

GRIFFIN'S DAIRY FLOODPLAIN AND WETLANDS

The issue of whether there is a floodplain and additional wetlands on the Abington portion of Griffin's Dairy will NOT go away. It will always be an issue that, to date, the Town of Abington has, in my opinion, failed to address.

It was stated by the Middle School Site Selection Committee's consultant that if left alone Griffin's Dairy would naturally grow wetlands vegetation beyond what had been defined in the ANRAD filing with the Conservation Commission and the approved plan should not be reconsidered and the area reviewed as a wet meadow. In my opinion their position was if mistakes were made, to bad, don't change things. It favors our project.

To understand why the approved ANRAD plan is considered wrong one must first understand how wetlands are formed. It takes water (hydrology), soils that are classified hydric and finally vegetation that is listed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as wetlands plants to make an area defined as wetlands. The growth must be sustained over time and NOT manipulated by the act of mowing in order to get a clearly defined delineation of its borders.

The issue of why the portion of land known as Griffin's Dairy in Abington is not shown on FEMA flood maps as containing a floodplain is because the area has not been studied. However photographic evidence of flooding and the Town of Abington Zoning Map which reflects a Floodplain and Wetlands Overlay Protection District indicates that additional wetlands and a floodplain exist far beyond what was indicated in the FEMA map and the ANRAD filing that was approved by the Town of Abington Conservation Commission. This greatly involves the portion of land in Abington.

It is urged that people understand what is contained on the Abington Zoning Map when it reflects a wetlands and floodplain district. Additionally becoming familiar with the definition of wetland soils, the definition of a wet meadow and understanding the basics of a wetland are all simple reading tasks and does not require a college degree for the basic understanding.

Become knowledgeable on the facts and you will understand WHY many of us are resistant to give way on these issues. We WILL NOT STOP.

If you have online capabilities read the following sites:

[Wetland Field Guides Home Page](http://www.dnr.wa.gov/htdocs/lm/field_guides/recognizing/introduction.html)

http://www.dnr.wa.gov/htdocs/lm/field_guides/recognizing/introduction.html

[EPA > Wetlands > Wetland Types > Wet](http://www.epa.gov/owow/wetlands/types/wmeadows.html)

[Meadows](http://www.epa.gov/owow/wetlands/types/wmeadows.html)<http://www.epa.gov/owow/wetlands/types/wmeadows.html>

[Massachusetts Hydric Soil List](http://nesoil.com/hydric.html)

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Do you need to have a college degree or be an engineer to care about our environment?

[SAVE GRIFFIN'S DAIRY](#)

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