

Harpswell Conservation Commission 2015-16

Mission Statement

The Harpswell Conservation Commission shall promote its primary goal to protect the Town's natural resources and open areas. The Commission will continue to work with existing Town committees, departments, and with other conservation bodies in these areas.

Goals

1. Continue implementing Harpswell's Open Space Plan.
2. Advocate for the protection of Harpswell's wetlands, potable water and marine resources.
3. Provide conservation information and education to the community and the town administration.
4. Work with the Town Planner on ordinance provisions as appropriate.
5. Seek community input on conservation issues.
6. Research potential funding sources to support conservation activities in Harpswell.
7. Coordinate Commission's activities with other Town committees and organizations.
8. Keep abreast of conservation issues that affect the Town and Region.
9. Represent the Town in regional conservation activities.

Objectives

1. Review the status of Harpswell's wetlands listed in the Open Space Plan as needing additional protections.
2. Continue to publicize and disseminate "A Resident's Conservation Guide to Casco Bay", a citizens' handbook on Best Management Practices (BMP).
3. Strive to reduce the use of pesticides.
4. Establish a list of environmental protections that are in place to protect the natural resources when developing a single lot and a subdivision. Compare and determine where additional protections may be needed when developing a single lot.
5. Provide input to the Comprehensive Plan Update to explore methods that protect wildlife corridors and designated secondary conservation areas.

Approved by the Commission: June 3, 2015

Note: The Conservation Commission for the Town of Harpswell was established in 1970 by vote at its annual Town Meeting. The basic authority to establish a Conservation Commission is given to the municipality through Maine Statute -Title 30-A MRSA, Section 3261. The Mission Statement contains the Commission's statutory duties as listed in Statute.