



TOWN OF EXETER, NEW HAMPSHIRE

10 FRONT STREET • EXETER, NH • 03833-3792 • (603) 778-0591 • FAX 772-4709

www.exeternh.gov

PUBLIC NOTICE EXETER CONSERVATION COMMISSION Monthly Meeting

The Exeter Conservation Commission will meet in the Wheelwright Room, Exeter Town Offices at 10 Front Street, Exeter on **Tuesday, April 11th, 2023 at 7:00 P.M.**

Call to Order:

1. Introduction of Members Present
2. Public Comment

Action Items:

1. Henderson Swasey/Oaklands Orienteering Event Application June 4, 2023 (Deb Humiston)
2. Pollinator Pathways Stepping Stone Seed Kit Grant Opportunity & *DRAWING DATE*
3. Alewife Festival
4. 2022 Sustainable Activities Report Review
5. NHACC Dues payment authorization
6. Committee Reports
 - a. Property Management
 - i. Raynes Repair progress update
 - ii. SST Student Clean Up @ Morrissette
 - b. Trails
 - i. McDonnell Gate Stewards
 - ii. Cubie Rd Trail Steward request
 - c. Outreach Events
 - i. Community Clean up – town wide (4/17-21 supply pick up, drop off 2/22 at landfill)
 - ii. Planning for joint meeting w/ SAC & EC in April – Farmers Market opportunity
 - iii. Spring Tree Program (delivery 4/24-28, presentation 5/5)
 - iv. Watershed Walks Opportunity (Summer)
 - d. Other Committee Reports (River Study, Sustainability, Energy/CPAC, Tree)
7. Approval of Minutes: February 21, 2023 Meeting
8. Correspondence
9. Other Business
10. Next Meeting: Date Scheduled 5/9/23, Submission Deadline 4/28/23)

Andrew Koff

Exeter Conservation Commission

Posted April 7th, 2023 Exeter Town Website www.exeternh.gov and Town Office kiosk.

ZOOM Public Access Information:

Virtual Meetings can be watched on Ch 22 or Ch 98 and YouTube.

To access the meeting, click this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84203794736>

To access the meeting via telephone, call: +1 646 558 8656 and enter the Webinar ID: 842 0379 4736

Please join the meeting with your full name if you want to speak.

Use the "Raise Hand" button to alert the chair you wish to speak. On the phone, press *9.

More instructions for how to access the meeting can be found here:

<https://www.exeternh.gov/townmanager/virtual-town-meetings>

Contact us at extvg@exeternh.gov or 603-418-6425 with any technical issues.

**TOWN OF EXETER
PLANNING DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM**

Date: April 7th, 2023
To: Conservation Commission Board Members
From: Kristen Murphy, Natural Resource Planner
Subject: April 11th Conservation Commission Meeting

NOTE: The meeting will be held in the Wheelwright Room

UpNorth Orienteering Event Application:

Deb Humiston who has hosted numerous orienteering programs through UpNorth in the Town Forest has submitted an event application for June 4th. She was still working on the map but as with prior events, there will be controls put in the woods with orientation directions. Participants test their navigation skills by following provided instructions to reach the controls. All supplies are removed immediately following the event. An insurance certificate will be provided in support of the activity.

Suggested Motion for Event Application:

_____ *We have reviewed this application and approve of the use agreement as proposed.*

_____ *We have reviewed this application and (approve with conditions) (deny) the application as noted below:*

Pollinator Pathways Stepping Stone Seed Grants:

Pollinator Pathways NH received grant funding to offer 5 seed kits for Exeter residents plus supplies to recharge our seed library. See attached draft application and flyer. We need to decide how the 5 winners are selected (first 5 received?, random drawing?) and how winners will be announced.

Alewife Festival:

Alewife Festival will be held again in 2023 on Saturday May 13th. A planning meeting is scheduled for April 10th. Each committee will have their own table and this year, I was thinking of a passport/stamp program where each table provides a stamp to visitors and after the event, all passports will be entered into a raffle to win an earth day bundle. I am hoping the CC is interested in supporting the cost of the bundle with funds from the outreach portion of your budget. It would be helpful to talk about what we want in the bundle and approve the expense. *I will have some suggestions and estimates available at the meeting.*

Suggested Motion for Expenditure:

_____ Move to approve the allocation of up to \$ _____ from the Conservation Land Administration subcategory for the purchase of supplies for the Alewife Festival.

2022 Sustainable Activities Report Review

Your packet contains a draft 2022 sustainability report for your review. This is not an inventory of energy used, but is meant instead to track sustainable activities. I am seeking feedback from this group on any additional metrics you feel should be added, or comments on the existing

document prior to submitting it to the Select Board. I have also provided a copy of this to the Sustainability Advisory and Energy Committees.

NHACC Annual Dues

Suggested Motion for Expenditure:

_____ Move to approve the allocation of up to \$900 from the Dues subcategory for the 2023 annual dues payment.

Raynes Repairs

- Windows are almost complete
- Clapboards are painted
- Foundation support brackets are being constructed

SST Clean UP

Dave Short, Kyle Welch, and I will be conducting a clean up of the SST parking lot and Morrisette property with the SST students of Anne DeMarco on May 2nd (May 3rd rain date). We will have 3 groups of ~20 students during the following times:

Group 1: 8am - 9am

Group 2: 9:45> 10:45

Group 3: 12:30> 1:35

Gate Stewards:

We again are lucky to have 3 people helping to open and close the McDonnell Conservation Area parking lot. Gates are opened at 8 and closed in the early evening. Our Stewards are Laura and Brian McSweeney, Dianne Arnheim (property owner), and Bruce White. *We are still seeking a gate steward to open the gates every Tue and Thurs.*

Community Clean Up

Volunteer town-wide event. Volunteers can pick up supplies (gloves, bags, and vests) at DPW April 17-21 between 7-3:30. Two volunteers who reached out seeking to have the event organized, Heather Flewelling and Gabriel Lieberg, are having a table at town hall on Saturday April 22nd (Earth Day) to also provide supplies. Trash can be brought to the Cross Road landfill on Saturday 4/22 between 9-2:30 or pick up can be arranged by calling DPW.

Farmers Market - & Watershed Walks: I will share details at the meeting.

Spring Tree Program:

Peter Waltz is again offering the Spring Tree Program. Materials will be delivered for packing between 4/24 -4/28 and he will be presenting the trees to students 5/5. I will also reach out to the Tree Committee who is meeting 4/11 at 8:30 am to see if anyone can volunteer.

Suggested Motion for Expenditure:

_____ Move to approve the allocation of \$338 from the Conservation Land Administration subcategory for the reimbursement of tree seedling purchases.

**Exeter Conservation Commission
Event Agreement**

*NOTE: This agreement is in addition to permits required by the Town of Exeter.
Contact the Town Managers Office to determine any additional permit needs*

Event Name: _____ Event Date: _____

Point of Contact: _____

_____ Estimate of Participants: _____

Event Description: _____

Please read, sign and initial below. A copy of the notice of Authorization will be provided to you upon signature by the Conservation Commission and should be in hand on the day of the event.

I, _____ agree to comply with the following terms for the above referenced event.

_____ Event related activities do not involve private property, unless authorized in writing by landowner, with such permission provided to the Conservation Commission 2 days prior to the event.

_____ Two (2) days prior to the event, the course conditions will be inspected. If trails are wet, the event will be cancelled or re-routed to avoid wet conditions.

_____ Inspection of trail conditions will be with the Conservation Commission's representative prior to and after the event. Trails will be returned to pre-event conditions within 7 days following the event.

_____ The event will be cancelled if rain occurs after the inspection or on the day of the race

_____ All litter will be removed within 24 hours following the event

_____ A map of the planned route is attached

_____ Trail markings shall be non-permanent

_____ Organizers are responsible for making arrangements for parking at Department of Public Works (if applicable), police and traffic control, and provisions for port-a-potties at their expense.

Date/Time of

Date/Time of

Pre-run Inspection _____

Post-run Inspection _____

Event Point of Contact

Date

Conservation Commission

Date

**The Exeter
Conservation Commission,
in Collaboration with**



Presents....



Pollinator Garden Stepping Stone Seed Kits

***DO YOU WANT TO DO MORE TO SUPPORT POLLINATORS?
JOIN THE MOVEMENT TO CREATE STEPPING STONES OF
POLLINATOR HABITAT ACROSS NH***

***Our Community is awarding 5 Pollinator Garden Kits containing
instructions and enough native seed to convert a 6'x9' patch of lawn to
a thriving pollinator habitat.***

To participate, send a completed application to kmurphy@exeternh.gov

We will [insert details for how winners will be selected] at our
[insert month] Conservation Commission Meeting.

Kits will be delivered in early May, 2023

Funding generously provided by:





Pollinator Garden Stepping Stone Seed Kit Mini-Grant Application

WE ARE BUILDING A MOVEMENT TO CONVERT LAWNS INTO STEPPING STONES OF POLLINATOR HABITAT ACROSS NH AND WE NEED YOUR HELP.

We will randomly draw 5 winners at our **May 9th** Conservation Commission meeting.

Winners will receive a Pollinator Garden Seed Kit containing instructions and enough native seed to convert a 6'x9' patch of lawn to a thriving pollinator habitat.

To qualify, you must agree to the following criteria: (initial ea. below)

- I own the property (or have attached written permission from the landowner)
- The area I will convert is currently lawn or contains non-native plants and receives full sun to partial sun.
- I agree to follow instructions for site prep/care until the area is established.
- I agree to provide a pre-conversion photo, a post seeding photo, and a follow-up photo once established.
- I authorize the Conservation Commission, Pollinator Pathways NH and The Pollination Project to use my photos.

DRAFT

Name:	Phone/Email:
Address:	
Signature:	
Tell Us About Your Interest in Pollinators:	

RETURN COMPLETED FORM TO
Kristen Murphy kmurphy@exeternh.gov
10 Front Street, Exeter NH,
NO LATER THAN MAY 8TH

Funding generously provided by:



**Town of Exeter
Sustainability
Activities Tracking**

2022

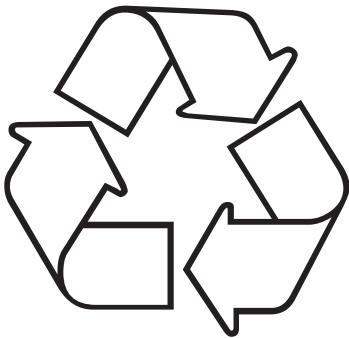
Waste Tracking & Reduction



2,728.27

\$621,079.14

Tons of Waste Sent
To The Landfill



1,332.04

\$508,207.14

Tons of Recycling
Diverted from the Landfill



19,665

Pounds of Food Waste
Diverted from the Landfill

(9.83 Tons)



6,861

Pounds of Textiles
Diverted from the Landfill

(3.43 Tons)

#ClothesArentTrash

Natural Resources



Land
Conservation

Exeter's land conservation efforts are informed by our 2012 Natural Resource Inventory, the 2021 NH Coastal Water Conservation Plan, and ensuring public access to open spaces. The priority areas are classified as Conservation Focus Areas and highlight those locations where land protection will provide for the greatest value for resource protection.

As of 2022 we have



4,167
acres
protected

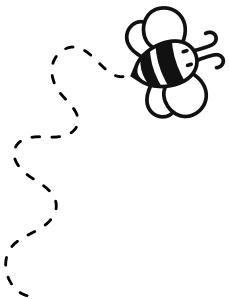
43.6 New Acres Added

705 ac protected through easements, 1,926 ac Fee owned, 530 ac protected by the State, 603 ac protected by Land Trusts, and 403 ac managed by a Home Owners Association.



48%
CFA
protected

2021 Conservation Plan identifies 5,753 acres of Core Focus Areas (CFAs) in Exeter. Of those acres, we have protected 2,737 acres.



2.5
acres new pollinator
habitat created

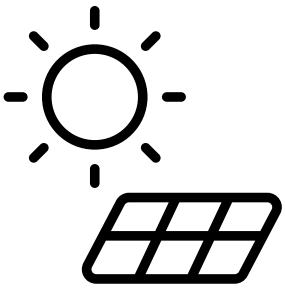
The Conservation Commission, Planning Department, and DPW partnered to transition 2.5 acres of grassed sidewalk strip on Holland Way in 2023 to native pollinator habitat, thereby reducing Parks and Rec mowing cost, saving CO2 emissions.



5
Trees Planted

Established as Tree City USA in 2019, Exeter continues to improve street and park tree coverage. In 2022, we had \$4k in donated tree maintenance at Swasey Parkway, planted 5 trees and initiated a tree labeling program.

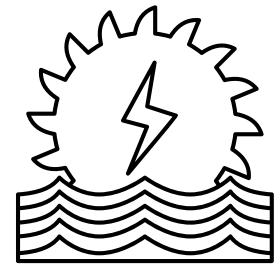
Energy Development and Efficiency



50

kW Solar Energy System

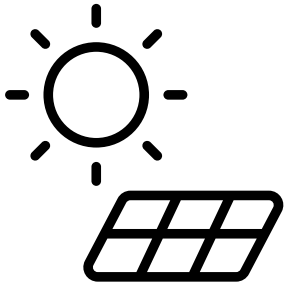
The Town of Exeter has a 50 kW solar array at the Department of Public Works facility and are working toward establishing 1.75MW solar array at the Cross Road Landfill.



\$2.5k

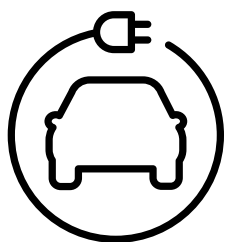
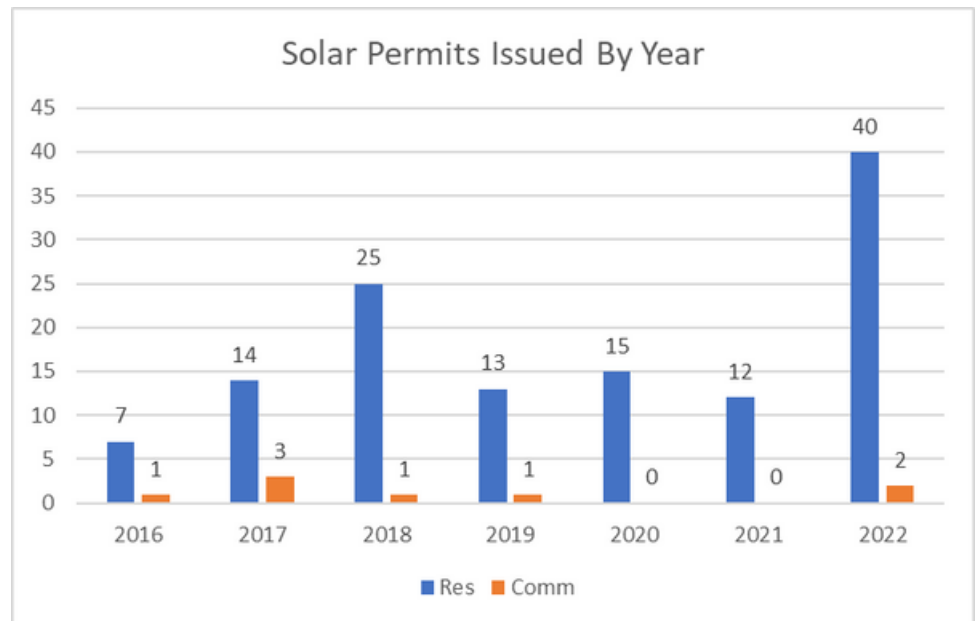
Funds Generated thru VNM Program

Virtual net metering (VNM) allows eligible hydro generators to sell their production to the utility at the default service rate, but to do so; they must partner with virtual off-takers. As an incentive, they offer a share of the rebate they receive. Exeter has entered into an agreement with Freedom Energy and Logistics and receives funds through this process.



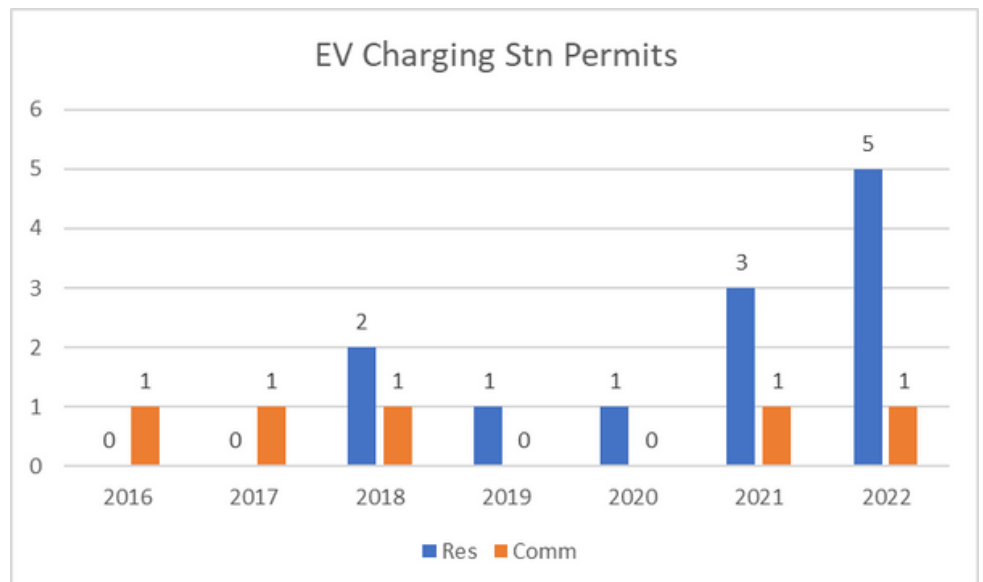
42

Solar Permits Issued

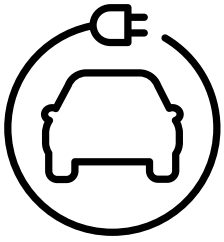


6

EV Charging Permits Issued

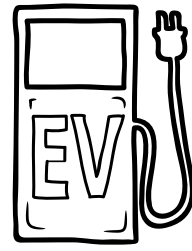


Transportation



556

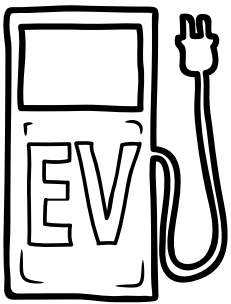
EV & Hybrid Vehicle Registrations



1

Public Charging Station*

Planning & Preparedness

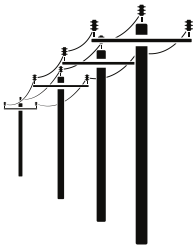


Make-Ready*

Amended Site Plan Regulations to require Electric Vehicle Charging Readiness

(5% Multi-family and 2% Non-Residential)

**note: 2 public charging stations prepped at Noria*



Community Power

Approved Community Power Agreement to allow residents more choice in their renewable energy sources. Planned for 2023 Implementation.

2 feet

Amended zoning to require 2' of FREEBOARD above baseflood elevation for all new construction or substantial improvements.



3 Public Hearings

Presenting the environmental impact of plastics in support of an ordinance limiting the distribution of single use plastics on Town Property.





EARTH WEEK

Roadside Clean Up

APRIL 17-23

**GATHER NEIGHBORS FOR A
COMMUNITY-WIDE ROADSIDE LITTER
CLEAN UP. FREE BAGS, GLOVES, AND
VESTS CAN BE PICKED UP AT PUBLIC
WORKS AT 13 NEWFIELDS RD.**

MON-FRI 7AM-3:30PM

**DROP OFF TRASH AT THE TRANSFER
STATION @ 9 CROSS RD SAT 9-2:30 OR
CONTACT PUBLIC WORKS FOR PICK UP
(603) 773-6157 OR
PUBLICWORKS@EXETERNH.GOV**

**** REMEMBER TO FOLLOW SAFETY GUIDELINES ****