

**Board of Health Meeting** - Tuesday, December 23, 2014 7:00 p.m.  
116 Main Road, Tyringham

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Board members present - Christopher Johnson and Gerard Miller.  
Others present - Molly Curtin-Schaefer. See attached list.

NO ONE IN ATTENDANCE

Mail was read, and previous minutes were signed.

**SCHOOL HOUSE:**

Molly to follow-up on the school house being tested for mold/mildew.

Shannon Boomsma from White Engineering sent the attached notification letter to the Board regarding the dredging of Sodom Pond on the Schulman property on Sodom Road.

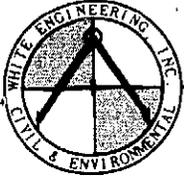
Meeting adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

*Absent*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Peter Curtin, Chairman

*[Signature]*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chris Johnson, Clerk

*[Signature]*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Gerard Miller, Member



**WHITE ENGINEERING INC.**  
CIVIL & ENVIRONMENTAL  
A VETERAN-OWNED SMALL BUSINESS

December 10, 2014

Town of Tyringham  
Board of Health  
P.O. Box 442  
Tyringham, MA 01264

RE: Pond Dredging  
Sodem Pond  
Property of Daniel Schulman

Dear Members of the Board:

We have designed and permitted through the Tyringham Conservation Commission and Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection the dredging of Sodem Pond on the Schulman property on Sodem Road. The dredging procedure will be very similar to that which has been done in the past. At this time it is estimated that 1800 CY of silt will be removed from the pond and disposed of in an upland location shown on the attached map. This is the same location used in the 2007 dredging. The material will later be used on site in garden beds and landscaping.

Per the Massachusetts Water Quality Certification process we are required to notify the Board of Health of this work. I believe you were not notified of the 2007 work which I am now making you aware of.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions on this matter.

Sincerely,

  
Shannon Boomsma  
Environmental Analyst



55 SOUTH MERRIAM STREET, PITTSFIELD, MA 01201-6609  
PHONE (413) 443-8011 • WHITEENG.COM • FAX (413) 443-8012

**Introduction:**

This Notice of Intent is being submitted for a pond maintenance project located on Sodem Pond at Sodem Road in Tyringham, Massachusetts. The pond, located on Hop Brook, is man-made and is used for fire protection purposes as well as for recreational purposes. Over time, the pond has become partially filled with silt. In order to maintain the storage volume of the pond as well as its aesthetic quality and breeding habitat for trout, it has become desirable to dredge the silt from the pond. This work would provide for additional water storage for fire protection purposes as well as a better environment for swimming and fishing. Presently, much of the pond is covered with between 6 inches to 3 feet of silt.

**Proposed Work Methods and Sequence:**

This Notice of Intent being submitted as a Limited Project, fire pond excavation, under 310 CMR 10.53(g).

The applicant proposes to excavate the silt from the pond bottom using bulldozers and excavators. The pond will be drawn down and water run through a channel along its easterly edge. The channel will be excavated to direct flow away from the areas of highest concentrations of silt. Spoils from the excavation of the channel and the silt will be allowed to dry somewhat within the pond. The approximate area of the silt to be removed is 55,450 square feet. There is an estimated 1,823 cubic yards of silt presently located in the pond. The silt will be temporarily stockpiled on tarps surrounded by straw bales at the edge of the pond. The silt will then be loaded into dump trucks and transported to the disposal site on the property. The silt will be placed outside of any buffer zone or riparian area. The stockpile area is the same which has been used for the past two dredging activities. The stockpiled material is screened and used as topsoil on the property.

Once all silt and spoils are removed, the lower sluice gate would be partially closed in order to start filling of the pond while still allowing some water, approximately one half of the total flow, to flow downstream. We propose to place silt fence over the inlet to the sluice gate in order to prevent any remaining silt, stirred up during the refilling process, from getting into the downstream area of the brook. We also propose silt fence and straw bales on the outlet end of the pond discharge pipes to control siltation downstream. Once the level in the pond reaches the invert of the upper sluice gate, the lower gate would be closed completely and the pond would be allowed to run through the upper gate for a period of two days with the upper gate fully open in order to maintain flow in the downstream areas of Hop Brook. Silt fence would also be placed over the upper gate in order to prevent downstream siltation. After the two-day period of downstream recharge, the upper gate would be closed to a point where half of the flow is going downstream and the pond would be allowed to fill to the top of the spillway.

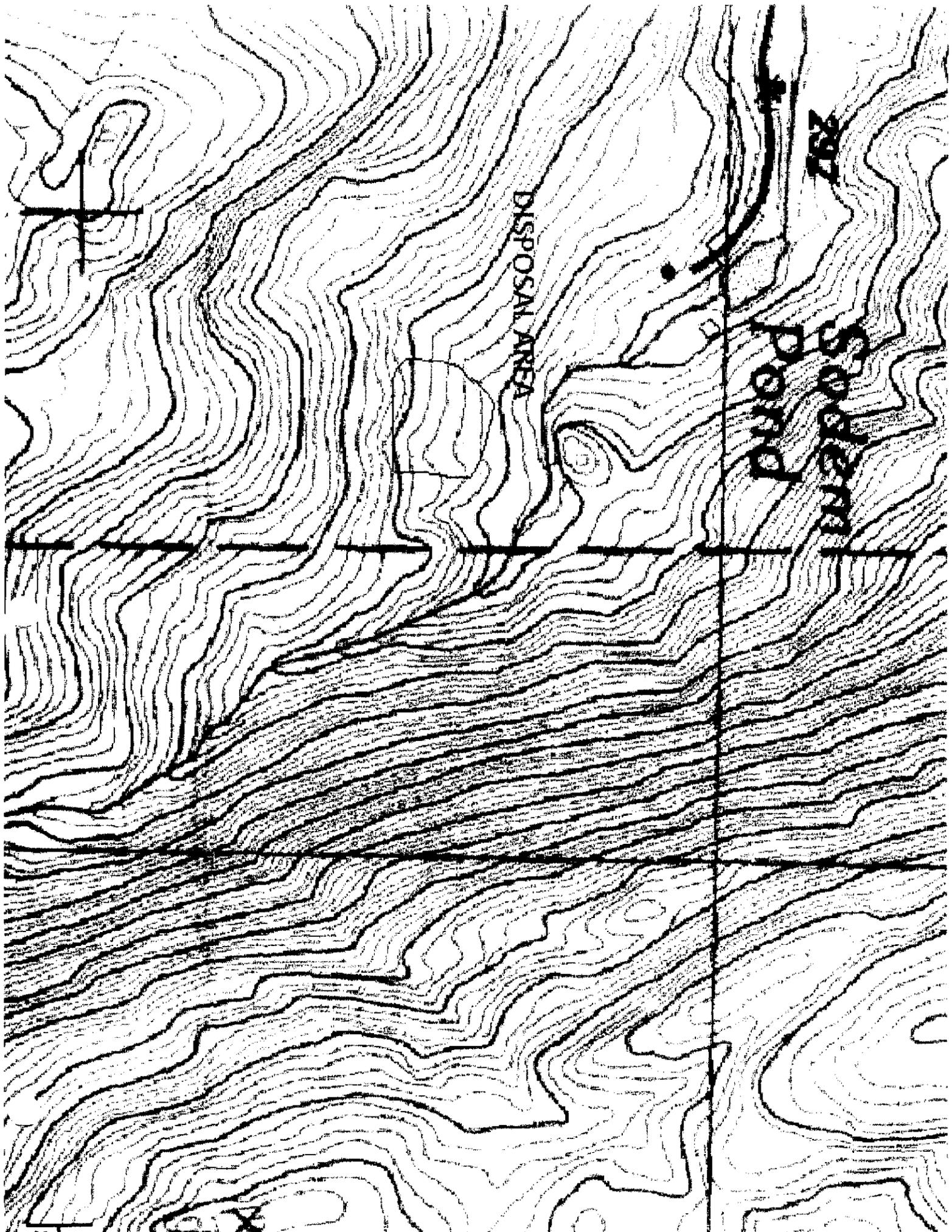
While the pond level is being drawdown and during dredging activities any aquatic wildlife encountered including fish, turtles, frogs, and salamanders will be relocated to the upper pond, later to be returned to the large pond. Some aquatic wildlife will migrate downstream with the flow of the water.

Any surrounding areas disturbed as a result of dredging activities will be graded, seeded, and mulched as necessary. It is anticipated that this work would be performed during low flow conditions in order to minimize disturbance.

**General Performance Standards 310 CMR 10.56(4):**

1. The water carrying capacity within the defined channel, which is provided by said land in conjunction with the banks;  
*Water carrying and storage capacity will be improved by dredging of the pond.*
2. Ground and surface water quality shall not be impaired;  
*The water quality within the pond will be enhanced by removal of the silt by increasing oxygen and clarity of the water.*
3. The capacity of said land to provide breeding habitat, escape cover and food for fisheries;  
*The proposed project will restore the pond to the condition of the feeding streams which are extremely rocky with a clean gravel bottom. This type of habitat typically supports members of the salmonid fish species which are present in the feeder streams. The overhanging vegetation and plant beds will not be altered thereby maintaining the existing escape cover areas.*
4. The capacity of said land to provide important wildlife habitat functions. A project or projects on a single lot, for which Notice(s) of intent is filed on or after November 1, 1987, that (cumulatively) alter(s) up to 10% or 5,000 square feet (whichever is less) of land in this resource area found to be significant to the protection of wildlife habitat, shall not be deemed to impair its capacity to provide important wildlife habitat functions. Additional alterations beyond the above threshold may be permitted if they will have no adverse effects on wildlife habitat, as determined by procedures established under 310 CMR 10.60.  
*The capacity of the land to provide important wildlife habitat functions will be improved by providing a pond bottom more suitable for reproduction of salmonid fish species. The overhanging vegetation and plant beds will not be altered thereby maintaining the existing escape cover areas.*

We propose to utilize the smaller upstream pond as a sump to minimize the frequency of dredging the larger pond. The smaller pond water levels can be regulated in a similar manner to the large pond. Access to the sediments accumulate in the smaller pond can be done with minimal impact to vegetation, primarily lawn, due to its close proximity to the driveway. We propose that the smaller pond be cleaned of accumulated sediments on a yearly or as needed basis, no more than once per year. This will minimize the sediment movement downstream. This maintenance activity will be carried out in a similar fashion as to the larger pond dredging.



DISPOSAL AREA

DOND

DOND

1950-1-11-1950