



### Conservation Commission Agenda

**Meeting Date:** August 17, 2016, 6:00 PM

- I.** Roll Call
- II.** Approve Minutes of July 19, 2016 meeting
- III.** Sub Committee Reports
  - a. Parks Committee
  - b. LACFB Update – Public Woodlot Ordinance passed second read 8/1/16 05-07112016
  - c. Transportation & Environment Committee
- IV.** Open for Public Comments
- V.** Election of Officers for 2016-2017-Update
  - a. Chair
  - b. Vice chair
  - c. Secretary/Treasurer
  - d. Inquiry to City Clerk for new applicants on 8/15/16.
- VI.** Old Business Items
  - a. Policies and Procedures – Adoption
  - b. Barker Mill Update – Q & A with Eric Cousens
- VII.** New Business Items
  - a. Auburn River Day-Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup> 10am – 2pm
  - b. Project Canopy Complete-Data attached
- VIII.** Miscellaneous
  - a. Drought Awareness-What can we do!
- IX.** Adjourn

The Conservation Commission meets the third Tuesday of each Month in Auburn City Hall at 6:00 PM.  
The Lewiston Auburn Community Forest Board meets the third Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM.  
The Parks Subcommittee meets on the last Wednesday of the month in Auburn City Hall at 6:30 PM.

**City of Auburn  
Conservation Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
July 19, 2016 - 6:00 pm**

Chairman Pete Preble brought the meeting to order.

1. Roll call

Members present: Tizz Crowley, Maurice Keene, Pete Preble, Jordan Tate, Leroy Walker, Nichole White-Matson

Absent was: Chuck Lafean and Bob Sipe

Others present: Tony Beaulieu, City Engineer

Nichole White-Matson was thanked for pulling the agenda and materials together. Appreciation was expressed for breaking it into pieces. It was easier to download and to be able to print only what they wanted to print. It was requested the City do the same.

2. Approve Minutes of 5/17/16 Meeting

7b. needs to be changed to Jordan Tate.

ACTION: Jordan Tate seconded by Tizz Crowley moved to accept the minutes of 6/21/16 as amended. The motion was approved unanimously.

3. Subcommittee Reports

**Parks Subcommittee**

- The park let at the Build Maine Conference was very successful. The community loved it and the Committee likes doing it so they are going to create a portable park. Misty Edgcomb did a great job with chairing it. The theme was edible orchards and edible things. They had herbs and little bushes and plants.
- Norway has flower boxes out on their downtown city sidewalk that has edible plants with signs encouraging people to take some. Tizz Crowley took pictures to share with the Parks Subcommittee.
- They acquired a piano from another group that was looking for a new home for it.

**LACFB Update**

Dave Griswold went to the City Council meeting last night and gave a summary of what went into the woodlot ordinance development and how they came up with the cost of apportionment. Councilor Walker passed the first reading and it will be going to the Council again possibly August 15.

The City Council voted to put all the timber harvest money into the general revenue account. Concern was expressed that if all the funding goes into the general revenue account, that long term planning would not be possible for nursery, planting and supporting the highway commission. It was suggested for the Forest Board to go to the Council to communicate their plans and request a certain budgeted amount dedicated for that purpose.

It was suggested to table until next month, get documentation in order, find out exactly what the Council voted on, confirm when the next Council meeting is so they can support the Forest Board, find out what the Forest Board recommendations are, how they can help, and to get a copy in the packet materials.

ACTION PLAN: Councilor walker is willing to talk/communicate to the Councilors through management on general principles that we want to work on a plan and that Conservation Commission has expressed concern that all funding is going to the general fund without any planning dollars attached to forest related projects. Reference was made to Dave Griswold's letter and it was requested to include a copy of the Council vote in the next packet.

**Transportation & Environment Committee:**

- There is nothing to report
- The next meeting is 6/20/16

4. **Public Comments:** None

5. **Election of Officers for 2016-2017**

**a. Chair, b. Vice Chair, c. Secretary/Treasurer**

The election of officers was tabled. The Chairman was asked to put a request in to the City Clerk to please post openings so they can conduct the annual meeting with a copy to the City Manager, Tony Beaulieu, Assistant City Manager, Conservation Commission, and Appointment Committee.

6. **Old Business**

**a. Project Canopy Update**

The tree inventory is complete. 2500 trees have been inventoried. The City just received the data yesterday. It was given to GIS and had it not been for IT issues it would have been entered and he would have been able to show them today. He will have it for the next meeting. It was suggested to have the presentation in a larger room, invite Rosemary Mosher, and include the press to advertise the meeting and topic.

**b. Reappointment of Commission Members Update**

Pete Preble, Bob Sipe, and Jordan Tate's terms have expired. Bob and Jordan would like to continue. Pete is unable to continue due to other commitments.

**c. Policies and Procedures Adoption**

Tizz Crowley made the changes discussed at the last meeting. A vote was tabled until next month to give the Commission time to review the final draft first.

**d. Annual Report Adoption**

ACTION: Tizz Crowley seconded by Maurice Keene moved to accept the report prepared by Nichole White- Matson on behalf of the Commission and forward it to City Council with a notation that they are meeting the obligation outlined in the ABC guidelines and that they thank Nichole. The vote was approved unanimously.

**e. Priority Projects - None**

**7. New Business**

**a. Barker Mill – Potential Project**

Jordan Tate reached out to both the Mayor and Eric Cousens in May to figure out from them what is desired or what the Commission is able to help with. She received an email in July wondering what they are willing to do. She feels a lot of the things discussed at the meeting are pretty technical and beyond what they are capable of doing. She suggested and all agreed that they feel comfortable with a low key role with advocacy and communication i.e. Community Outreach and The River Day. It was suggested that Jordan reach out to Eric on behalf of the Commission and ask him to regularly update them on a monthly basis and for it to be put on the agenda as a topic and to include it in the agenda packet. They also agreed that if the Bates Students come to them and ask them to be a stakeholders group that they would be interested and could even possibly create a work group or have a champion.

It was suggested to reach out to the Water District and Lake Auburn Water Commission to let both they are here as a communication tool and would like to be kept up to date on what is happening at Lake Auburn.

**8. Other**

**a. Miscellaneous Correspondence – Utility Boxes**

It was suggested to come up with a plan for next year if there is interest and support.

**b. Edible Green Spaces –**

Bob Sipe had distributed information on growing vegetables on the curb side. It's too late for this year but if there is an interest and support maybe they can come up with a plan next year. Jordan Tate will reach out to Steve Murch. It was suggested to offer community hours for Edward Little and surrounding schools to plant the boxes.

**c. Next Meeting:**

The next meeting is August 16 at 6:00 p.m.

**9. Adjourn**

ACTION: Nichole White-Matson seconded by Jordan Tate moved to adjourn at 7:10 pm. The motion was unanimously approved.

Submitted by:  
Tammy Thatcher

**Jordan Tate**

Aug 11 (4 days ago)

to Jeffrey, me, Tizz, bobsipe03, MRKN983, Chuck, abeaulieu

Hello all,

I was able to get Eric Cousens to agree to come to our meeting this coming Tuesday, August 16th. He will be providing an overview and answering questions. He said he might not be able to gather many written materials together due to short notice, but you should all have the digital document of the 2015 study report of the Lower Barker Mills Dam. That might be good to review to prep for any questions you may have.

**From:** City of Auburn Maine [mailto:[donotreply@auburnmaine.gov](mailto:donotreply@auburnmaine.gov)]  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 11, 2016 10:47 AM  
**To:** Jeffrey D. Preble <[jeff.preble@wright-pierce.com](mailto:jeff.preble@wright-pierce.com)>  
**Subject:** Auburn River Day

Good morning,

## **Auburn Recreation and the Androscoggin Land Trust Host River Day Event in Auburn**

Canoeing, kayaking, and fishing? Yes, please! [Auburn Rec](#) and the [Androscoggin Land Trust](#) invite you to "[Auburn River Day](#)" on Saturday, September 17, 2016 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Auburn River Day is part of the [Great Maine Outdoor Weekend](#) that's celebrated across the state. Be sure to check our website for more details!

ID	Common Name	Total	Good	Fair	Poor	Dead
2	Apple	4		4		
6	Arborvitae Spp.	46	32	13	1	
10	Ash, Green	25	3	19	3	
14	Ash, White	77	5	59	13	
17	Aspen, Bigtooth	4		2	2	
22	Aspen, Quaking	16	3	1	2	1
25	Beech, American	2	1		1	
29	Birch, European White	5	3	1	1	
31	Birch, Gray	2		2		
35	Birch, Paper	34	12	19	3	
38	Birch, River	14	7	7		
42	Boxelder	22	2	13	7	
46	Cherry, Black	17	1	9	7	
48	Cherry, Higan	1	1			
52	Cherry/Plum, Spp.	31	14	14	3	
54	Cottonwood, Eastern	2			2	
59	Crabapple, Flowering	202	7	116	14	2
62	Dogwood, Kousa	2	1	1		
64	Dogwood, Pagoda	1	1			
67	Douglas-Fir	7	1	6		
72	Elm, American	21	1	15	2	3
75	Elm, Hybrid	6		4	2	
78	Elm, Siberian	3		2	1	
80	Elm, Slippery	2		2		
82	Falsecypress, Spp.	4		4		
86	Fir, White	47	14	29	4	
90	Ginkgo	48	2	21	7	
94	Hawthorn, Spp.	6	3	2	1	
98	Hemlock, Eastern	8	3	4	1	
100	Hickory, Mockernut	1			1	
102	Holly, American	1	1			
105	Honeylocust, Thornless	20	9	11		
109	Hornbeam, American	11	4	5	2	
113	Horsechestnut	6	1	4	1	
116	Juniper, Spp.	6		4	2	
118	Lilac, Common	2		2		
122	Lilac, Japanese Tree	67	14	4	13	
125	Linden, American	5		3	2	
129	Linden, Littleleaf	17	6	6	5	
132	Locust, Black	8	1	7		
135	Maple, Freeman	27	13	14		
138	Maple, Japanese	6	5	1		
143	Maple, Norway	525	63	36	98	4
147	Maple, Red	211	47	133	31	
151	Maple, Silver	114	7	98	9	
156	Maple, Sugar	153	31	86	35	1

160 Mountainash, American	6	1	3	2	
162 Oak, Black	1		1		
166 Oak, Northern Red	118	37	73	8	
169 Oak, Pin	32	18	14		
171 Oak, Scarlet	3		3		
173 Oak, Shumard	1	1			
175 Oak, Spp.	1				1
179 Pear, Callery	52	24	25	3	
184 Pine, Austrian	27	1	11	13	2
189 Pine, Eastern White	130	17	94	16	3
191 Pine, Red	4		4		
195 Pine, Scotch	9	1	7	1	
198 Pine, Spp.	5	3	2		
200 Planetree, London	1		1		
202 Poplar, Lombardy	3				3
205 Poplar, Spp.	2	1			1
207 Russian-Olive	1	1			
211 Serviceberry, Spp.	3	1	1	1	
216 Spruce, Colorado	64	28	3	5	1
220 Spruce, Norway	34	12	21	1	
224 Spruce, White	57	15	34	8	
226 Stump	81				
228 Sumac, Staghorn	6		6		
231 Sycamore, American	3		2	1	
233 Unknown Tree	5				5
236 Walnut, Black	8	1	7		
239 Willow, Black	2		1	1	
241 Willow, Weeping	1	1			
243 Yew, Spp.	1	1			
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>2500</b>	<b>564</b>	<b>1492</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>27</b>

# Basic Ways To Conserve Water

## Be Water-Wise

Everyone wants to help conserve valuable resources. And water is one of the most valuable there is. We couldn't live without it.



But what can an individual – or a single family – do to help? The answer is in these five simple suggestions. Follow them and you'll be water-wise, not wasteful.

**1** Check every faucet in your home for leaks. Just a slow drip can waste 15 to 20 gallons a day. Fix it and you save almost 6,000 gallons a year.



**2** Put a bit of food coloring in each toilet tank. Without flushing, watch for a few minutes to see if the color shows up in the bowl. It's not uncommon to lose up to 100 gallons a day from one of these otherwise invisible toilet leaks. And that's more than 30,000 gallons a year!



**3** Don't shower too long or fill the tub too full. Five minutes of showering and about five inches in the tub is plenty.



**4** Try to use automatic dish and clothes washing machines with full loads only. Even when the machines feature short cycles, you're being more efficient with your water when there are enough dirty things for a full load.



**5** Most importantly, water your lawn and garden with good sense. Do it early or late, not in the midday heat. Avoid windy days. See that water goes where it should, not on sidewalks or driveways. Stick a spade in the ground now and then to see that water is getting down deep. A good soaking encourages good root systems. But remember this: A single lawn sprinkler spraying five gallons per minute use 50% more water in just one hour than a combination of ten toilet flushes, two 5-minute showers, two dishwasher loads and a full load of clothes. So be sensible. Check with local lawn/garden experts for best results, and check local watering regulations.

*Just five suggestions. But they are the basic elements of a sound, reasonable, and effective water conservation program for you, your family, your friends – everyone. Don't let water go to waste. Do your part to use water wisely.*



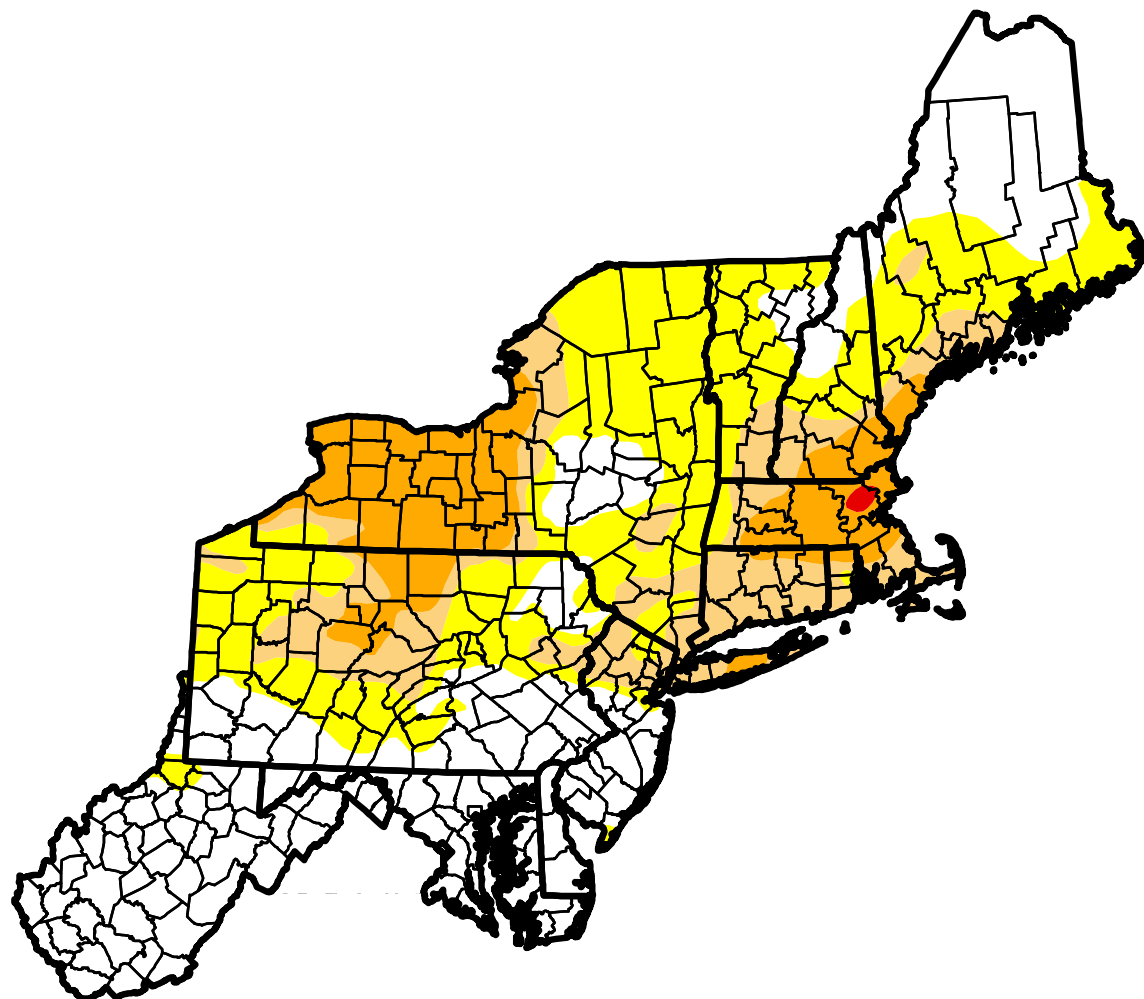
# U.S. Drought Monitor Northeast

**August 9, 2016**  
(Released Thursday, Aug. 11, 2016)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

## Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	40.04	59.96	28.57	12.96	0.15	0.00
<b>Last Week</b> 8/2/2016	40.84	59.16	27.28	11.01	0.00	0.00
<b>3 Months Ago</b> 5/10/2016	67.79	32.21	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> 12/29/2015	62.10	37.90	6.60	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Water Year</b> 9/29/2015	42.41	57.59	9.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>One Year Ago</b> 8/11/2015	83.11	16.89	2.34	0.00	0.00	0.00



### Intensity:



The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

### Author:

Richard Tinker

CPC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP



**State of Maine  
Drought Task Force  
Report on Current Hydrologic Conditions  
August 4, 2016**

**Overview:**

The Drought Task Force convened Thursday, August 4, 2016 for the first time since 2002 in response to the dry weather that has led to below average ground and surface water levels across Maine. Factors such as stream flow, groundwater levels, reservoir levels, soil moisture, and weather forecasts are being monitored closely. This report summarizes the information presented on current hydrologic and drought conditions as of this date.

**Current Hydrologic Conditions:*****Stream Flows***

Current stream flows vary statewide, though they trend below normal. Stream flows are normal to below normal in the northern portion of Maine, while stream flows in the southern portion of Maine are below normal to much below normal. Low stream flows are a result of the very low snow pack that occurred in this past winter/spring.

The United States Geologic Survey maintains real time groundwater and surface level water information.

Water Watch: [waterwatch.usgs.gov](http://waterwatch.usgs.gov)

Ground Water Watch: [groundwaterwatch.usgs.gov](http://groundwaterwatch.usgs.gov)

***Ground Water***

Groundwater levels vary significantly statewide. Groundwater levels in northern and eastern Maine trend normal to below normal, and ground water levels in the southern portion of Maine trend much below normal to low. Conditions worsen from north to south. However, unlike stream flow data, there is not a long accurate history of groundwater levels.

***Headwater Storage Levels:***

Reservoir storages in the headwaters are below their long term averages. Sebago Lake, the largest water supplier in Maine, currently has water levels 6 inches below the long term average for August 1.

**Weather Outlook:**

For the next two weeks, there is a fair chance that precipitation will be above normal. There is an equal percent chance that precipitation levels will be above or below normal in the one month and three-month outlooks. There is a La Nina watch into the winter, which would bring colder and drier temperatures into the winter months, which are a crucial time for ground water recharge to occur.

There are no strong indicators of weather trends beyond this time frame. All interests should monitor both weather forecasts and hydrologic factors as conditions progress.

**Drought Outlook:**

Currently portions of 15 counties in Maine are abnormally dry and portions of 10 counties are experiencing moderate drought, according to the United States Drought Mitigation Center. Conditions are expected to persist in the southern coastal region of Maine through

For up to date information on the drought status and outlook check out the National Weather Service's Climate Prediction Center.

[www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov](http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov)

October, according to the National Weather Service's Climate Prediction Center.

### **Conclusion:**

**The current conditions information in this report represents a “snapshot” of conditions throughout the state as of August 4, 2016.** This report provides information on the preliminary effects of the drought and more monitoring must be done to assess potential impacts if the situation worsens. Many new factors will influence drought potential in Maine as the season progresses. These factors will be monitored, and the Drought Task Force will convene monthly to monitor the situation until warning indicators subside.

The Maine Drought Task Force is composed of representatives from major river basin management operations, utility operators as well as state agencies and federal agencies. The Task Force is convened when necessary based on drought threat.

Commission members will stay in close communication until the dry conditions subside. The United States Geological Survey (USGS) provides real time ground and surface water level data and the U.S. Drought Monitor Program provides weekly drought outlooks.

### **Information Resources:**

For additional information on particular aspects of this report, please contact:

<b>Bruce Fitzgerald/Thomas Redstone</b> , Maine Emergency Management Agency	Flood preparedness and mitigation	207-624-4400
<b>Bob Lent/Nick Stasulis</b> , USGS	Stream flow	207-622-8201
<b>Tom Hawley/John Jensenius</b> , National Weather Service, Gray, Maine	Drought potential for central and southern Maine	207-688-3216
<b>Maureen Hastings/Rich Okulski</b> , National Weather Service, Caribou, Maine	Drought potential for northern and eastern Maine	207-492-0180
<b>Robert Marvinney</b> , Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Maine Geological Survey	State Geologist	207-287-2801