

Role of a NH Conservation Commission

<http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/rsa/html/III/36-A/36-A-mrg.htm>

Study ***natural resources***; develop long-term plans and strategies; provide educational activities; protect land; educate the public about renewable energy; manage town lands for timber production, recreation, and wildlife; advise other boards on the importance of the town's natural resources; work with NH DES to provide local comment on wetlands permits <http://www.nhacc.org/basics/what-do-ccs-do/>

A Conservation Commission MUST:

- *Conduct researches into local land and water areas
- *Seek to coordinate the activity of unofficial bodies organized for similar purposes
- *Keep an index of all open space and natural, aesthetic, or ecological areas
- *Keep accurate records of its meetings and actions

**The Tilton Conservation Commission is responsible for managing the Improving and Maintaining Lakes Capital Reserve Fund for the Town. (Town Meeting March 13, 2007)

A Conservation Commission MAY:

- *recommend a program for the protection, development, or better utilization of all areas in the index
- *receive gifts of money and property, both real and personal, in the name of the town subject to the approval of the local governing body, such gifts to be managed and controlled by the commission
- *advertise, prepare, print and distribute books, maps, charts, plans, and pamphlets necessary for its work

Other:

- *manage a town forest
- *investigate an application for a dredge and fill permit filed with NH DES
- *shall be given provided a copy of the application for proposed excavation and restoration plans connected to sand and gravel excavations (**RSA 155-E:3**) NHACC - A commission should see to it that it does, in fact, receive copies of applications and that its comments are considered in regulatory decisions.

Tilton Wetlands Ordinance (page 60) "Prior to making a decision, the Planning Board shall afford the Conservation Commission an opportunity to provide comment, and shall consider any such comments provided." Wetlands Conservation District = surface waters, wetlands, wetland buffers around wetlands and surface waters. <http://www.tiltoncc.org/links.htm> and https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ifGMS9syu_ymppVkb7tufuqzAwYYXjex/view

Natural Resources:

Land: topography – geology – soils

Water: surface water – wetlands – flooding issues – groundwater

Biology: plants – wildlife - habitat

Open space: unfragmented – food production – recreation – conservation – education – public service – historical/archeological - aesthetics