

Mount Holly Conservation Commission Draft Minutes - Meeting of July 7, 2026

Opening

The July 2026 meeting of the Mount Holly Conservation Commission was held on Tuesday, July 7, 2026 in the Town Office. Chair Phil Crane called the meeting to order at 6:08 pm.

Members attending in person were Phil Crane, Phil Leonard, Jeanmarie Fitzgerald and John Ackerman. Dave Martin attended via ZOOM.

Agenda and Minutes

Agenda was adopted, and draft minutes from June 2026 were approved with two typos to be corrected.

Discussion of Agenda items

Phil Leonard discussed the initial harvesting effort that took place beginning on Thursday, July 2. Robert Mojeski and his welder Nick teamed up on the harvester, with Phil L., Brigid Sullivan and Clinton Woolley standing by to manage transfer of weeds away from Star Lake. The invasive curly leaf pond weed proved to be a greater challenge than the more visible white pond lilies. He harvester's systems worked well, though there was engine difficulty during the initial run. This "first cut" will continue later in July, possibly with a more powerful engine.

Jeanmarie said she has 3 river birches and 3 black cherry trees (each about 5' tall) ready for planting, but that this cannot happen until planned work on dangerous trees is completed. Planting should happen by August! Removal of heads of phragmites plants should be a July/August project.

Dave updated us on progress toward a meeting with the Deputy Commissioner about wetlands issues. Talking points have been communicated to the D.C. and to Sen. Terry Williams. Dave will update status.

Phil C. said that approximately 200 injections have been administered to about 50 ash trees. No ash borers confirmed in Mount Holly thus far. When a tree crown dies, there is still time (up to about 3 years) to save the rest of the tree.

There were no further reports concerning recreation or invasive species.

Action Items

- Phil L. to check on status of the planned tree work..
- Phil C. to edit material for the next Chit Chat issue, with contributions from Phil L., Jeanmarie, Dave and Alex (invasive photos, for Newsflash and/or Chit Chat).
- Dave to pursue arrangements for a wetlands discussion.
- Members to assist/recruit for second round of lake weed harvesting.

Next Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 4.

Adjournment occurred at 6:47 pm. Minutes prepared and submitted by Phil Leonard, Clerk