



TOWN OF HINGHAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION

RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING USE OF CONSERVATION LANDS

The Hingham Conservation Commission has adopted these regulations (in addition to those regulations established under Article 30 of the Town Bylaws) pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 40, § 8C, in order to preserve and protect the wildlife, aesthetic, ecological, environmental, and conservation values of lands under their care, custody, management, and control, while allowing for the enjoyment and passive recreational use of these lands by the public. Passive recreation is defined as any outdoor activity that occurs in a natural setting with minimum disturbance of the natural and cultural resources and that is consistent with quiet enjoyment of the land.

1. All are welcome to use lands under the control of the Conservation Commission for passive recreation from ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset. No person shall be allowed to use said lands at other times without the prior written permission of the Conservation Commission.
2. No motorized vehicles, including cars, trucks, dirt bikes, ATVs and snowmobiles, or machinery is allowed on Conservation lands except as needed for emergency response by the Police or Fire Departments or as authorized by the Conservation Commission for land or trail maintenance activities. Electric bikes are not permitted on Conservation lands.
3. No hunting is allowed on any lands under the control of the Conservation Commission without a valid Hunting Permit issued by the Conservation Commission in accordance with the Commission's Bow Hunting Regulations. Hunting (bow and arrow only) is limited to those conservation parcels specifically designated by the Commission and posted annually on the Commission's website. Trapping is prohibited on all Conservation lands.
4. Use of firearms is prohibited on Conservation lands.
5. Use of trail cameras, drones, or other remote recording devices is not permitted without prior written authorization of the Conservation Commission.
6. Geocache containers shall not be placed on Conservation lands without prior written authorization of the Conservation Commission to ensure sensitive environmental areas are not altered by placement of geocaches.
7. No person shall cut, break, remove, deface, defile, or ill-use any structure, fence, sign, stone wall, or have possession of any part thereof in or on lands under the control of the Conservation Commission.
8. No person shall cut or remove any trees (dead or living), shrubs, plants or flowers in or on Conservation lands without prior written permission of the Conservation Commission.
9. No trails shall be cut or marked, nor facilities of an enduring nature such as bridges, towers, lean-tos or buildings be constructed without written prior written permission of the Conservation Commission.
10. No person shall engage in business, sell or expose for sale, or give away goods, wares or circulars, upon said lands without prior written permission of the Conservation Commission.
11. Overnight camping on Conservation lands is not permitted without prior written permission of the Conservation Commission.

12. No person shall dump or dispose of any litter, trash, stumps, brush, leaves, sand, stones, deleterious material or fill upon lands under the control of the Conservation Commission. All users should carry out what they carry in to said lands.
13. No person shall dig or disturb any artifact or archaeological remains on Conservation land without prior written permission of the Conservation Commission.
14. Fishing is permitted on waterbodies within Conservation lands subject to all applicable Fish and Wildlife laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. All persons 15 years of age and over shall possess and display a valid Massachusetts Fishing or Sporting License. The Hingham Conservation Commission encourages anglers to "catch and release" all fish taken from any waters under control of the Commission.
15. No person shall tamper with the operation of any fish ladder or interfere with migrating adult or juvenile herring or eels in any water course or water body controlled by the Commission.
16. Possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages is prohibited on all lands under the control of the Conservation Commission.
17. Fires and grills or camp stoves are prohibited on Conservation lands without prior written permission of the Commission and Fire Department as applicable. Smoking is prohibited on said lands.
18. Any wildlife in or on Conservation lands shall not be harassed, collected, relocated or removed with exception of permitted hunting activities in accordance with all applicable local and state regulations. Feeding of wildlife on said lands is prohibited.
19. Dogs are permitted on Conservation lands if controlled by a leash or otherwise under the immediate and effective control of the owner or handler. Dogs shall not be allowed to endanger wildlife or destroy vegetation. Dog waste shall be immediately removed and properly disposed of in a trash receptacle off conservation property.
20. Penalties: Any violation of the Rules and Regulations hereunder, carries with it a penalty of a fine not to exceed \$200.00