

REPORT OF THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

To the Inhabitants of the Town of Abington:

The Conservation Commission submits its Annual Report as follows. The Commission is a volunteer board appointed by the Board of Selectmen, consisting of seven voting members, mandated under M.G.L. Chapter 131, Section 40, and Abington Town By-Laws, Chapter 171, for the purposes of administration and implementation of the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act.

Our meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month and are open to the public. In the year 2007, the Conservation Commission received eighteen Notices of Intent, three Requests for Determination, issued ten Certificates of Compliance, one Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation, amended two Orders of Condition, one extension and held many informal meetings. The filing of a Notice of Intent or a Request for Determination often requires several continuations before a hearing is closed, as well as a site walk. The Commission turned in \$15,397.50 received in filing fees.

The Board is involved in the actual visiting of the sites where work will be done in the buffer zone or the wetlands area. The Board also responds to wetlands violations reported by citizens, which involved many site walks and frequent communications with the Department of Environmental Protection this year.

The members of the Commission are required to attend workshops sponsored by the state's Department of Environmental Protection in various locations. The Commission has initiated having wetlands markers installed on certain properties under the Order of Conditions that is issued to a project upon the completion of a Notice of Intent hearing, indicating the lot is under the jurisdiction of the Wetlands Protection Act.

Respectfully submitted,

Alex Bezanson, *Chairman*
James Connolly, *Vice Chair*
John Curley
Nathan Elliott
Frank Mackiewicz, *Associate Member*
Todd Murray
Hal Norton
Christine Yardley
Richard Yardley