

Pond Maintenance Methodology and Schedule
111 Linwood Street
Haverhill, MA
5/7/25

Pond Maintenance and Schedule: Expected time frame - During low water, in the dry summer to early fall conditions (approximately July-October) or during extended drought:

1. Notify Haverhill Conservation Department (HCC) of scheduled maintenance activities prior to starting (approximate time frame - July - October);
2. Establish expected dredge soil /organics laydown and sorting area outside of the 100 foot Buffer Zone.;
3. Block pond outlet pipes prior to excavation to restrict colloidal water from exiting pond during dredging activity. Keep outlets blocked until water column clears (approximately 2-4 days), clean outlet pipe screens as needed following pond dredging;
4. Commence excavation of pond center (not to exceed 88 cubic yards or 800 square feet in area). Excavation will be done with a "gradall" style bucket attachment on a rubber tired backhoe or gradall reaching from the upland area on the pond edge. **NO MACHINERY to enter pond.**
5. Pond bottom consists of organics and accumulated sands and gravel. Excavation will be watched closely so as **not to excavate into clay barrier** at pond bottom. Depth of barrier expected to be variable and will determine ultimate excavation depth in pond center.
6. Transfer gradall bucket of soil for sorting to staging area. Hand rake for small pond critters inadvertently picked up in dredge spoils. Release back into pond as necessary once dredging is complete (estimated time to complete 2 hours);
7. Clean outlet pipe screens as necessary following pond dredging;
8. Open pond outlet pipes once water column becomes clear;
9. Overseed any disturbed ruts or bar soils in lawn area adjacent to pond as needed with a quick growing grass seed mix. Spread dredge spoils smooth and seed any bare dredge soils in laydown area with same quick growing seed mix.
10. Install pond depth gage at approximate center of pond so water depths can be monitored down to 3 feet below bank full levels;
11. Should pond water elevation fall below **2.5 feet from bankfull**, contact HCC to schedule spring water delivery to bring pond elevation back to safe levels for fish and amphibian populations (expected period - July -September during dry periods or during extended drought);
12. Block pond outlets during spring water delivery and stop water amendments once pond reaches normal bankfull levels. Open pond outlet pipes once filing is complete.