

The Sudbury Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing to review the Request for an Amended Order of Conditions to modify the Aquatic Management Program to include periodic vacuuming of sediment in the swimming pond and change the threshold for Alum treatments in the swimming pond, pursuant to the Wetlands Protection Act and Sudbury Wetlands Administration Bylaw, at 1 Liberty Ledge, Sudbury, MA. Scott Brody, Applicant. The hearing will be held on Monday, October 2, 2023 at 7:00 pm, via remote participation.

Please see the Conservation Commission web page for further information.

https://sudbury.ma.us/conservationcommission/meeting/conservation-commission-meeting-monday-october-2-2023/

SUDBURY CONSERVATION COMMISSION 9/12/2023



September 11, 2023

**Sudbury Conservation Commission** Lori Capone, Conservation Coordinator Department of Public Works Building 275 Old Lancaster Road Sudbury, MA 01776

Re: Request for an Amended Order of Conditions (DEP File # 301-1366) for the Aquatic Management Program at Camp Sewataro

**Dear Commissioners:** 

On behalf of the applicant, Camp Sewataro, and in response to recent discussions regarding the ongoing Aquatic Management Program, we request that the Order of Conditions (OOC) for this project be amended in order to allow for the following changes/additions to the program.

## <u>Treatment Thresholds - Add A Threshold for Turbidity in the Swim Pond</u>

In the original NOI, treatment thresholds for alum treatment were set based only on phosphorus levels (see below table from NOI addendum dated April 15, 2022). The applicant wishes to add a threshold for alum treatment based on turbidity testing results and/or Secchi disk transparency readings. High turbidity reduces the clarity of the water in the swimming pond and represents a concern for swimmer safety. The table below has been modified from its original version (changes in red) to add this threshold.

## Management Threshold Matrix

Management Strategy	Purpose	Extent	Threshold for Swim Pond	Threshold for Boating Pond
Algaecide	For Control of - Filamentous algae - Microscopic algae - Macroalgae (Nitella, Chara)	Up to ½ of the waterbody	When cyanobacteria counts reach 20,000 cells/ml or when significant macroalgae is present	When cyanobacteria counts reach 20,000 cells/ml
Alum	- Reduce phosphorus levels	Entire waterbody	When total phosphorus testing shows levels > 20 ppb OR When turbidity levels exceed 4 NTU or Secchi disk transparency reading drops below 4-feet.	When total phosphorus testing shows levels > 30 ppb



## Removal of Sediment from the Swim Pond

It has been historical practice to periodically remove sediment from the swim pond and we request this action be allowed under modification to the existing OOC. The following specifications are proposed for this practice.

- Pond is drained each season and sediment is swept from the gunite lining into the middle of the pond.
- Some sand is washed away from the swimming area into the middle of the pond from swimming action and sweeping. Sand will periodically be added to the swim area as needed.
- Periodically, the sediment in the middle of the pond must be removed. This is typically needed every 6-8 years.
- A vacuum truck is used to remove the sediment from the swim pond.
- There is no alteration or disturbance to any adjacent resource area or buffer zone from the vacuum truck access or operation. Plywood sheeting is used to prevent ground disturbance.
- A small bobcat is used to push the sediment towards the vacuum truck hose, which is operated manually by two people.
- Sediment removal area is estimated to be 100'x100' in surface area with a sediment depth of 3-18 inches in depth (this can vary depending on how long it has been since the last cleaning). Approximately 70-80% of the sediment is removed during this practice.
- Sediment is then transported to an upland area of the property where the material is discharged to 30'x30'x4' retention area (see map below for disposal location). Once the removed sediment dries, it may be spread or otherwise used for soil addition in other upland areas on the property.

If you have any questions or need anything further, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Regards,

Dominic Meringolo

Project Manager/Senior Environmental Engineer

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