



Town of Stow HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

88 South Acton Road
Stow, Massachusetts 01775
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6.4.2021
Steve Nadeau
Superintendent of Streets

Mailing Address:
88 South Acton Road
Stow, MA 01775

Dear Ms. Fisher,

I recently attended a site visit with Town Planner, Jesse Steadman to review the outstanding issues raised regarding the remaining work in the vicinity of the area drain at the north west corner of your property at 1 White Pond Road. Based upon that site visit I am writing to inform you of a solution to the issues raised, as well as provide notice of a potential violation at 1 White Pond Road to Article 18 of the General Bylaws Governing Discharges to the Municipal Storm Drain System.

Area Drain Solution

As the Town Planner and I understand it, the two most prominent issues remaining to be addressed are an ungraded area behind the sidewalk at the corner of your property and 92 Great Road, as well as the depth of the existing area drain in the same location. Based on my observations, we are recommending a two-part solution that will keep the integrity and purpose of the area drain intact, while reducing the maintenance obligations around lawn and weed management.

1. The Highway Department will add loam and seed to the area immediately behind the sidewalk from approximately your property line to the curbcut at 92 Great Road to improve the appearance and convey any water to the sidewalk, which is pitched toward Great Road.
2. The Highway Department will fill the current area drain depression with crushed rock to a grade that can sustain use by a riding lawnmower. The rock will be covered with landscape fabric and loamed and seeded. This will allow water to leach toward and through the drain without creating a maintenance issue for you as the homeowner.

Debris Pile at 1 White Pond Road

With the recent passage of Article 18 at the May 22, 2021 Annual Town Meeting, the Town is now enabled to enforce practices that can lead to increased nutrients and pollutants entering the Town's waterways through its municipal separate stormwater system (MS4). Section 7 specifically prohibits illicit discharges, stating:

No person shall dump, discharge, cause or allow to be discharged any pollutant or non-stormwater discharge into the municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4), into a watercourse, or into the waters of the Commonwealth.

This letter represents a formal request to remove the debris pile from your property at 1 White Pond Road as it acts as a concentrated source of nitrogen and phosphates that directly drains to the Town's MS4 system. Failure to remove the pile includes the potential for the town to enter

the property, abate the issue and charge you as the property owner for costs incurred. Section 11 also provides for the issuance of daily fines for the ongoing violation. Given that the Bylaw was recently passed at Town Meeting, I recognize you may not be aware of the new requirements or the hazards such practices can create on our waterways. Therefore I am providing 30 days prior to any enforcement action.

I appreciate your attention to the above matter and look forward to resolving the long standing issues at the corner of your property.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S. Nadeau', written over a horizontal line.

Steve Nadeau
Superintendent of Streets