



Conservation Commission Agenda Meeting Date: May 17, 2016, 6:00 PM

- I.** Roll Call
- II.** Approve Minutes of March 15, 2016 meeting
Approve Minutes of April 19, 2016 meeting
- III.** Sub Committee Reports
 - a. Parks Committee
 - b. LACFB Update
 - c. Transportation & Environment Committee
- IV.** Open for Public Comments
 - a. Sabrina Best – Parks and Recreation Director
- V.** Old Business Items
 - a. Project Canopy Update
 - b. Policies and Procedures Update
 - c. Annual Report Update
 - d. Priority Projects – Project Canopy, Barker Mill, Apatite Park, Trail consolidation efforts, Arbor Week, YMCA, LAWPC
- VI.** New Business Items
- VII.** Other
 - a. Miscellaneous Correspondence
 - b. Reappointments
- VIII.** 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
March 15, 2016 - 6:00 pm

Chairman Pete Preble brought the meeting to order.

Members Present: Tizz Crowley; Maurice Keene; Chuck Lafean, Pete Preble, Bob Sipe, Jordan Tate, Nichole White-Matson

Others Present: Lynne Richards, LAWPC and Tony Beaulieu, City Engineer

1. Minutes

Under 4. Old Business. Ordinance Action by Council. Add "Woodlot".

ACTION: Motion made by Tizz Crowley seconded by Jordan Tate to accept the minutes of 2-16-16 with changes. The motion was approved. Chuck Lafean abstained.

2. Subcommittee Reports

Parks Subcommittee

Bob Sipe reported that Sabrina Best, the new Recreation Director, attended their last meeting and that she is wonderful. She is very energetic, patient, has a lot of good ideas, and believes in collaboration and implementation. He received an email from her and she plans to attend the next meeting as well. The Parks Subcommittee requested permission to maintain a parks workgroup through December and asked Tony Beaulieu to book a room through the end of the year.

There was discussion about the Lewiston-Auburn Bike Ped Committee and how to encourage them to be more interactive with other groups to help prevent duplicating efforts. There was also discussion regarding multi use surfaces, trails, sidewalks, and bike lanes and how to define each of them.

ACTION: Maurice Keene seconded by Jordan Tate moved to explore options for common definitions and language for multi use surfaces, trails, sidewalks, and bike lanes. The vote was unanimously approved.

LACFB Update

Jordan Tate reported that the Forest Board adopted the Strategic Plan for the upcoming five years, they were updated on the complications the Conservation Commission is having communicating with the city, the woodlot ordinance is going to be discussed tomorrow at the Transportation & Environment Committee meeting, and they focused on plans for Tree City USA Arbor Week.

There was discussion regarding the banner for Arbor Week. Concern was expressed that the city charges their committees to hang the banners. They had several questions: (1) If the

banner is for Arbor Week, is the Conservation Commission going to support celebrating Arbor Week in the City of Auburn? (2) If a banner is going to be used, does the City of Auburn want to buy one or get one sponsored? (3) What is the policy of the City of Auburn for sponsors and if it is allowed what is the guideline? (4) Where can they put the banner (Maine Street?). (5). If we do not allow sponsorship how does the city get around it at the Ice Arena? It was suggested to have the city arborist who is a member of the Forest Board put up the banner to save money.

3. Public Comments: None

4. Old Business

Lynne Richards – Lake Auburn Watershed Protection Commission

Lynne Richards the LAWPC Education and Outreach Manager said LAWPC has oversight of about 2,000 acres around the lake and has been working on a Lands Management Plan. She will send the Conservation Commission the draft plan in PDF file. The first week in May is Drinking Water Week and Lakes Week is in June. The next LAWPC meeting is April 13th at 3:30 pm at AVCOG. A member of the Conservation Commission will probably attend to introduce themselves.

Updates on Project Canopy and TD Bank Grant Applications
Bids will be opened for a contractor to do the work on March 22.

Woodlot Ordinance – Transportation & Environment Committee Meeting March 16, 2016
The Woodlot Ordinance is being discussed at the Transportation & Environment Committee meeting tomorrow night at 5:30 pm. Dave Griswold plans to be there. Members were encouraged to attend to show support.

Barker Mill Dam Relicensing – Economic & Community Committee Meeting March 17, 2016
The Barker Mill Dam Relicensing will be discussed at the Council Economic & Community Development Committee meeting on March 17. Pete Preble plans to attend to find out what may be going on with River Day. Nichole White-Matson also plans to attend.

5. New Business

Priority Projects

Pete Preble met with the City Manager, Assistant City Manager, and Mayor to discuss communication. They thought the Conservation Commission should bring forth what they want to work on for priority projects and left it to up to them to decide what that will be. Discussion on what projects is a priority was tabled to the next meeting. All members were asked to brainstorm a list of projects. They will go through minutes to see what they talked about, reach out to Planning & Permitting and the community on what they think is priority projects, and the Transportation and Environment Committee to see what they see as policy priorities. Other suggestions were to contact other communities that have Conservation Commissions to see what kind of projects they are working on and the list of projects on the Maine conservation group website. *Pete will email Councilor Young to ask for input from the policy committee.*

Tony Beaulieu was asked to find out what Planning and Permitting thinks is important and to request a post be put on the website Say It feature asking for input from the community.

6. Other

Policies and Procedures Update - None

Annual Report Update - None

Miscellaneous Correspondence

Information that was accumulated over the course of the month was put in the agenda packet. The city clerk prepared a list of members and their expiration dates. Bob Sipe, Jordan Tate, and Pete Preble's terms expire in June. *Pete will send the list to Tammy to include in the minutes. Tony was asked to request the openings be posted.*

There is not enough time to do anything for Earth Day this year, but they will plan to address it earlier for next year.

Tony was asked to see if there is training on freedom of access and record keeping.

The next meeting is April 19 at 6:00 p.m.

7. Adjourn

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

Submitted by:
Tammy Thatcher

City of Auburn, Maine
"Maine's City of Opportunity"

Conservation Commission

PARKS SUBCOMMITTEE MARCH 30, 2016 – Auburn Hall

Auburn's Conservation Commission Parks Subcommittee met on Wednesday, March 30, 2016. The meeting was called to order at 6:40 pm

Roll Call

Members present were Tizz Crowley, Misty Edgecomb, Chuck Lafean, Bob Sipe, and Leroy Walker. Absent was Larry Pelletier. Also present was Sabrina Best, Recreation Director.

ACTION: Tizz Crowley seconded by Misty Edgecomb moved to make Sabrina Best the Ex Officio member of the Parks Subcommittee. The motion was unanimously approved.

Minutes

ACTION: Misty Edgecomb seconded by Chuck Lafean moved to approve the minutes of 2-24-16 as presented with two changes (Delete the "e" from Misty's last name under Universal Playground Equipment & under Dam Relicensing at Barker Mill – River Day the third sentence will read: "The understanding is that City Councilors want to look at recreational opportunities" and delete "and use their influence and the need to have relicensing to bring that forward".) The motion was unanimously approved.

ACTION: Tizz Crowley seconded by Chuck Lafean moved to postpone the minutes of 1/27/16 to the next meeting. The motion was unanimously approved.

New Business

Friends of Sullivan Square – Tentative Event April 24th

April 24th is National Park Day. A web site has been developed that anyone can go on to look at all the different events that are going on that day. Sabrina Best is going to promote and highlight the River Walk, Festival Plaza and Sullivan Square and will include the GIS map link to the city website for the list of all the parks.

There was a lot of discussion regarding possibly promoting Mt. Apatite next year on National Park Day. There was also discussion regarding defining the best entrance, signs, volunteers doing community service projects, and a Friends Group. Sabrina will:

- ✓ Review and address the sign at the Small Road entrance stating the civil rights and rehabilitation acts requirements have been met and directing anyone who has been discriminated against to the Director of the Office of Equal Opportunity at the US Department of Interior.
- ✓ Reach out to Julie at the National Park Service regarding what she has for funding, materials, do and don'ts on the trails etc.
- ✓ Put together some guidelines for volunteers doing community service projects.
- ✓ Start thinking about and putting together a Friends of Mt. Apatite group and reach out to Busytown Bike Shop.

- ✓ Reach out to the Snowmobile Club to see if they would like to be a part of planning the National Parks Day if Mt. Apatite is highlighted next year. It was also suggested to see if their building can be used when they are not using it.
- ✓ Follow up with Dan Goyette regarding the trails grant.
- ✓ Get the Parks Subcommittee the date for next year's National Park Day.

The members complimented Sabrina on what a fantastic job she is doing, what great energy she has, and how thrilled they are to have her.

The Friends of Sullivan Square have a speaker for National Park Day. There was discussion regarding having it in the park with an alternate location if the weather is bad. *Leroy Walker will reach out to St. Louis Church to see if they will be the back-up location. Sabrina and Tizz Crowley will work on the logistics of that day.* The Friends will put out a donation basket with a suggested donation of \$5 to raise money to plant flowers in the park.

Arbor Week May

Arbor Week is May 15-21. The Community Forest Board's plan is to have a big public participation event at the nursery at the Lake Auburn Community Center and tables with information hopefully at both libraries and both city halls. They are putting up at least one banner and possibly a second, both donated from Pepsi. The Parks Subcommittee thanked Dan Goyette and staff for addressing the issue of getting banners that support city activities put up without the cost. The Androscoggin Land Trust is putting together a story walk they are hoping to incorporate with their activities. The Recreation Department also plans to do story walks. The Woman's Literary Union would like to host Steve Murch again, possibly May 19th.

Trails Day - June 4th

It was suggested:

- ✓ To use trails day as a way to promote collaborative relationships with the Lake Auburn Watershed Protection since the Commissioners are trying to open their properties/trails to the public.
- ✓ Open recreational opportunities for anyone who has physical space i.e. Androscoggin Land Trust, Watershed Protection Act, Y, LA Trails, Watershed Protection Agencies, Lake Auburn Community Center, Schools, and East Auburn Community Unit. Possibly reach out to those entities to supply a list of what they have for trails and contact information and create one master trail directory.
- ✓ Find one trail, highlight it, and do one or two small events.

All agreed to think about what they want to do for Trails Day and email their suggestions and thoughts to the other members including Sabrina.

Parks & Recreation Month – July

There will be a lot of events going on in the month of July. The Recreation Department is creating a calendar and will list all the events including the Liberty Festival, Art Walk etc. and may highlight a trail or park on the other days.

Cemeteries - Volunteers

There is a need to organize volunteers to put up flags the week before Memorial Day. The city manager has a budget for flags and holders/markers. It was agreed to discuss this further at the April meeting.

Other

Unfinished Business

Council Reaffirms Current Ordinance for Parks & Recreation Advisory Board

Councilor Walker, Councilor Young, and Councilor Gilbert were thanked for voting to follow the ordinance and to fill the positions for at least one year.

Update “Ordinance” Proposal to Just Be Narrative of Subcommittee for Conservation Commission: - Not addressed

Update From Misty & Leroy on Signage Project – Not addressed

Dog Park Project Update – Not addressed

Other: None

Next Meeting

Wednesday, April 27, 2016

Open Session: None

Adjourn

ACTION: Chuck Lafean seconded by Misty Edgecomb moved to adjourn. The motion was unanimously approved.

Submitted by:

Tammy Thatcher

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

Chairman Pete Preble brought the meeting to order.

1. Roll call

Members present: Tizz Crowley; Maurice Keene; Chuck Lafean, Pete Preble, Bob Sipe, Jordan Tate, and Leroy Walker

Absent: Nichole White-Matson

Others present: Tony Beaulieu, City Engineer

2. Minutes

ACTION: Leroy Walker seconded by Jordan Tate moved to accept the minutes of 3-15-16 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

3. Subcommittee Reports

Parks Subcommittee

National Parks Day is 4/24/16. Mt. Apatite will be promoted and they are letting people know that the best entrance is Small Road. They discussed establishing standards for volunteers. Sabrina is attending the meetings and is now the ex officio. There will be a bike clinic on Sunday. A tree will be bought and planted at Sullivan Park and they are hoping to get a picnic table that was donated made in time for the event.

Chuck Lafean emailed Eric Cousens regarding the land swap 3-4 weeks ago and has not heard back from him yet.

The City updated their web site. They did not use their recommendations yet but maybe they will add to it at some point. The font is smaller, "Visitors" was changed to "Experiencing Auburn" and "Residents" was changed to "Neighborhood". Their meetings are on the calendar but the agenda cannot be found on the web site. *When Pete Preble sends the agenda packet it should be sent to the city clerk as well. Tizz will forward a copy of the ABC's Guidelines to the members.*

LACFB Update

The Board has been planning for Arbor Week which is May 15-May 21. They are planning on having informational booths at both libraries and city halls. The next meeting has been postponed to Thursday 4/28/16 at Lewiston Public Works.

It was suggested if anyone is interested they should go listen to Joe Kazar. It is the kick off for earth day. They will talk about recycling and solid waste and his last day is April 29 so it's a chance for people to say good bye.

Transportation & Environment

The next meeting is 4/20/16 at 5:30 pm. Topics include: Solid Waste & Recycling Presentations from Stuart Axelrod of Pine Tree Waste and Joe Kazar of MWAC and Constructions projects: Summer Street, South Main Street, Mill Street sidewalk, and Hotel Road.

It was suggested to add The Transportation and Environment Committee to Sub Committee Reports on the agenda since it's the policy committee the Conservation Commission falls under and request to be added to the distribution list for the minutes.

There was discussion regarding whether to add recycling to the work plan. It was agreed that the economic component does not support their recycling preferences and they are limited on time and energy and that would not be the best use of time but maybe it can be addressed in the future.

4. Public Comments: None

5. Old Business

Project Canopy Update

The city signed an agreement with Davey Resource Group, the company that will be conducting the survey. The survey will start in 6 weeks and approximately 2,500 trees will be surveyed.

Woodlot Ordinance – Recap of Transportation & Environment Committee Meeting March 16, 2016

The Transportation & Environment Committee voted to approve the woodlot ordinance and it is going to the City Council. It is a good idea for one or two members of the Forest Board and/or Conservation Commission to attend the meeting in case there are any questions. *Tony was asked to let the members know when it is put on the agenda.*

Barker Mill Dam Relicensing – Recap of Economic & Community Committee Meeting March 17, 2016

Most of the discussion was focused on the Lewiston/Auburn Growth Council and as a result they were not able to address Barker Mill. Eric Cousens is trying to get in touch with the project manager at Kleinschmidt, the company doing the work for the relicensing piece, but he has not heard from them. The Mayor is still interested in an event for River Day. It was recommended to contact the professor of the Bates students that did the presentation in December for some guidance and maybe involvement. *Upon request, Chuck Lafean will email the slide show the students did to members. Jordan Tate is interested in being involved in this endeavor and will be the conduit to the Mayor and Eric Cousens who has met with KPI. It was also suggested she contact Grady Burns, the Councilor at Large on the Economic Policy Committee.*

Priority Projects – Project Canopy, Barker Mill, Apatite Park, Trail Consolidation Efforts, Arbor Week, YMCA, LAWPC

Project Canopy and Arbor Week already fall under the Forest Board. It was suggested to work on Barker Mill, Mt. Apatite, and Consolidation of Trail Information over the next year or so to try to make some advancement. It was noted that Sherwood Forest is further advanced than some of the other parks. It was suggested to contact Rick Shea from the Forest Board who has done a lot of the work, would be a great resource, and could help with doing things. Doug Beck in Augusta has a lot of knowledge, including grants, and would also be a great resource. *The members will bring a list of possible places that fall in the limbo category to the next meeting.*

There was discussion regarding the role of the Parks Subcommittee versus the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. It was suggested to have a dialogue with Sabrina Best and develop guidelines and establish definitions to avoid problems in the future.

6. New Business

LA Medicine Take Back Day – April 30th

The Medicine Take Back Day is April 30th and Trash Take Off is May 21. The Trash Take Off is a Lake Auburn Community Center and West Auburn Neighborhood Association event cleaning roadside trash from 10:00 am to noon. They will meet at 9:30 at the Lake Auburn Community Center and there will be a BBQ held afterward. The Conservation Commission thanks them for organizing and planning the event and would like to see more happen in the future. Members were encouraged to attend if possible. It was requested that if an e alert and press release has not been sent out yet for the LA Medicine Take Back Day that it be done.

An RFP for solar power was discussed at the Economic Committee Meeting. It is a grant program they are trying to establish for homeowners to get it at a reduced rate. If anyone has more interest in it Jim Wellehan would be good contact and would be a good speaker to attend a Conservation Commission meeting. He has a passion for conservation and environment, has solar for his business, and does an energy fair. There is another energy company on Center Street that would come speak any time as well.

Androscoggin Land Trust for May Meeting

The Androscoggin Land Trust will attend the May Conservation Commission meeting. It was agreed they would like to continue to have guests from different groups at various times. It was suggested to have Sabrina Best attend in June to review summer events. Other suggestions included the YMCA, Park Ranger for Range Pond and Riverlands, and the Bike Ped Committee (Craig Saddlemire is chair).

7. Other

Policies and Procedures Update

Pete will get an update on the policy and procedures.

Annual Report Update – Not addressed

Miscellaneous Correspondence – Not addressed

National Parks Day – April 24th Sullivan Square Event – Not addressed

Reappointments

Jordan Tate, Bob Sipe, and Pete Preble's positions are up for reappointment in June. Pete will probably not apply for reappointment due to being elected Vice President for the Rotary and the lack of time he will have.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is May 17 at 6:00 p.m.

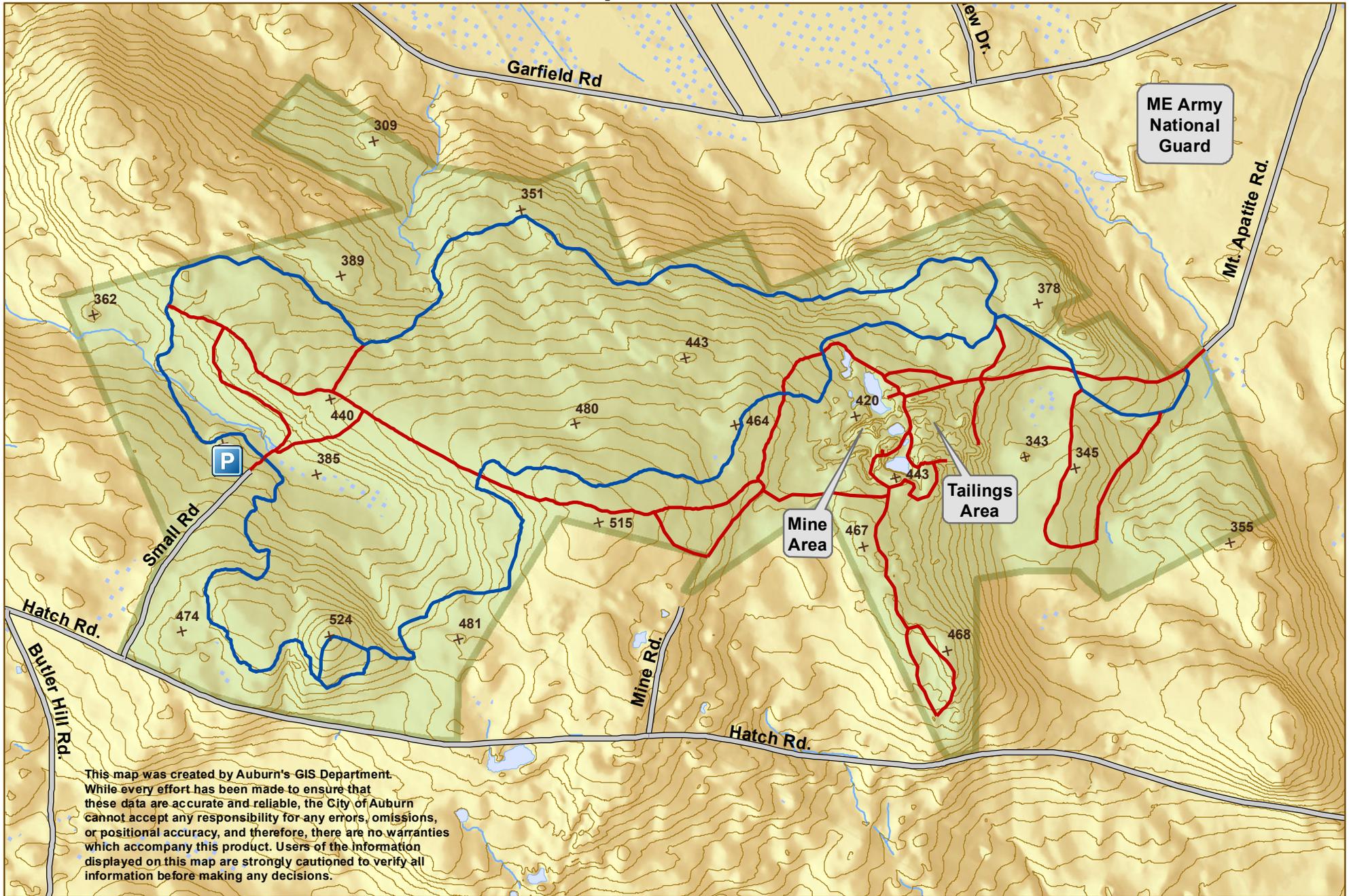
8. Adjourn

ACTION: Tizz Crowley seconded by Bob Sipe moved to adjourn. The motion was unanimously approved.

Submitted by:

Tammy Thatcher

Mt. Apatite Trails



This map was created by Auburn's GIS Department. While every effort has been made to ensure that these data are accurate and reliable, the City of Auburn cannot accept any responsibility for any errors, omissions, or positional accuracy, and therefore, there are no warranties which accompany this product. Users of the information displayed on this map are strongly cautioned to verify all information before making any decisions.

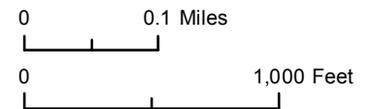


A Program of
the Androscoggin Land Trust



Legend

- Blue Trail
- Red Trail
- Mt Apatite
- × Elevations
- Contours - 10' Interval
- Roads
- P Parking



City of Auburn
Parks & Recreation
Department

Mt. Apatite Park Trail Map & Park Rules

Auburn Parks & Recreation
Department
Hasty Community Center
48 Pettengill Park Road
Auburn, Maine 04210

Tel: (207) 333-6601 X 2108
Fax: (207) 784-0192

PARK RULES

The following rules and regulations are based on the City of Auburn municipal ordinances, as proposed by the Auburn Parks & Recreation Department and adopted by the Auburn City Council.

1. Mount Apatite Park is owned and administered by the City of Auburn.
2. Mount Apatite Park is open to the public from dawn to dusk, year-round.
3. It is unlawful to harm any plants or animals within the park boundaries, or to remove them from the park. This includes the taking of firewood from any area within the park.
4. Within and among the exposed mineral resources in the area known as “the mines”, it is permitted to use hand tools to explore for mineral and gem specimens to a depth of two feet.
5. The use of generators, compressors, pumps and/or any other form of mineral exploration mechanism is strictly forbidden.
6. Camping or overnight use of the park is forbidden.
7. The use of motorized vehicles within the park boundaries is limited to Auburn Parks and Recreation personnel, Auburn police, Auburn Fire Department and any other individual with written authorization. Other than snowmobiles, the use of dirt bikes, ATVs and other off-road vehicles by any other party is strictly forbidden.
8. No swimming, diving or wading is allowed in any park waters.
9. No hunting by firearm or bow, trapping or discharging of firearms within the park boundaries is allowed.
10. Building or attempting to build fires is strictly forbidden.
11. No drugs or alcoholic beverages are permitted within park boundaries.
12. Littering or dumping materials, solid waste or other refuse is forbidden.

Violations of these or any other park rules are punishable by up to a \$200.00 fine per offense.

PARK HISTORY

Mount Apatite Park is a three-hundred acre park located in the western portion of the city. The park offers a wide variety of recreational pursuits not often found in municipal park settings. The bulk of the property was purchased by the city in the early 1970s.

In the summer of 1994, with assistance from a Land & Water Conservation fund-matching grant, five kilometers (3.1 miles) of multi-purpose trails were constructed within the park. In 1997, we received two grants through the National Recreational Trails Act, which are being used to improve park signage, existing trails and to add trails to the quarry area.

In the winter, the trail is groomed for cross-country skiing and snow shoeing. In spring, summer and fall, the trails are open to mountain bikers, runners, bikers and other non-motorized trail users. As with all municipal parks, hunting is not allowed within park boundaries.

Geology

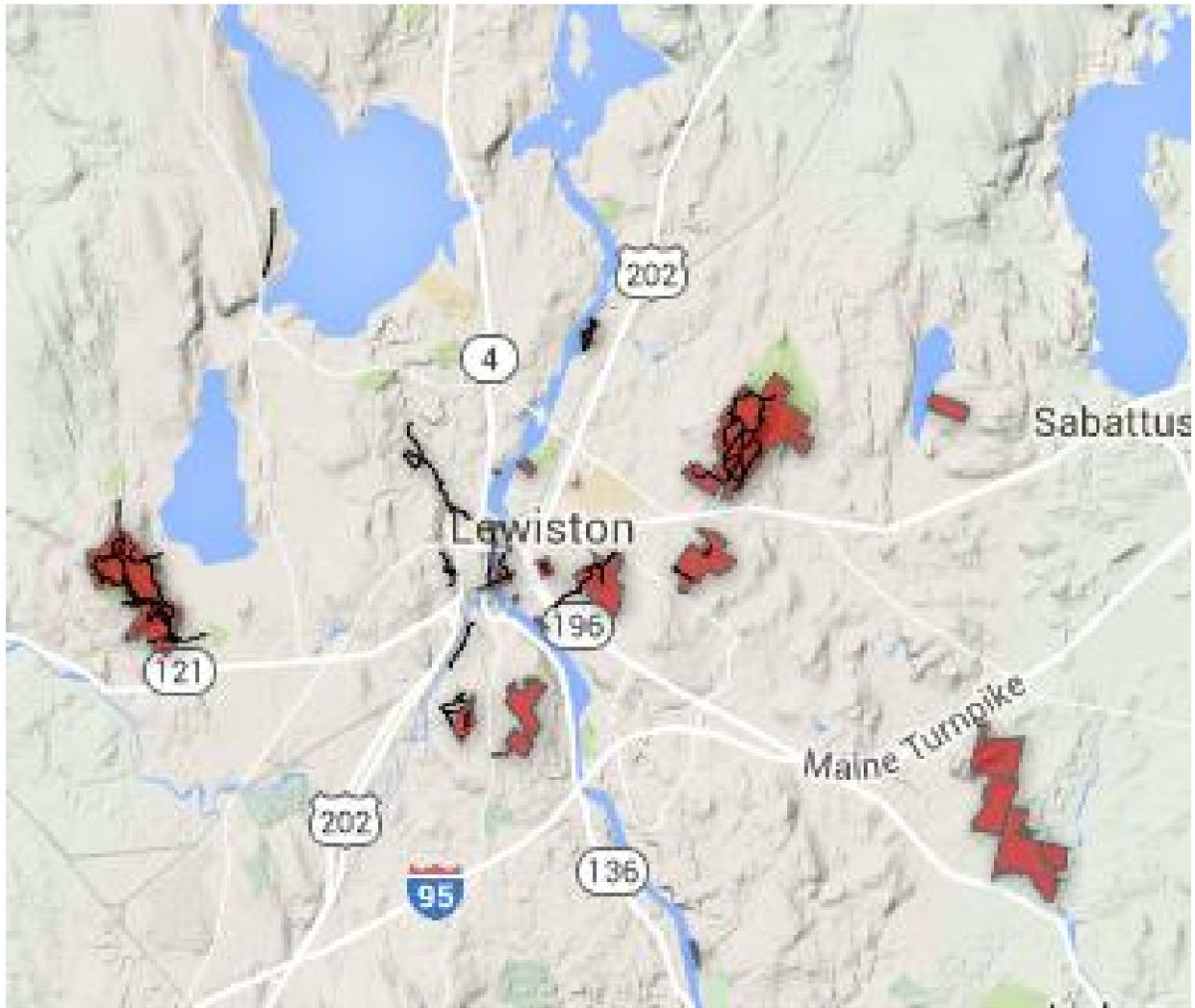
Mount apatite is named for the mineral “apatite” found there in the geologic features.

Exploration of Mount Apatite began as early as 1839 when records show that three specimens of tourmaline were added to the collection of the Maine State Geologist. Over the course of the next 100 years, some remarkable finds have added to the renown of Mt. Apatite as a great place to look for semi-precious stones and other minerals.

In the 1880s, some 1500 tourmaline crystals were removed from an exploratory mine here. These varied in length from ½” to 4”, occurring in lovely shades of pastel pink, blue, lilac, yellow and green. The American Museum of Natural History in New York City displays an exquisite green rectangular tourmaline stone weighing 11.87 carats that was cut from Mt. Apatite.

In 1902, the Maine Feldspar Company began mining feldspar at Mt. Apatite. During this early period, a massive crystal of smoky quartz of approximately 19 ½” long and 9 ½” thick was discovered. Large masses of flawless material may be seen in this specimen, which is deep amber in color. This makes up the heart of the museum display at Perham’s of West Paris.

ALT Trail/Open Space Map (taken from their website)

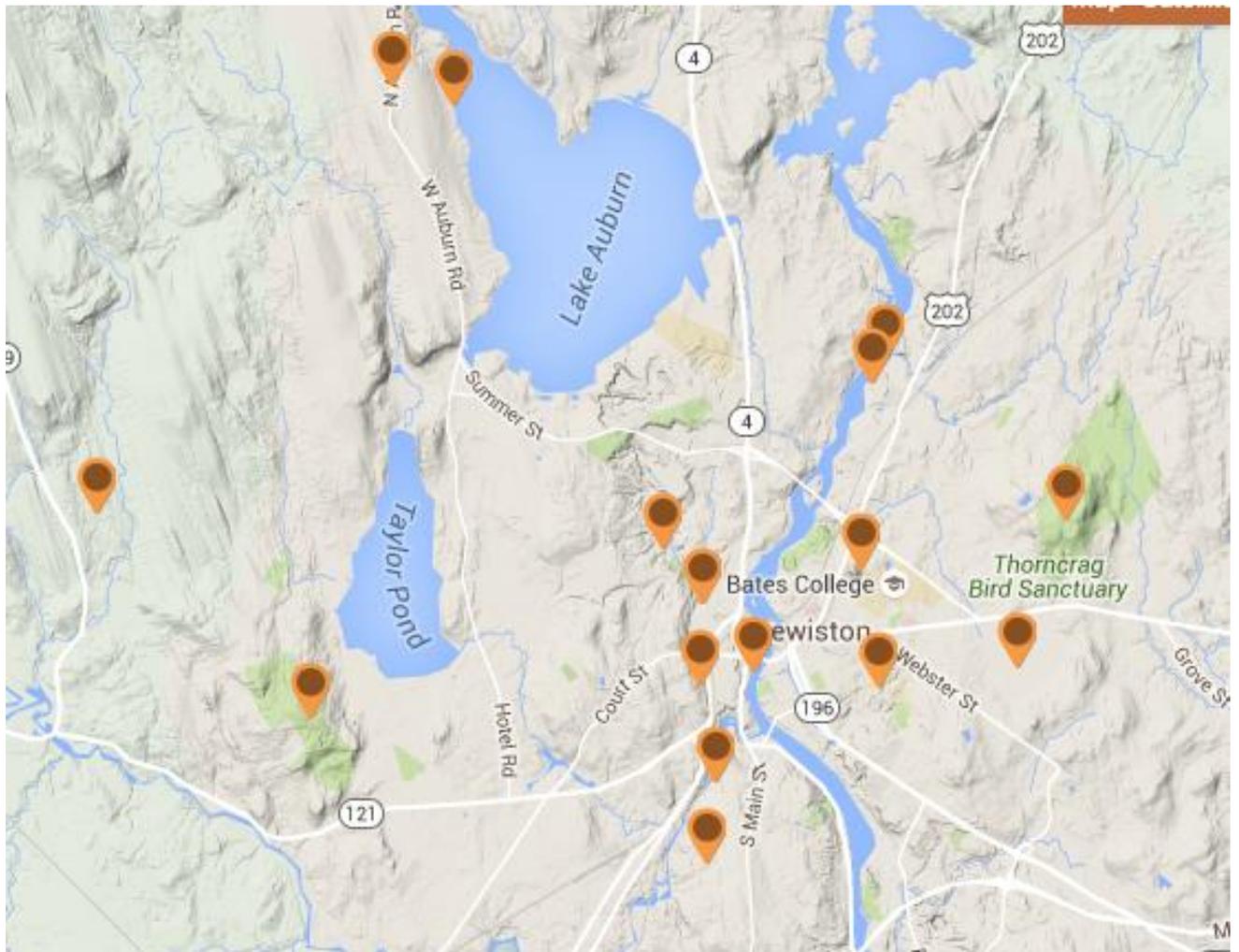


City of Auburn – Park Finder Portal



Maine Trail Finder Map

<http://www.mainetrailfinder.com/trails>



Jeffrey Preble

From: Anthony Beaulieu <abeaulieu@auburnmaine.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2016 10:46 AM
To: Jeffrey Preble
Subject: FW: 4-19-16 Conservation Commission Minutes Attached
Attachments: Conservation Commission 3-15-16 Minutes.docx; Conservation Commission 4-19-16 Minutes.docx

[For distribution...](#)

From: Tammy Thatcher
Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2016 9:32 AM
To: Anthony Beaulieu
Cc: Howard Kroll
Subject: 4-19-16 Conservation Commission Minutes Attached

Hi Tony –

I have attached the Conservation Commission Minutes for 4-19-16 as well as the final version of the 3-15-16 minutes. Can you please forward them to the members for me?

Also, please thank them for the notes, roll call, and clarifications on motions and other things when needed. It makes it much easier for me and I appreciate it. If they want the time the meeting starts and ends, remind them to note that for me as well. Also, they noticed I have italicized some things and they are correct I have done that for items that need to be addressed instead of noting it again at the end to save time and paper. I also appreciate the chocolate the Parks Subcommittee gave me! J

Thank you
Tammy

Jeffrey Preble

From: Griswold, David <dave.griswold@versoco.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2016 9:49 AM
To: leftyrick; Steve Murch; Jeffrey Preble; 'Gary Wadsworth'
Subject: FW: [MARKETING] Trees on Maine Street - May/June 2016 edition

Note articles about the impact of Emerald Ash Borer on city budgets in other parts of the country.

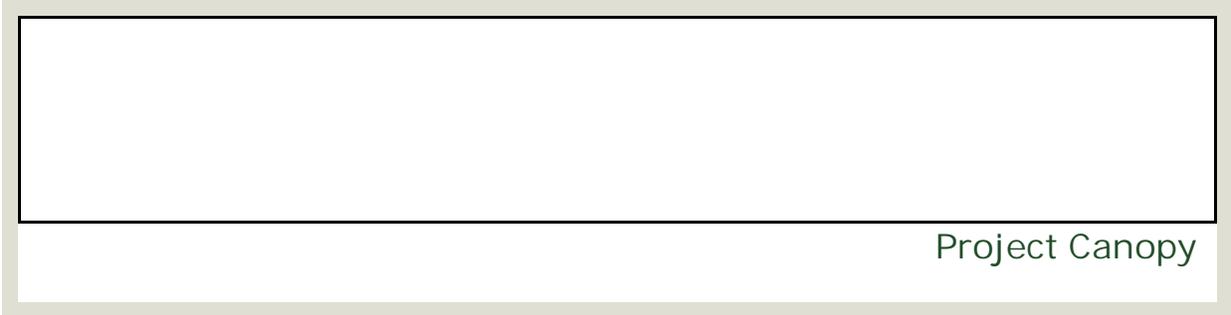
We aren't there yet, but it is worth starting to think about what we are likely to face in a few years.

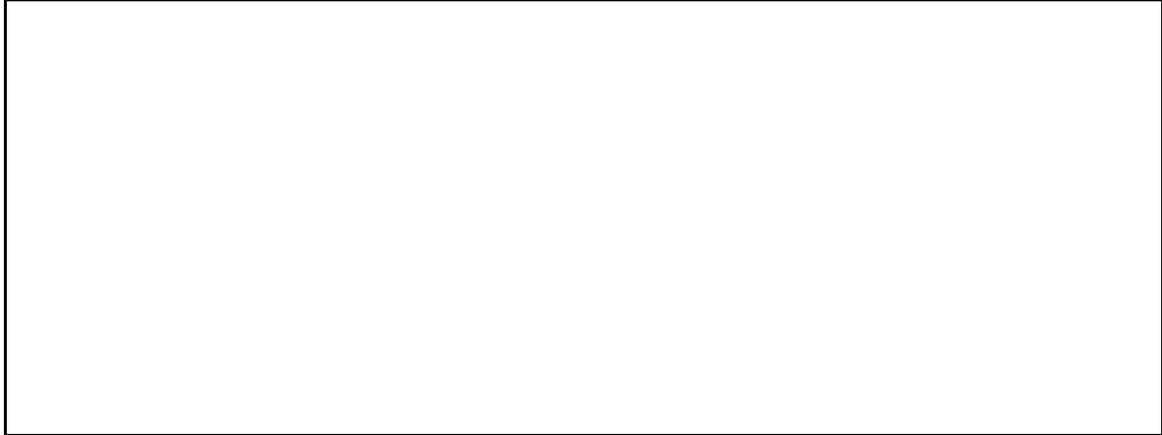
Dave

David D. Griswold
Forest Certification Coordinator
Verso Corporation
Androscoggin Mill
P.O. Box 90
Jay, Maine 04239
207-897-1315 office
207-841-7999 cell
2017-897-1938 fax

From: Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry [mailto:DACF@subscriptions.maine.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, May 11, 2016 7:38 AM
To: Griswold, David
Subject: [MARKETING] Trees on Maine Street - May/June 2016 edition

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In 1976 the Arbor Day Foundation, in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service and National Association of State Foresters, launched the Tree City USA program. Now 40 years later, this program continues to recognize communities demonstrating a commitment of caring for and managing community trees. In celebration of the 40th anniversary of the Tree City USA program, we are highlighting those communities in Maine that have been part of the program since nearly the beginning.

Continue reading to see how Tree City USA helps Farmington, Westbrook, and Kennebunkport, ME, the three communities that have been recognized annually for 39 years, continue to manage and expand their urban forest.

[More](#)

Emerald Ash Borer Eating into Municipal Budgets

When a tree dies in a city street, a private yard, or a public park, it becomes a lethal threat to people and property. City governments and property owners end up paying to safely dispose of the trunk, and the benefits that tree provided to its neighborhood are lost.

Since the early 2000s, the emerald ash borer has killed tens of millions of ash trees across 25 states. It was first identified stateside in Detroit back in 2002, but it had likely been chomping on American wood for some time by then.

[More](#)

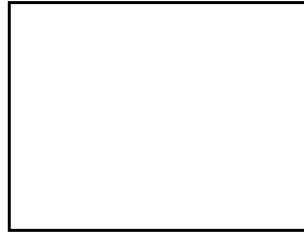
City Parks, Clean Water: Making Great Places Using Green Infrastructure

Super-slides and wave pools? Try bioswales and rain gardens. Across the country, city parks are doing double-duty to help control stormwater—and infrastructure’s rarely looked so good.

When rain falls on an urban area, it meets cold, hard concrete. Instead of soaking into the earth to recharge groundwater—the subsurface supply that supports our trees and crops—it runs rapidly across paved surfaces into sewer systems and waterways, picking up pollutants along the way. The result: overwhelmed sewage treatment facilities, contaminated and eroded streams, and even flash flooding.

[More](#)

Visit www.projectcanopy.me for more news and information; our calendar of events; local, state, and national urban forestry highlights.



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Jeffrey Preble

From: Bob Sipe <bobsipe03@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2016 9:45 AM
To: Chuck Lefean; Jeffrey Preble; Jordan Tate; Maurice Keene; Nichole White-Matson; Tizz Crowley; Tony Beaulieu; Larry Pelletier; Leroy Walker; Misty Edgecomb; Sabrina Best
Subject: Fwd: Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Daily Digest Bulletin

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry** <DACF@subscriptions.maine.gov>
Date: 2016-05-11 8:15 GMT-04:00
Subject: Maine Bureau of Parks & Lands announces that the application period is now officially open for 2017 grant awards.
To: bobsipe03@gmail.com



Land and Water Conservation Fund News!

05/10/2016

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A light green banner with a white outline. The text 'MAINE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION & FORESTRY' is written in a dark green, serif font. Below this, a dark green horizontal bar contains the text 'BUREAU OF PARKS AND LANDS' in a white, serif font. Underneath the bar, the text 'Land and Water Conservation Fund' is written in a dark green, serif font. At the bottom, the text 'Dear Outdoor Recreation Enthusiast,' is written in a dark green, serif font. The background of the banner features a faint image of a landscape with trees and a field.

Application Period Open

The Grants and Community Recreation Program within the Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands is pleased to announce that the application period is now officially open for the 2017 grant awards.



Funding Available

As you may know, at the end of 2015 Congress reauthorized the LWCF program for three years. Part of this re-authorization included an increase in state side funding for the first year. As a result, Maine's apportionment this year is \$922,876, more than double what we have had in the recent past. Coupled with the unencumbered balance from the previous years, available funding will total just over \$1.3 million dollars for this next grant round.

Program Changes

We are very excited to announce some programmatic changes for this grant round.

- As a result of this increase in available project funding, we are increasing the maximum grant amount from the current \$200,000 to a maximum request amount this year of \$300,000! As always, LWCF is a maximum 50% match program.
- Given the tremendous success of transitioning to a fully electronic grant submission process with our Recreational Trails Program, we are implementing the same process with the LWCF grant this year. All applications and support documents must be submitted electronically according to prescribed measures.

Pre-Approval Site Inspections

As always, a pre-approval site inspection is a required first step for any application. The deadline to request this inspection is the end of July 2016, but you don't have to wait to the last minute. This inspection serves two purposes: To assure that the proposed project is eligible for the LWCF program and; To discuss the application process with the applicant to answer questions and help to build a foundation for a successful application.

To request your site inspection now, [just follow this link](#). To learn more about the current LWCF program, to view the updated application materials, or to find contact information for the program manager, please [visit the Maine LWCF grant website](#).



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Jeffrey Preble

From: Eric Cousens <ECousens@auburnmaine.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, April 20, 2016 4:39 PM
To: 'Chuck Lafean'
Cc: Jeffrey Preble; Tizz Crowley; Bob Sipe; Jordan Tate; Nicole White Conservation Commission Mattson; Leroy Walker (Council); Maurice Keene
Subject: RE: Status of Mount Apatite Joint Land Use Study and Recommendations
Attachments: Real Estate Report Questions signed.pdf; MEANG Auburn Real Estate Planning Report.pdf

Chuck,

Funny you should ask today. We finally received the appraisal reports that we asked for in January of 2015 via email yesterday. Attached is the letter that outlines the questions about the Real Estate Planning Report that we had for MEARNG and the ACOE. Also attached is the Report from 2015. We will be reviewing the appraisals to see if they answer the questions and then following up with MEARNG. We also received a concern that the Little League group has made some recent changes to the site that the MEARNG is concerned with. I will be summarizing where each item stands in the coming weeks and can share that when the summary is ready.

Eric J. Cousens
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From: Chuck Lafean [<mailto:clafean@gmail.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, April 20, 2016 9:02 AM
To: Eric Cousens
Cc: Jeffrey Preble; Tizz Crowley; Bob Sipe; Jordan Tate; Nicole White Conservation Commission Mattson; Leroy Walker (Council); Maurice Keene
Subject: Status of Mount Apatite Joint Land Use Study and Recommendations

Mr. Cousens,

Would you please give me an update as to where things stand with the JLUS and its recommendations?

Thank you,

Chuck Lafean
Conservation Commission