



## Community Preservation Committee Littleton, Massachusetts

The CPC was established by Town Meeting in 2007. The CPC has the powers and responsibilities specified by Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44B, section 5(b), the Community Preservation Act.

### Community Preservation Application for Funding

Date: 2/13/2025

Project Title: Long Lake Frog Pond Invasive Plant Control

Name of Applicant: Littleton Conservation Commission

Name of Organization: Town of Littleton

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CPA Category (circle all that apply):

Open Space       Historic Preservation  
 Recreation       Community Housing

CPA Funding Requested: \$ 30,000      Total Project Cost: \$ 30,000

Please attach answers to the following questions. Include supporting materials as necessary.

1. **Project Description:** Please give a detailed project description, including specific objectives.
2. **Goals:** How does this project accomplish the goals of the Community Preservation Plan for Littleton? (See Guidelines for Project Submission for general criteria)
3. **Timeline:** What is the schedule for project implementation, including a timeline for all critical milestones? Will this be a multi-year project?
4. **Budget:** Please provide a full budget including the following information, as applicable.  
(NOTE: CPA funds may not be used for maintenance):
  - a. Total amount of the project cost, with itemization of major components.
  - b. Additional funding sources. Please include those that are available, committed, or under consideration.
  - c. Describe the basis for your budget and the sources of information you used.
5. **Support:** Have the appropriate Town Boards and Commissions expressed support and/or approved the project? What is the nature and level of community support for this project?

## **1. Project Description**

The proposed project seeks to restore and preserve the natural habitat at the 1.3-acre Long Lake-Frog Pond site through a phased approach to invasive plant management. This effort aligns with open space preservation objectives and will be coordinated with ongoing site improvements, including the Department of Public Works (DPW) dredging project for Frog Pond and a walkway replacement project.

### **Key Activities:**

- Conducting an initial assessment and inventory of invasive plant species.
- Developing and implementing a multi-phase invasive plant management plan.
- Removing invasive plants using mechanical methods and targeted herbicide applications.

### **Target Invasive Plant Species:**

- Glossy Buckthorn
- Bittersweet
- Japanese Knotweed
- Burning Bush
- Japanese Barberry
- Multi-Flora Rose
- Autumn Olive

Efforts will focus on affected areas across the site surrounding the Frog Pond, ensuring long-term ecological stability and supporting native plant and wildlife species.

### **Specific Objectives:**

1. Assess the extent and impact of invasive species.
2. Develop a comprehensive, phased management plan for invasive species control.
3. Execute initial and follow-up removal efforts to restore ecological health.
4. Coordinate with DPW dredging and walkway projects to maximize efficiency.
5. Reintroduce native vegetation to promote biodiversity and improve public access.

## 2. Goals

- **Preserving Open Space:** Protect native habitats and maintain the site's ecological value.
- **Protecting Natural Resources:** Restore native ecosystems to support wildlife, enhance biodiversity, and improve water quality.
- **Promoting Community Use:** Enhance the natural landscape to encourage public engagement and recreational use.

## 3. Timeline

The project will begin upon funding approval at the 2025 Spring Town Meeting, with funds available on July 1, 2025. Work will occur in coordination with concurrent dredging and walkway improvement efforts.

### **Proposed Milestones:**

<u>Objective</u>	<u>Estimated Completion/Cost</u>
<b>Phase 1: Site Assessment and Planning</b> Invasive species survey and inventory Drafting of invasive plant management plan	Summer 2025 ~\$2,500
<b>Phase 2: Initial Removal Efforts</b> Mechanical removal of invasive plants Herbicide application (cut-stem/fall treatment)	Summer–Fall 2025 ~\$10,000 ~\$5,000
<b>Phase 4/5: Ongoing Follow-Up Treatments</b> Targeted herbicide application	Summer-Fall / 2026–2027 ~\$4,750/year

**Permitting Fees:** Approximately \$300 is allocated for associated permitting.

### **Long-Term Vision:**

This multi-year project will include follow-up treatments and monitoring to ensure sustained ecological health. Strategies will adapt based on ongoing assessments and progress.

## 4. Budget

**Total Estimated Cost: ~\$30,000**

## Breakdown:

- **Assessment and Planning:** ~\$2,500
  - **Mechanical Removal/Cutting (2025):** ~\$10,000
  - **Initial Herbicide Applications (2025):** ~\$5,000
  - **Follow-Up Treatments (2026–2027):** ~\$9,500 (total for two years)
  - **Permitting Fees:** ~\$300
  - **Contingency (10%):** ~\$2,700

## Funding Sources:

- CPA funding (primary source).
  - Additional grants and partnerships with environmental organizations will be pursued to support follow-up phases.

## 5. Support

## Littleton Conservation Commission

## Long Lake Neighborhood Association

## Site Overview of the Long Lake Frog Pond (Parcels 15 and 22)



## **Examples of Invasive Plant Thickets Surrounding the Frog Pond (Photos Courtesy of Rob Rounce.)**

