Directory to Professional and Technical Assistance To Municipal Conservation Commissions

Joseph S. Larson

The Environmental Institute
University of Massachusetts at Amherst
Directory to
Professional and Technical Assistance to
Municipal Conservation Commissions

Joseph S. Larson
Professor and Director
The Environmental Institute

Blaisdell House
University of Massachusetts
Amherst, Mass. 01003-0040
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April, 1988
Professional and Technical Assistance to Municipal Conservation Commissions

The University of Massachusetts is the public land-grant University of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. A land-grant university has a special role to address the public needs of the citizens who support the institution.

Massachusetts pioneered the practice of involving local citizens in the management of natural resources by enabling each city and town to establish a municipal conservation commission. Today these commissions, composed of appointed citizens, most without professional training in natural resources and with limited budgets, act and speak for their communities on a dozen issues for which they have official responsibility.

The University of Massachusetts has the most comprehensive suite of research and education programs in natural resources in the Commonwealth. The expertise of the faculty and staff members of these programs is regularly applied to state problems largely through sponsored research and Cooperative Extension projects.

Through a survey sponsored under the University's Public Service Endowment Grant Program, Conservation Commissions have indicated a growing need for expert technical assistance in meeting their responsibilities in (priority indicated):

1. Wetland identification and regulation
2. Land acquisition
3. Review of forest cutting permits
4. Agricultural land preservation
5. Improving small impoundments
6. Municipal well sites and recharge areas
7. Flood plain zoning
8. Advising planning boards
9. Watershed management
10. Advising health boards
11. Advising recreation commissions
12. Forest taxation.

The same study also determined that many University faculty and professional staff members have themselves served as members of Conservation Commissions in their home communities or have assisted Commissions in other towns. Additionally, a number of these experts have agreed to indicate that they are interested in providing assistance to other Commissions.

This pamphlet is intended to advise Commissions, and other local government boards, of the availability of that assistance, and in which areas expertise is available. Because each expert's situation and other responsibilities is unique, there is also an indication of the conditions under which each person may be available.
The address of each expert is provided and it is suggested that interested boards should make initial contacts in one of two ways:

1. Write to the individual faculty member with a full description of the problem where assistance is needed,

2. If assistance is needed and it is not clear that there is a person on the list who has the particular expertise required, write to The Environmental Institute at the address below. Institute staff will try to make contact for you with an appropriate faculty, staff or Extension person on one of the University campuses.

This service is extended to official city and town Conservation Commissions and to other municipal boards concerned with natural resource and environmental issues. Initial contacts should be in writing and initiated well before an issue becomes a crisis. University staff usually best serve communities within a well-planned time frame because of their prime responsibilities in education and research. When immediate action is needed, private consulting firms are usually better staffed and equipped for fast response.

The Environmental Institute
Blaisdell House
University of Massachusetts
Amherst, Mass. 01003-0040
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area of Expertise</th>
<th>In Home</th>
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<th>Else-Where</th>
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Key to areas of expertise:

1. Wetland Identification and Regulation
2. Land Acquisition
3. Review Forest Cutting Permits
4. Agricultural Land Preservation
5. Improving Small Impoundments
6. Municipal Well Sites and Recharge Areas
7. Flood Plain Zoning
8. Advising Planning Boards
9. Watershed Land Management
10. Advising Health Boards
11. Advising Recreation Commissions
12. Forest Taxation
Wynn A. Abranovic (Amherst)
School of Management

Robert A. Coler (Amherst)
Department of Environmental Science
Skinner Hall

Robert T. Duby (Sunderland)
Department of Veterinary and Animal Science
Hatch Laboratory

John D. Edman (Hadley)
Department of Entomology
Fernald Hall

John H. Foster (Amherst)
Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics
Draper Hall

Robert W. Gage, M.D. (Amherst)
Division of Public Health
Arnold House

Constantine Gatsonis
Department of Math and Statistics
Graduate Research Tower

Paul Jeffrey Godfrey (Leverett)
Department of Botany
Morrill Science Center

Russell E. Kidd (Amherst)
General Physical Education
Boyden Gymnasium

Larry R. Klar (Amherst)
Department of Regional Planning
Hills North

Paul T. Kostecki (Deerfield)
Division of Public Health
Public Health Center

Russell M. Lane, M.D. (Sunderland)
University Health Services

W. G. Lehnert
COINS Department
Graduate Research Tower

Robert Levin (Amherst)
Department of Food Science
Graduate Research Center

Mark Lindhult (Belchertown)
Department of Landscape Architecture
Hills North

William MacConnell (Amherst)
Department of Forestry and Wildlife
Holdsworth Hall

James Male (Leverett)
Department of Civil Engineering
Marston Hall

H. V. Marsh (Deerfield)
Department of Plant and Soil Sciences
Bowditch Hall

John R. Mullin (Pelham)
Department of Regional Planning
Hills North

Richard Noss (Shutesbury)
Department of Civil Engineering
Marston Hall

David Ostendorf
Department of Civil Engineering
Marston Hall

Joanna Page (Belchertown)
Department of Botany
Morrill Science Center

Barbara Parker (Deerfield)
Cataloging Department
Goodell Library

William Patterson (Shutesbury)
Department of Forestry and Wildlife
Holdsworth Hall

Samuel C. Pickens
Route 122
Barre, MA 01005

Robert Plattner (Amherst)
School of Management

Continued on Page 5
Donald R. Progulske (Leverett)
Department of Forestry and Wildlife
Holdsworth Hall

Horace Reed (Belchertown)
Center for Organ. and Comm. Development
School of Education

Thomas E. Rice (Pelham)
Department of Geography and Geology
Morrill Science Center

John L. Roberts (Amherst)
Department of Zoology
Morrill Science Center

H. Dennis P. Ryan, III (Amherst)
Department of Landscape Architecture
Hills North

Claude L. Shepard, Jr. (Northfield)
Department of Legal Studies
Hampshire House

Mike Sutherland (Chicopee)
Department of Math and Statistics
Graduate Research Tower

Charles Thompson (Amherst)
Department of Forestry and Wildlife
Holdsworth Hall

Peter Veneman (Amherst)
Department of Plant and Soil Sciences
Stockbridge Hall

Joseph S. R. Volpe (Amherst)
Department of Landscape Architecture
Hills North

Robert Walker (Amherst)
Department of Environmental Science
Skinner Hall

Cleve Willis (Amherst)
Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics
Draper Hall

O. T. Zajicek (Amherst)
Department of Chemistry
Graduate Research Tower
### University of Massachusetts Medical Center at Worcester

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**Key to areas of expertise:**

1. Wetland Identification and Regulation
2. Land Acquisition
3. Review Forest Cutting Permits
4. Agricultural Land Preservation
5. Improving Small Impoundments
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7. Flood Plain Zoning
8. Advising Planning Boards
9. Watershed Land Management
10. Advising Health Boards
11. Advising Recreation Commissions
12. Forest Taxation

---

Roger Bibace  
Family and Community Medicine

William M. Burke  
Family and Community Medicine

Badonnel Marie Claude  
41 Eagle Rd.  
Worcester, MA 01605

Robin I. Davidson  
Division of Neurosurgery

Lynn Eckhert  
UMass Medical Center

Robert J. Goldberg  
Department of Medicine

N. Alan Harris  
Department of Pediatrics

Allen H. Hoffman  
Department of Mechanical Engineering  
Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Michael E. Huppert  
Area Health Education Center

Marcia Liepman  
UMass Medical Center
### University of Massachusetts at Boston
Harbor Campus
Boston, MA 02125

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Area of Expertise</th>
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John R. Murray
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Michael A. Rex
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Richard Rudolph
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UMass Boston
Boston, MA 12125

R. Timothy Sicber
Department of Anthropology
Publications of the Environmental Institute:


86-1a. Woburn Appendices. ($3.00).


88-2 Directory to Professional and Technical Assistance to Municipal Conservation Commissions. 10 pp, 1988 ($2.00).