

TOWN COUNCIL
Town of Falmouth, Maine

**An Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances Regarding the Conservation
Commission**

DIV. II-2-3-5. CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Repeal and replace in its entirety with the following:

Establishment.

There is hereby established a Conservation Commission consisting of seven (7) members serving without pay to be appointed by the Town Council pursuant to 30-A M.R.S.A. § 3261. The term of office is three (3) years.

Purpose and Duties.

1. Purpose

The Conservation Commission shall strive to protect the natural resources of Falmouth and improve the Town's ecological integrity and wildlife diversity. It shall increase public awareness of the intrinsic value of the Town's natural resources and shall work to study and conserve them.

2. Duties

Research and Recommendations

- a. The Conservation Commission shall conduct research and give advice as to the protection of the natural resources located within the Town, including fresh and coastal waters.
- b. The Commission shall prepare and keep an index of all sensitive natural resources on publicly or privately owned lands within the Town, including but not limited to open marshlands, swamps, and other wetlands for the purpose of assimilating and retaining information pertinent to the proper protection of such open areas.
- c. The Commission may recommend to the Town Council or any municipal body or board or body (private, politic or public) actions or a program to better protect, conserve, minimize impacts to, or increase the understanding of, natural resources.

Cooperation and Collaboration

- a. Internal: The Conservation Commission shall work cooperatively with Parks and Community Programs, Public Works, and the Land Management and Acquisition Committee in terms of its duties, powers, and functions.
- b. External: The Commission shall seek to coordinate its activities with existing state and municipal agencies, commissions, departments, and conservation bodies organized for similar purposes.

Education and Public Awareness

The Conservation Commission may advertise, prepare, print, and distribute books, maps, charts, plans, and pamphlets that in its judgment it deems necessary. The Conservation Commission may hold public awareness and education campaigns on Town-owned properties or in coordination with other Town entities.

Record Keeping

The Conservation Commission shall keep records of its meetings and activities and make an annual report to the Town.

Expenditures

The Conservation Commission shall prepare an annual budget and may employ such personnel as may be approved by the Town Manager.