

# State Commission for Conservation of Soil, Water & Related Resources

Quarterly Meeting  
Massachusetts Division of Fish & Wildlife Headquarters  
Rabbit Hill Rd. Westborough

January 10, 2019 10:00 am \*\*

\*Please check in at the front desk when you arrive and before proceeding to the meeting room. I have been asked to advise attendees of our meeting that they should try to not engage in conversation in the atrium. Please wait until you get to the conference room because noise in the atrium is becoming a serious problem for the 40+ biologists working above it. Thank you.

The State Commission will next meet on Thursday, January 10, 2019 starting at 10:00 am. We will meet at the Division of Fish & Wildlife headquarters in Westborough. The address there is 1 Rabbit Hill Rd. The website is: <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dfg/dfw/>

Our meeting is scheduled to go from 10:00 am through 12:00 noon. The draft agenda is attached. If you have any additional agenda requests, please get them to me or Don as soon as possible.

There are a couple of important discussion items on the agenda. We want to talk about helping out with informational sessions proposed by NRCS. With a new Farm Bill just completed, they would like to have the help of the districts and partners in putting on several workshops across the state that would reach out to farmers. Also, the state commission is positioned to play a significant role in developing a statewide study on the topic of healthy soils. We will review that role and talk about a timeline.

## AGENDA

Introductions

Approval of Minutes; – **(voting item)**

State Commission

FY 2018 – 2019 Conservation District Grant Program update – Current

FY 2019 – 2020 Conservation District Grant Program update – Awards pending

Soil Health

Healthy Soils Action Plan for Massachusetts – RFR **(voting and action item)**

Supervisor Appointments if needed **(voting item)**

New Farm Bill – Proposal for public informational meetings to reach out to landowners. NRCS would work with districts to put on 5 or 6 workshops. Partnership participation would be add value

Mass Envirothon Council & Committee - Envirothon report. **(voting item)**  
Chairman position is open.

Environmental Bond Bill

Partner Updates  
NRCS, DAR, Grange, F&W, DEP, Divisions, others

Adjourn

\*\* If there are any winter weather issues forecast for this day, we will send an email the day before by 2:00 pm.