



Town of Morristown  
Department of Public Works  
Division of Engineering

200 South Street, P.O. Box 914  
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HAND DELIVERED

September 17, 2020

To: Residents and Property Owners on James Street, Erskine Drive, Maxwell Court, and Ogden Place

Re: **Project Information and Notice of Public Information Session  
Foote's Pond Hydro-raking  
File 16-026**

T.R. Weniger, Inc. has been awarded a contract to hydro-rake Foote's Pond. **Construction is anticipated to start on or about Monday October 5, 2020.** Completion is anticipated within 45 days.

Hydro-raking is an NJDEP-approved alternative to dredging, used to restore water surface area and water depth in a pond or lake. A mechanical hydro-rake, similar to a backhoe and mounted on a small barge or pontoon, is deployed into the pond. It rakes out and removes only vegetative matter, both live and decomposed, down to the original lake bottom. The hydro-raked material is deposited into a container on the shoreline to allow excess water to drain off back into the pond, then loaded into sealed containers and trucked away. The project will yield a substantial improvement to the ecology of Foote's Pond.

**There will be a Public Information Session held on site at Foote's Pond Wood next to the fireplace on the James Street side of the park on Monday, September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.** Municipal representatives will be present to provide more detailed information on the project and field questions.

What to expect during construction:

1. Work hours will be 7 a.m. – 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, with some Saturdays possible.
2. The work area and equipment access point will be along the James Street side of the park, to the right of the main park entrance across from Erskine Drive. A temporary stone access pad will be installed, and 10-20 truck trips per day between the street and water's edge will occur at this location. James Street will remain open to traffic with minor disruptions only as trucks enter and leave the park. Traffic control will be provided as necessary.
3. Limits of land disturbance will be confined to Town property.
4. Limited tree trimming and removal at the shoreline access point will be performed by Town personnel prior to the start of work in order to provide sufficient room for hydro-rake access.
5. Active work areas will be cordoned off and not accessible while work is ongoing.
6. Contractor will be using motorized equipment and manpower to complete the required work and will generate some noise typical to municipal construction work.
7. Hydro-raked material will generate an earthy-type odor while exposed to the air, however the material will be efficiently trucked off site to the Lake Road Recycling Center and never left overnight or over a weekend or holiday.
8. The pond water surface level may lower slightly during the work, but will quickly return to normal
9. The work presents little to no threat to aquatic creatures as the pond will not be drained, and aquatic life will retreat to another area of the pond while a particular area is being hydro-raked. Contractor's personnel have been trained and directed to be vigilant for displaced aquatic life and return such to the water immediately upon discovery.
10. Contractor will remove the temporary stone access pad and restore all disturbed areas to pre-existing conditions upon project completion.
11. The Morristown Engineering Division will inspect the project and will be available to help you with any special concerns. Maser Consulting will be technical support to the Engineering Division.
12. **Any and all inquiries, comments, or concerns regarding the project should be sent directly to the Engineering Division at the number above, or to:**
  - [A-DeVizio@townofmorristown.org](mailto:A-DeVizio@townofmorristown.org)
  - [R-Panei@townofmorristown.org](mailto:R-Panei@townofmorristown.org)

Please call or e-mail if you would like to discuss any aspect of this project. We look forward to a successful project that will enhance the quality of life in Morristown.

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Very truly yours,

Anthony M. DeVizio, P.E., P.L.S.  
Town Engineer