

The Reservoir Review

A Newsletter About Life on Neponset Reservoir

DEP APPROVES SCHNEIDER ELECTRIC'S PERMANENT SOLUTION STATEMENT (PSS)

On May 31, 2019, the DEP issued an approval of Schneider Electric's Permanent Solution Statement (PSS) which, in effect, stated that the concentration of the heavy metal, cadmium, found in the sediment of the Neponset Reservoir, "does not pose a significant risk of harm to human health, safety or public welfare." The DEP approval was issued based on representations and technical information submitted by Schneider Electric and their consultants, Woodward & Curran.



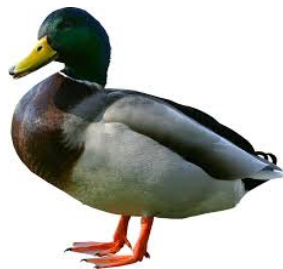
This approval came after a detailed and formal rebuttal by the NRRC, who partnered with EcoTec, an environmental consulting firm, stating they believe it to be "a significant risk." In addition, the Board of Selectmen (BOS) weighed in with a formal Comment Letter to the DEP supporting the NRRC's findings.

On June 12, 2019, the DEP wrote to Town Manager, William Keegan, informing the town of their approval of Schneider's PSS. They went on to say they "are cognizant that public interest still remains, so MassDEP will continue to maintain open communication as to future efforts regarding the Reservoir."

The DEP letter to the town prompted the NRRC to get on the Board of Selectman's July 23rd meeting agenda to discuss what, if any, next steps exist in reversing the DEP's approval.

NRRC board member, Richard Lewis, suggested working with Town Counsel and BOS liaise to NRRC, Mark Elfman, on a letter to send to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) outlining their concerns surrounding the DEP's approval of Schneider's PSS. While this informal action may yield no further results, it is nonetheless one that NRRC and the Town believe needs to be done.

A copy of Schneider Electric's Final Draft Permanent Solution Statement can be found at Boyden Public Library / 10 Bird St / Foxboro, MA 02035



THE WATER CHESTNUT situation has vastly improved over the years due to the diligent efforts of those who live and love our resource. Where hundreds use to exist, annual pulling has kept them at bay. However, when you are out on the water, be on the lookout for this most invasive aquatic vegetable. And when you see it, reach down under the water on the stem and pull it by its roots and dispose of it on land. What do they look like? Here are a couple of pictures below....



WORK ON EDWARDS ROAD BOAT LAUNCH MAKES PROGRESS



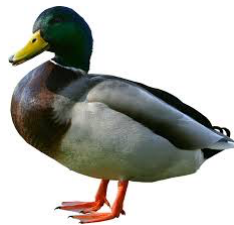
Work on the long-awaited

project on Edwards Road went out to bid in July with a timeframe to have the contractor selected by the end of August.

Since 2016, the NRRC has been working with the Town toward a plan that would include stormwater treatment, a parking lot and improvements to the boat launch to provide better access to the reservoir. The boat launch will accept hand-carry boats only.

Most recently, Richard Lewis of the NRRC met with Town Engineer, Christopher Gallagher, to review the plan for stormwater drainage and how it fits with the boat launch design. It now appears this final plan will work.

The Town Conservation Committee issued both their approval of the plans and an Order of Conditions that will be adhered to by the construction contractor.



RESPECT OUR WILDLIFE: When out on the lake on your power boats or jet skis, please be aware of wildlife and respectful of their space. Our beautiful resource is large enough for all to enjoy.



NARC, Inc
P. O. Box 430
Foxboro, MA 02035