

Lake Auburn Watershed Protection Commission

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Tuesday, January 10, 2022 at 3:00 pm – 5:00pm AVCOG, 125 Manley Road, Auburn, Maine

AGENDA

1. Minutes
 - a. None
2. Consent Agenda
 - a. None
3. Public Comment
4. Staff Report – None
5. Old Business
 - a. None
6. New Business
 - a. Discussion of possible recommendations to AWD for protection of the Lake Auburn Watershed
 - b. Recommendation to Auburn City Council
 - c. Items for future agendas
7. Adjournment

Item 6a.: Discussion of possible recommendations to AWD for protection of the Lake Auburn Watershed

Background: Over the past year, the Commissioners of LAWPC have reviewed a study on the Lake Auburn Watershed conducted by FB Environmental, in conjunction with the University of Maine, for the City of Auburn. During that review, Commissioners sought two separate peer reviews of the FB Environmental report. These were Conducted by the firms CDM Smith and Conservational Environmental Inc (CEI). At their December 2022 meeting, the LAWPC Board chose to develop recommendations based on the peer reviews of the FB Environmental report. These recommendations will be sent to the Auburn Water District, and possibly other stakeholders, in and effort to improve protections of the Lake Auburn Watershed both within Auburn and the upper watershed.

Some of the possible recommendations identified for further discussion during LAWPC's December 2022 meeting were as follows:

- Moratorium on siting of septic systems within a 400 foot buffer around Lake Auburn
- Moratorium on new development within the boundaries of the AGRP zone within Auburn.
- Alum treatments be scheduled as needed based on regular monitoring rather than on a predetermined schedule.
- Changes to the watershed boundary on the Gracelawn Rd property in Auburn be monitored for possible impact of any future development.
- A system of oversight for the installation of any new mounded wastewater systems be created and implemented to ensure proper installation. This system should include inspection prior to installation, prior to covering, and after final installation.
- Annual inspections of all private wastewater systems within the watershed be conducted.
- LID standards be implemented throughout entirety of the watershed.
- Two-tank septic systems be required to mitigate the risk of system failures.
- Failing systems be replaced using the updated standards required for new installation.
- Create a Responsible Management Entity for the purpose of monitoring septic systems within the watershed.
- Create incentives or possible requirements for the replacement of older septic systems upon transfer of real estate
- Identify areas to be conserved in the upper watershed

Item 6b.: Recommendation to Auburn Planning Board

Background: During its December 2023 meeting, the LAWPC Board made a motion to present a recommendation to the Auburn City Council supporting a specific Planning Board recommendation. The recommendation was based on information provided by the Chair, which was incorrect. The recommendation will need to be revised to rescinded.

Item 6c.: Items for Future Agendas

Background: LAWPC should determine those items that should be scheduled for the upcoming year. Ideally this will also include prioritization of the proposed items. This will allow the incoming Chair to work with staff to ensure a more efficient workflow for the Board.