which any vegetation can be removed. In most cases, only one side of the road will be affected, but the clearing will be dramatic when compared with the previous practice of "sculpting" trees to clear the wires.

While this bill might seem less than ideal, there were two principals at work: first, the "ground to sky" clearance was for a narrower swath than the utility companies had requested; second, cutting "ground to sky" is ultimately preferable to current pruning practices. The esthetics of the "C" or "V" pruning commonly used now is both visually hideous and also terrible for long-term tree health. A tree badly pruned out of necessity will likely have to be taken down later – at twice the expense of doing so the first time.

P.A. 13-203 was promoted by SVMTF primarily for its requirement that tree wardens be properly certified
management, continued on page 14

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2013 Legislation Supporting Conservation and Inland Wetlands Commissions

Excerpts from the Connecticut Land Conservation Council's (CLCC) June 2013 E-News

Community Investment Act Funds Safe...For Now!
Protecting the level and integrity of the Community Investment Act (CIA), which helps fund state programs for open space, farmland/dairy production, historic preservation and affordable housing, is an annual priority of CLCC. In recent years, funds in the CIA account have been raided to help offset budget deficits. This session, with your strong support, CLCC and our CIA coalition partners, including CACIWC, were successful in defeating a proposal to divert \$4M annually to an unrelated program. The final budget reflected no additional changes to the CIA fund, which will hopefully remain safe through 2015.

New Mortgage Recording Requirement Should Bring Additional Funds to the CIA

CLCC supported legislation which requires the filing of all mortgage assignments with local town clerks, with a portion of the recording fees going to the CIA account. The proposed "Mortgage Electronic Registration System" (MERS) language was approved as part of the budget, which will ultimately generate additional revenue for this enormously successful land use support program.

Bond Package Includes Funding for Open Space Conservation and Farmland Preservation Programs

The final bond package includes authorization to provide \$10M in each of the next two fiscal years for the municipal open space matching grant program (Open Space & Watershed Land Acquisition Program [OSWLA]), Recreation and Natural

Heritage Trust Program, and Farmland Preservation Program, respectively. Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) Commissioner Dan Esty has made a commitment to offering annual OSWLA grant rounds, with an announcement for the next round expected sometime this fall or early winter. Please thank Governor Malloy for including conservation funding in the bond package and ask him to convene the bond commission to authorize the release of the funding for an open space grant round this year.

Preservation Victory for the Southbury Training School

With strong, unanimous, bipartisan support, the legislature voted to approve H.B. 6542, which provides for the permanent protection of 825 acres of the state-owned Southbury Training School through a transfer of custody to the Department of Agriculture (DoAg) and a grant of conservation easement to a non-profit conservation organization (the Southbury Land Trust).

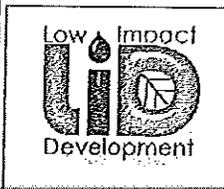
legislation, continued on page 9



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legislation, continued from page 8

CLCC worked with its partners, including Audubon Connecticut, the Working Lands Alliance, and the Farm Bureau, to ensure that this bill would provide for a strong and comprehensive easement to assure the high quality stewardship and protection of the land's agricultural and conservation resources. Kudos and congratulations to the Southbury Land Trust, Southbury First Selectman Ed Edelson, and others in the Southbury community for their years of tireless work to achieve this conservation victory.

Authorization for Haddam Land Swap Expires

The 2013 Conveyance Bill included a section which repealed the 2011 provision authorizing the "Haddam Land Swap" – a proposed transaction to exchange state-owned open space overlooking the Connecticut River in Haddam for 89 acres of forestland owned by a private landowner. CLCC, CACIWC and other conservation organizations opposed the proposed swap on grounds that it was not fully vetted in accordance with existing DEEP policies on land exchanges. The issue triggered our work in forming the State Lands Working Group in partnership with the Rivers Alliance of Connecticut, Audubon Connecticut, the Connecticut Forest & Park Association (CFPA), Sierra Club - CT,

and other organizations seeking to identify administrative and legislative strategies to better protect state conservation land. Please thank Representative Phil Miller for his leadership in including this repeal provision in this year's Conveyance Bill.

Council on Environmental Quality Remains Intact!

The budget also provides sufficient funding for the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) to retain its current level of staffing and reflects no merger of the agency into the Office of Governmental Accountability, a proposed move that CLCC and CACIWC strongly opposed. CEQ is the state's independent watch-dog agency that the public relies upon to monitor environmental progress, assess the efficacy of state environmental laws, policies and programs, and investigate alleged violations of environmental laws.

Last Minute ATV Bill Vetoed by Governor Malloy

In the last minutes of the session – without a public hearing or floor debate – an amendment was added to S.B. 190, which would have required DEEP to implement its 2002 All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) Policy and Procedures on or before July 1, 2014. When DEEP published that policy, it stated that the policy would not take effect until legislation regarding registration of ATVs was enacted. Such legislation has never been passed. Please thank Governor Malloy for his decision to veto the bill.

Proposed Firearms Facility in State Forest Stopped...But What is Next?

CLCC joined CFPA, Audubon Connecticut and a coalition of Glastonbury residents and officials in opposing a proposal to site a 55,000 square foot state firearms facility on 30 acres of the Meshomasic State Forest. Fortunately, the proposal was withdrawn. However, the issue remains: Despite the original conservation intent in acquiring state conservation lands and the associated expectation that they be preserved in trust on behalf of the citizens of Connecticut, these assets are largely unprotected.

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PS: Mark your calendars! On April 23, 2014 CLCC and our conservation partners are planning to celebrate Earth Day at the Capitol, with an opportunity for your land trust and conservation commission to showcase your work as part of a display in the Legislative Office Building concourse. Watch for further information coming this summer – and if you are interested in helping us plan this exciting event, please contact me at abpaterson@ctconservation.org.

36th annual, continued from page 1

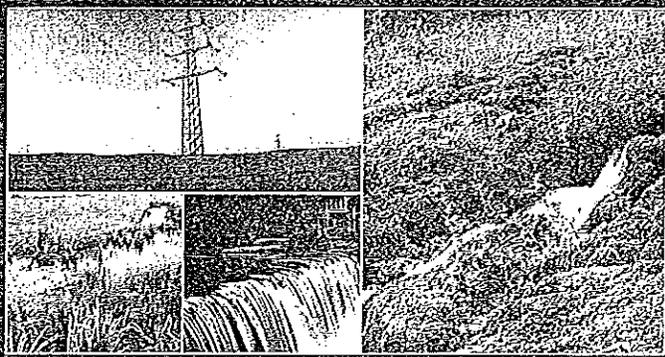
of Connecticut State Parks (the first female director), a position she held until her retirement in June 2009. Before joining the DEP, she earned a BA with a double major in biology and geology at Ohio's Wittenberg University and a MS in environmental geology at the University of Connecticut.

Following her retirement, Ms. Adams extended her service in support of Connecticut parks with her appointment on the Board of Directors of the Friends of Harkness Memorial State park, the Friends of Connecticut State Parks, and the Eastern Connecticut Regional Tourism District.

Pamela is very familiar with CACIWC, having served on the Colchester Conservation & Inland Wetlands Commission, including three years as its Chairman.

CACIWC is honored to welcome Ms. Adams to discuss the Connecticut State Park Centennial and the role of local land use commissions in preserving open space land at our 36th Annual Meeting and Environmental Conference.

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our Annual Meeting, educational materials, and *The Habitat*.

3. The CACIWC board of directors continued work on the development our new **strategic plan**. As part of the strategic planning process, we are conducting a membership-wide survey to assess your educational needs and ensure that CACIWC is aware of any new challenges to your efforts in protecting Connecticut wetlands and other important habitats.

4. A part-time volunteer **intern, Ellen Foster**, is working with CACIWC this summer to help us prepare and organize our membership survey. She will also be analyzing commission websites, local conservation initiatives, and other commission activities. Please respond to this survey and any calls from our intern at your earliest convenience!

5. The CACIWC survey will also include several questions to assess your awareness of new **legislative changes** that came out of the spring 2013 session of the Connecticut General Assembly. This was an especially challenging session for the CACIWC board of directors to track, with changes to proposed bills occurring right up to the closing minutes of the session. An example was the out of date, potentially damaging policy language that was inserted into Public Act 13-237 (SB 190). Fortunately, Governor Malloy vetoed this bill in response to numerous requests from conservation groups, including CACIWC. To help us track and respond to the many rapidly changing legislative issues that occur in each session, CACIWC will continue to work closely with other conservation groups. Please see additional information on 2013 environmental legislation on page 8.

6. The board is also continuing its efforts to organize a number of CACIWC advisory committees to participate in the review of legislative initiatives and help us with our education and outreach efforts, strategic plan and bylaws revisions. Let us know of your interest by sending your name to us at: board@caciwc.org.

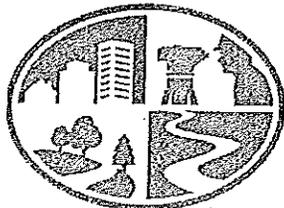
7. The board was very pleased to receive several resumes from commission members and other individuals who are interested in filling our existing CACIWC **board vacancies** (please see the list in this issue of *The Habitat* and on www.caciwc.org). The CACIWC bylaws specify that any past or present member of Connecticut conservation or inland wetlands commissions or their agent are eligible serve as a county representative or alternate. In addition, our 2012 bylaws amendments included the creation of several **alternate at large** positions that are not restricted to a specific county. This amendment will allow us to recruit well qualified directors from areas whose county and alternate county representatives are already filled. We hope that you will submit your name to us at board@caciwc.org if you are interested in serving as one of our vacant county representative, alternate county representatives or in one of the new alternate at large representative positions.

Please do not hesitate to contact us via email at board@caciwc.org if you have questions or comments on any of the above items or if you have other questions of your board of directors. We thank you for your ongoing efforts to protect wetlands and conserve natural resources in your town!

~ Alan J. Siniscalchi, President

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centennial, continued from page 5

The Connecticut State Park system has grown to 107 parks encompassing nearly 35,000 acres. The primary goal of providing the public with natural resource-based recreation has been fiercely adhered to by park administrators in the years following the initial purchases. That is reflected in the preservation of mountains, valleys, shoreline, beaches, rivers, ponds and forests. So too, is the emphasis on preserving the culture and history of Connecticut by acquiring properties steeped in military and industrial history, art and philanthropy. So integral are the parks to the well-being of citizens and visitors alike, that Connecticut's 911 Memorial was located in a state park where visitors could view smoke rising from the Manhattan skyline on that fateful day.

Whether you are seeking a place for quiet reflection and respite from the hustle and bustle of life, a place to camp and reconnect with nature, an opportunity to learn about nature or stand on the site where so many soldiers walked in the past, you will find it in a Connecticut State Park.

The Centennial Celebration

To commemorate the one-hundredth birthday of Connecticut's State Parks, the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, the Friends of Connecticut State Parks and the Connecticut Forest and Park Assoc. are hosting a celebration which will begin on August 1, 2013 and conclude in September 2014. The celebration is intended to raise awareness about the parks, educate children and families about nature and appreciation of their natural surroundings and, propel the parks into a new century for all present future generations to enjoy.

To that end, four statewide events are being hosted by the Centennial Committee – two in 2013 and, two in 2014. The Statewide events include: the Governor's Kick-off of the Centennial Year on August 1, 2013 at Dinosaur State Park in Rocky Hill, the Centennial SOJourn (Summer Outdoor Journey) beginning on August 15, 2013 and concluding on August 25, 2013, the Centennial Birthday Celebration mid-summer 2014 and the Centennial Finale September 2014.

The Kick-Off

Governor Malloy will launch the Connecticut State Parks Centennial Celebration on August 1, 2013 followed by a reception for event sponsors, public officials, the general public, park supporters and CT State Park Friends groups.

Centennial Sojourn (Summer Outdoor Journey)

(Journey schedule is at end of this article on page 13)

The celebration will begin with a *Centennial SOJourn*, a 169 mile trek (one mile for each CT community) that will commence on August 15, 2013. The journey will begin at Quaddick State Park in northeast Connecticut and conclude in Sherwood Island State Park in Westport, Connecticut's first state park, visiting nearly 20 state parks along the route. Participants will bike, hike, horseback ride, paddle and camp along the route. The public is welcome to participate in the daily legs and programs although; food and beverages will only be provided to those participating for the entire journey. The Sojourn is expected to take 11 days to complete. The leg of the Sojourn that passes through Hammonasset Beach State Park will include the dedication for the Shoreline Greenway.

centennial, continued on page 13

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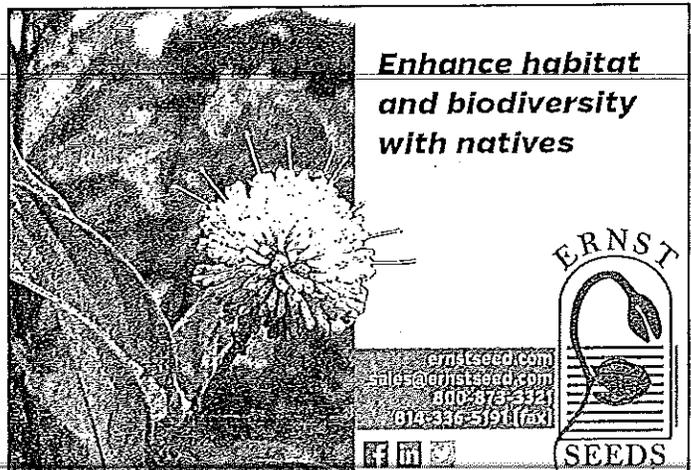
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Statewide Birthdays Parties

Statewide Birthday Parties will be held during the summer 2014. The birthday parties, including refreshments at multiple state parks, will be free to the park goers and will include volunteer recruitment opportunities. Additionally, sand-sculpture building demonstrations are to be scheduled along with amateur sand sculpture contests. Included in the birthday celebration will be a give back day where children and families can do a small project at each park. This will be designed to teach the future stewards of our parks how to treat them gently and, appreciate the environment. It will also teach all participants what is involved in keeping the parks safe and beautiful for all visitors.

The Sky's The Limit

Concluding the year-long celebration will be an event that will propel Connecticut State Parks into the next century. The event, entitled *The Sky's the Limit*, is planned to include hot air balloons, kite flying and

demonstrations, model airplanes, astronomy events, bird walks and much more!

Additional Events

Connecticut has 107 parks, each with its own special character and personality. To celebrate such diversity the Centennial committee is highlighting the efforts of Friends, civic groups and other organizations to help create more excitement and fun in each State Park.

Come and “**Explore, Discover and Celebrate**” the beauty and versatility that is Connecticut State Parks.

Endnote: In an effort not to impact the budget for the operation of the State Parks, the Friends of Connecticut State Parks, Inc. (a 501C3, private non-profit organization) are raising all of the funding for the Centennial programs. Funding is still needed and donations would be appreciated. Visit www.ct.gov/deep/stateparks100 for information on the Centennial Programs. Park History and, how you can contribute.

Centennial Sojourn Summary 169 Mile Journey (one mile for each town in CT)

Day #	Date	Start Location	Enroute Stops	Destination Camping	# Miles	Theme
	Aug 15-25					
Day 1	Aug 15, 2013 Thursday	Quaddick SP - Thompson	Airline Trail	Mashamoquet Brook SP - Pomfret	22.5 Bike	Why the Sojourn?
Day 2	Aug 16, 2013 Friday	Mashamoquet Brook SP	Goodwin Cons Ctr - Hampton	Mansfield Hollow SP Mansfield	17.3 Bike	Canoeing & Hikes led by Friends of Mansfield Hollow
Day 3	Aug 17, 2013 Saturday	Mansfield Hollow SP	Airline Trail	Gay City Hebron 100 Campers	17.78 Bike	Astronomy & No Child Left Inside -- Family Activities
Day 4	Aug 18, 2013 Sunday	Gay City SP		Dinosaur SP Rocky Hill	17.17 Bike	Sleep with the Dinosaurs & Dinosaur SP Day
Day 5	Aug 19, 2013 Monday	Dinosaur SP	Dart Island SP	Haddam Meadows SP - Haddam	18 Canoe & Kayak	Connecticut Grown Foods
Day 6	Aug 20, 2013 Tuesday	Haddam Meadows SP		Gillette Castle SP - Hadlyme	8.52 Canoe & Kayak & Ferry	It's All A Mystery -- Behind the scenes tours
Day 7	Aug 21, 2013 Wednesday	Gillette Castle SP	Valley Railroad -- Essex Chatfield Hollow -Killingworth	Hammonasset Beach SP -- Madison 100 Campers	20.43 Train Bike Hike Bike	-Civilian Conservation Corps reunion -Soar with the Birds
Day 8	Aug 22, 2013 Thursday	Hammonasset	Shoreline Greenway	Farm River SP _ East Haven	18.98 Bike	Shorerline Greenway Ribbon Cutting
Day 9	Aug 23, 2013 Friday	Farm River SP		Silver Sands -- Milford 100 Campers	17.33 Bike	Long Island Sound
Day 10	Aug 24, 2013 Saturday	Silver Sands SP		Beardsley Zoo - Bridgeport	23.1 Bike	Go Wild -- Year of the Snake
Day 11	Aug 25, 2013 Sunday	Beardsley Zoo		Sherwood Island SP - Westport	11.55 Bike	-CT State Parks Celebration -Reinactment of Historic Photo -Model Cars, Scouting Activities

management, continued from page 7

by an established body such as the Tree Wardens' Association. Since tree wardens by statute already have the care and control of municipal trees (see Statute, page 15), this is a prudent enhancement to municipal tree care.

Planned, but not yet executed, are additional legislative items that will require a funding mechanism. The SVMTF felt strongly that putting money into tree maintenance now will create long-term savings through avoidance of storm damage and related restoration. A recommendation was made that municipalities should receive a one-time sum of \$100,000 to "catch up" on roadside tree maintenance, which has been neglected for decades. This is a large enough sum to allow the implementation of a five-year plan for woody plant management.

On the local level, the report offers a formula for tree maintenance budgeting, based upon average road miles and population density of those roads. One of the goals of the SVMTF has been to help municipalities develop appropriate and effective roadside vegetation management plans, including a web-based tool.

Inventories are the first step in this process, although they remain controversial with many tree wardens. One theory about inventories is that a documented hazardous tree is somehow more of a potential liability than an undocumented one. The over-riding principle here is that a town must demonstrate a plan for dealing with hazardous trees, and an inventory is a necessary part of that process.

The key to roadside tree management will be town-by-town planning, with utilities and the State Department of Transportation showing leadership in enhanced budgeting and long-range planning.

Technical Standards

An important piece of the document is the statement of support for existing tree pruning standards, to be used for all roadside pruning, as well as the promotion of standardized, formalized training in tree removal practices. While public safety is the ultimate goal, it is critical that workers be properly trained in

safe procedures. These include road safety measures, such as the use of "Men Working" signs, as well as recognizing tree hazards and creating a safe strategy for their removal.

The report recommends that one organization, whether the Tree Wardens' Association of Connecticut, the Connecticut Tree protective Association, or the Connecticut Urban Forest Council, should take the lead in providing a comprehensive tree worker training system.

Related Activity

A collaborative study by Connecticut Light and Power and UConn's Department of Natural Resources and the Environment will examine so-called "hardening" of the forest edge. Although extensive research has been done at the University of Florida by Professor Ed Gilman on the benefits of various types of pruning for wind resistance, very little is known about the effects of tree clearing on the wind-resistance of trees left behind.

As with so much in life, things we thought we knew have been proven wrong over time. Where once it was standard procedure to stake a newly planted tree, subsequent research showed that trees that are allowed to sway in the wind grow stronger roots. It isn't much of a leap to recognize that trees at the edge of a forest have stronger root systems because of receiving the brunt of regular blasts of wind.

Conclusions

This is very long-range research, and the results may not be known for decades. In the meantime, the SVMTF will continue to look at useful legislation, while a spin-off group focuses on helping municipalities develop tree management plans. This web-based tool is envisioned as residing on the D.E.E.P. website, available to any public works department, tree board or tree warden.

As the new hurricane season begins, the SVMTF has accomplished several goals, including the passage of significant legislation, signed by Governor Malloy, and the creation of a report which it hopes will provide the springboard for many more improvements to the state's roadside forest and the public's safety.

"On the local level, the report offers a formula for tree maintenance budgeting, based upon average road miles and population density of those roads. One of the goals of the SVMTF has been to help municipalities develop appropriate and effective roadside vegetation management plans, including a web-based tool."

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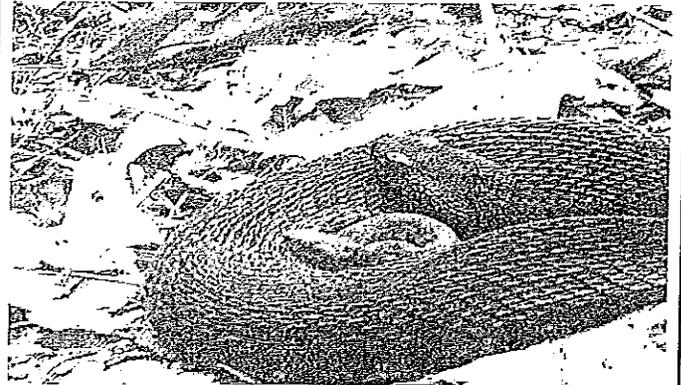
Connecticut General Statutes > Title 23 > Chapter 451 > § 23-58 - Tree wardens; appointment; compensation; supervision

The selectmen of each town, except those having cities with coextensive boundaries within their limits, which cities have an officer with similar duties to those of a tree warden who in fact assumes control of all the territory embraced within their limits, and the warden or burgesses of each borough shall, within thirty days of their election, appoint a town or borough tree warden, as the case may be. Such tree wardens shall be appointed for the term of one year and until their successors are appointed and have qualified. Any tree warden may appoint such number of deputy tree wardens as he deems expedient and he may, at any time, remove them from office. A town or borough tree warden and his deputies shall receive for their services such reasonable compensation, from the town or borough, as the town or borough may determine or, in default of such determination, as the selectmen or borough warden prescribes.

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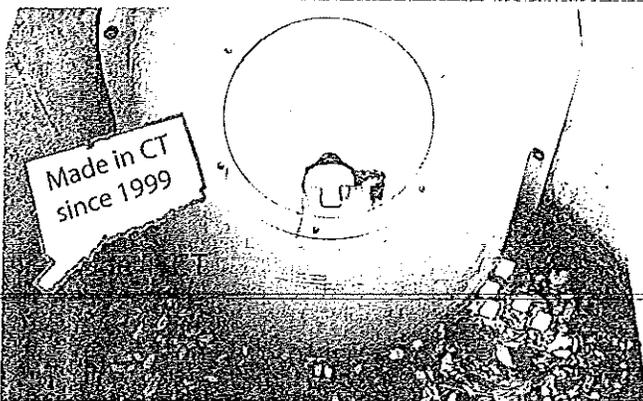


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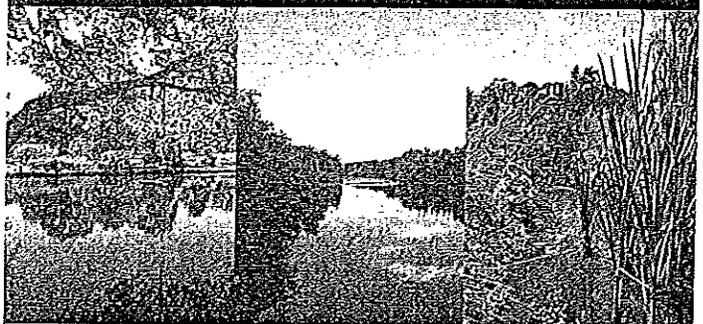


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3. Wetlands Commissioner of the Year
4. Conservation Commissioner of the Year
5. Commission Agent or Staff of the Year
6. Lifetime Achievement Award

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