

River Ambassador's Report

SuAsCo Wild & Scenic

RSC Meeting

November 25, 2025

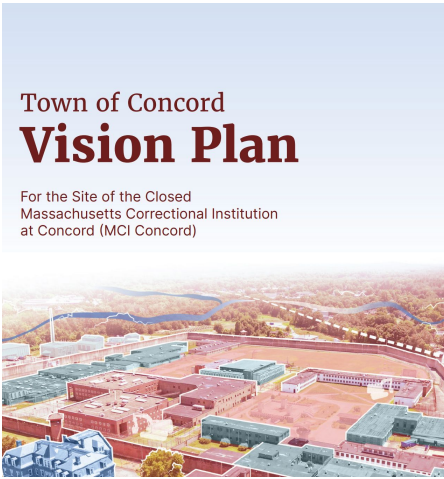
Warners Pond Update



Concord's NRC has drafted charge for new committee

- 5 yr effort w/annual reporting
- 7 members - staggered 3 yr terms
- I've submitted a Letter of Interest
- Submission date for other LOIs by December 5, 2025

MCI Concord



Update: An Inflow and Infiltration (I&I) study discovered that average daily water usage currently as high as 100,000 gpd will likely decrease to 30,000-40,000 gpd, which could substantially lower long-term infrastructure costs

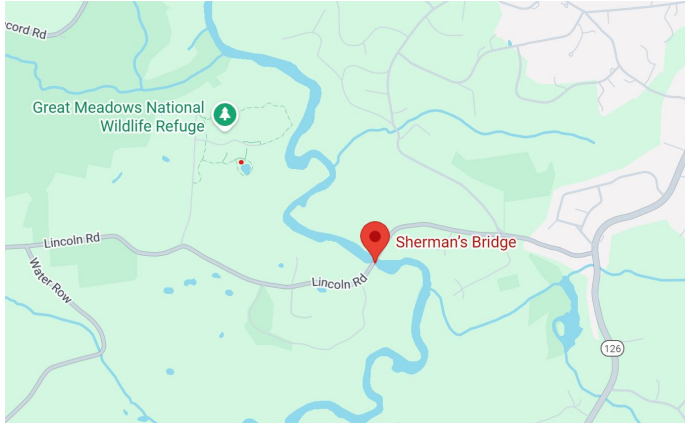
DPW is currently evaluating the potential acquisition of the former MCI WWTP

The facility has a design capacity of 0.31 MGD but requires an estimated \$25M investment for refurbishment

The town is exploring expanding the plant's treatment capacity beyond its initial design by renovating the sand beds for groundwater discharge.

Would require MA DEP groundwater discharge permit instead of EPA permit to discharge to river

Sherman's Bridge



October 30, 2025 Summary of project progress:

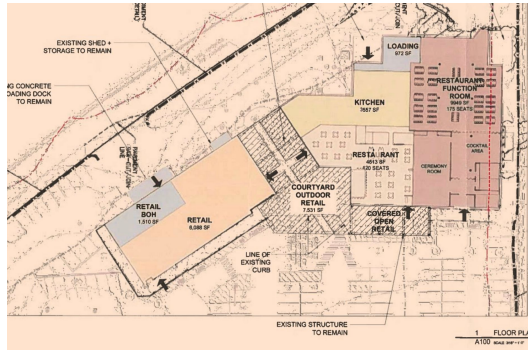
- Asphalt on the bridge is no longer being proposed.
- Reviewing and revising a cross section with MassDOT that addresses the concerns raised on 10/9:
 - o Maintaining walkway access
 - o Retaining the 5' (foot) walkway
 - o Reviewing options for appropriate crash-tested barriers (on bridge) and guardrails (off bridge)
- Working on new renderings to better depict the newly proposed conditions.
- Plans for additional pre- and post-construction speed and traffic monitoring.
- Pavement markings at bridge approaches to encourage a reduction in speed.

Wayland Plaza Redevelopment

297 & 311 Boston Post Road



Terrain, which will open a new location at the site, focuses on garden, home and outdoor living products, with some stores also featuring cafes and event spaces. The Wayland location will include a café and event space.



46,650 sf of alteration in Riverfront

5,600 sf to be converted to pervious vegetated landscape

3,200 cf of added flood storage proposed



Example

Concord Climate Action Network

Salt in Nashoba Brook by Kim Kastens



Conclusions

1. Salt concentration in Acton surface waters has been on an upward trajectory for 50 years.
2. Major source of salt in Nashoba watershed is in headwaters, near I-495.
3. Salt concentration in surface waters is primarily coming from groundwater, not from overland flow following discrete incidents of deicer application.
4. Salt concentration remains high all year round. This means that ecosystem exposure is chronic, not episodic.
5. Quantity of salt being transported downstream is in the tons.
6. Salt concentrations are getting high enough to impact aquatic ecosystems, especially middle of food chain zooplankton.

Mitigating the problem: What else

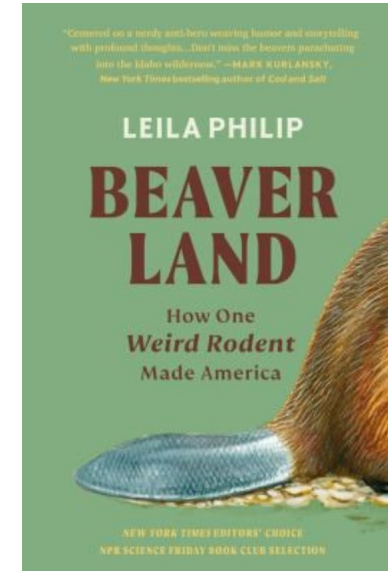
- Collaborate regionally and with Massachusetts government
- Public education
- Enforce Massachusetts regulations on covered storage of road salt
- Include requirements for proper salt storage in local stormwater management
- Low-salt zone around public water supply wells
- Pre-treat roads with brine before snow
- Capture and treat wash water from vehicle washing

Beaverland by Leila Philip

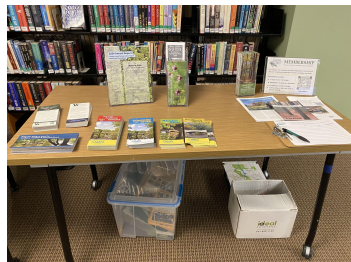
How one weird rodent made America

Co-sponsored with:

- Concord Land Conservation Trust,
- Lincoln Land Conservation Trust,
- The Walden Woods Project,
- OARS, and
- The Sudbury, Assabet and Concord Wild and Scenic River Stewardship Council.



140 people in attendance, ~ 100 on zoom



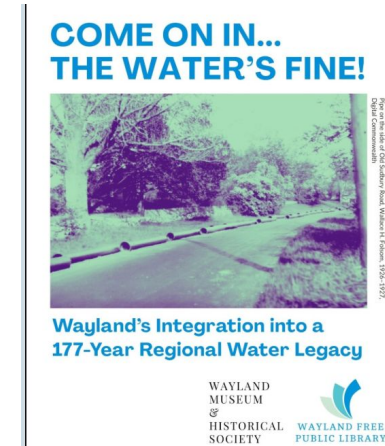
Got a chance to talk about the rivers with some new folks



Other Meetings

Attended

- OARS Coordination Meeting w/Marlies, Matt & Jeff Collins
- CISMA Aquatic Invasive Management Fall Meeting
- Concord Conservation Coffee
- OARS Volunteer Appreciation Event
- Wayland Waterworks History Lecture
- MA Rivers Alliance River Revels



Fairhaven Bay Dock

November 2, 2025 Paddle

Organized by Marlies



Dakins Brook, Concord Emergency Dam Removal

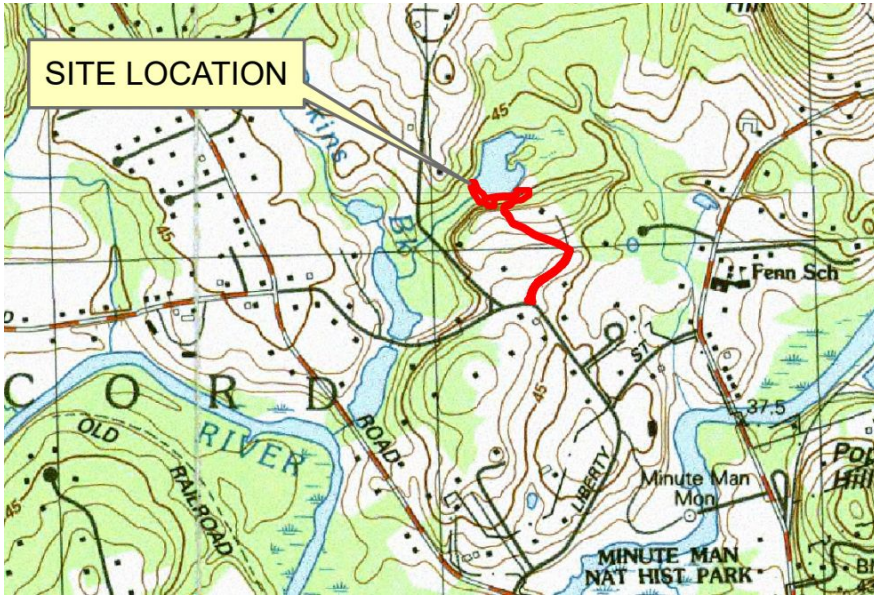


Photo No. 1.: Overview of the impoundment on the morning of 9/15/2025.



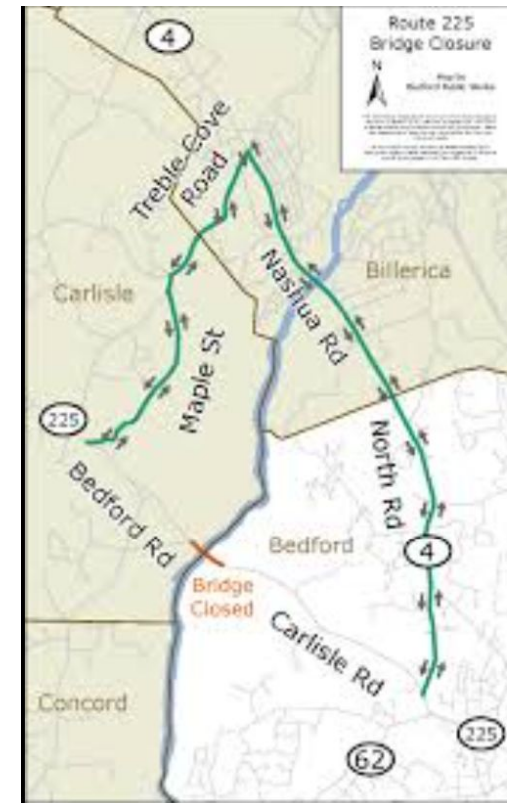
Photo No. 2.: View of the dam looking right from the left abutment on 9/15/2025.

The objective of the project was to remove the safety hazard associated with an obsolete and failing dam on private property while restoring ecosystem connectivity and natural wetland hydrology to an unnamed tributary to Dakins Brook.



Route 225 Bridge Bedford - Carlisle

MassDOT announced temporary detours on Route 225 Bridge over the Concord River. The detours will be in effect nightly, Wednesday, November 19, through Friday, November 21, from 8:00 p.m. to 4:30 a.m. the following morning and are necessary to allow crews to safely and effectively install a temporary traffic signal system on the Bedford-Carlisle Bridge – Route 225 over Concord River.



Spencer Brook, Concord Assabet River Tributary

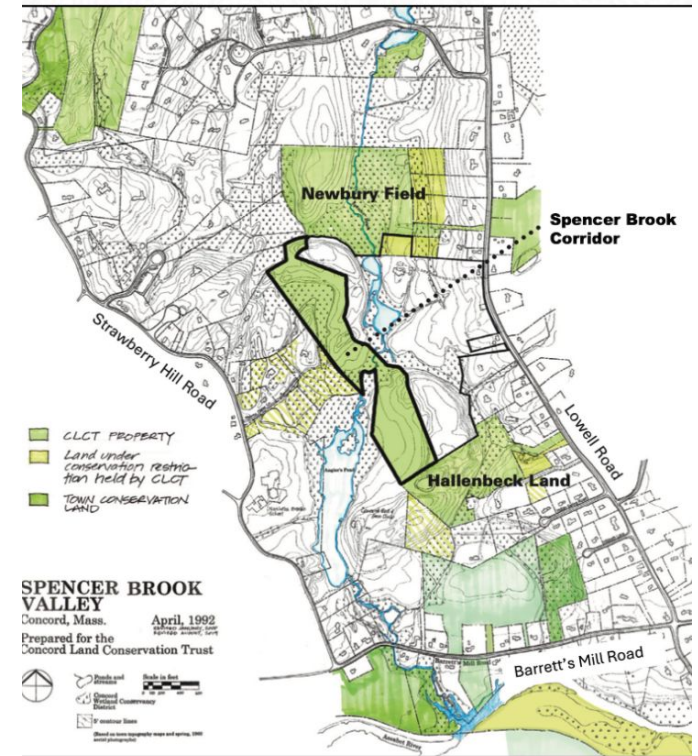
CLCT hopes to purchase 30 acres of land contiguous with Spencer Brook to create an uninterrupted trail of more than 2.5 miles open to the public

Requires construction of a boardwalk across the brook



Spencer Brook floodplain. Photo by Sam Will

Purchase price \$2.5M, with another \$300k needed for boardwalk



Future Events

MCA Fall Gathering 12/2 2 - 4 pm Goodnow Library, Sudbury

OARS “Give Back” Gathering 12/2 5 - 7 pm Nashoba Brook Bakery

Middlesex Conservation District Talk by Russ Cohen

12/8 6 -8:30 pm Acton Town Hall

(Russ was the Rivers Advocate for the Massachusetts Department of Fish and Game’s DER)