

Warner's Pond Timeline

1961

- The 77-acre pond and adjacent wetlands parcel is purchased for conservation purposes, under the care and custody of the Natural Resources Commission (NRC).

1983

- State conducts fisheries assessment

1994

- The Town of Concord/Division of Natural Resources (Town/DNR) contracts with Aquatic Control Technologies (ACT) to complete Inspection and Management Recommendations
- DNR completes water chestnut inventory

1995

- DNR begins water chestnut hand harvesting (continues annually since this time by summer Conservation Crew and volunteers)

1997

- OARS Satellite-Based Monitoring of Massachusetts Lakes and Ponds. Includes aquatic vegetation maps, chlorophyll a data, correlation of lake and pond conditions with satellite imagery

1998

- DNR awarded a DEM Lakes and Ponds grant for a pond management plan

1999

- Town/DNR contracts with ACT to complete the Warner's Pond Management Plan. Provides data on existing conditions and recommendations for treatment
- Town/DNR contracts with New England Environmental, Inc. to conduct Wildlife and Habitat Assessment, Warner's Pond. Biological assessment of the pond and recommendations for treatment

2003

- Town/DNR contracts with ACT to provide updated Aquatic Vegetation Survey and Management Recommendations, including hydroraking

2004

- NRC establishes the Warner's Pond Stewardship Committee (WPSC)
- Town/DNR contracts to complete:
 - Hydroraking (35 hours) to remove water chestnut, variable water milfoil, and fanwort (\$6,000 of contractor time)
 - Water chestnut removal (45 hours)
- Concord Public Works (CPW) begins permitting for the Warner's Pond Dam Reconstruction

2005

- WPSC joins Weed Watcher Program
- WPSC organizes Water Chestnut Pull Day

2006

- WPSC provides input to CPW on Warner's Pond dam replacement

2007

- Town/DNR contracts with GeoSyntec to conduct Water Quality Sampling screens for Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons, Volatile Organic Compounds, Chloride, Iron, Lead, and Arsenic
- WPSC/DNR develops *Warner's Pond, A Community Asset* booklet on natural and cultural history and management of Warner's Pond
- Warner's Pond dam reconstruction begins

2008

- WPSC/DNR distribute Warner's Pond survey
- WPSC/DNR hosts community presentation on the Committee's mission, restoration efforts, and long term goals
- Warner's Pond Dam Reconstruction complete

2009

- DNR organizes invasive species workday to remove purple loosestrife
- DNR awarded Garden Club grant for wetland mitigation plants at Warner's Pond

2010

- DNR receives CPA grant for Warner's Pond Watershed Management Plan
- Over half an acre of native plants installed as mitigation for Warner's Pond dam reconstruction

2011

- Chemical treatment of Warner's Pond with Sonar (fluoridone)
- WPSC membership peters out

2012

- DNR hosts public forum on draft Watershed Management Plan
- ESS finalizes Watershed Management Plan

2013

- ESS prepares a *Field Guide to the Aquatic Macrophytes of Warner's Pond*
- DNR distributes guide to area residents

2014

- DNR prepares and distributes the *Help Protect Warner's Pond* brochure

2016

- Town/DNR contracts with ESS Group, Inc. for Dredging Feasibility Study
- DNR hosts public forum on goals of the Dredging Feasibility Study

2018

- Town acquires the 7-acre Gerow parcel for recreational purposes, under the care and custody of the Select Board
- ESS completes Dredging Feasibility Study

2019

- DNR receives MEPA Certificate for dredging project

2020

- Funds for Warner's Pond dredging approved at Town Meeting
 - Capital: \$500,000
 - CPA: \$500,000

2021

- Funds for Warner's Pond dredging approved at Town Meeting
 - Capital: \$1,250,000
 - CPA: 250,000
- NRC approves Warner's Pond dredging application

2022

- Army Corps of Engineers and DEP issue dredging permits
- Town/DNR issues invitation to bid on dredging project. A single bid is received at more than three times (\$9.5 million) the cost estimate (\$2.95 million)

2023

- Funding for Warner's Pond improvements approved at Town Meeting
 - CPA: \$550,000
- Town/DNR contracts with EA to evaluate three alternatives for the future restoration of Warner's Pond: modified dredging (moving sediments within the pond rather than disposal outside the system), dam removal, and no action.
- DNR hosts public meeting on the alternatives analysis
- DNR distributes community survey
- Dam removal is identified as the preferred alternative in the alternatives analysis report
- DNR hosts public meeting on the preferred alternative
- Town/DNR contracts with EA to develop 30% dam removal design plans
- Friends of Warner's Pond established

2024

- NRC establishes Warner's Pond Task Force to review all management options to improve the ecological health and recreational capacity of the Warner's Pond system and submit a recommendation to the NRC