



**Town of Cornwall
Sustainability and Environment Committee Meeting
Monday, March 9, 2026 at 5:00 p.m.**

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Land Acknowledgement
3. Approval of Agenda (Additions/Deletions)
4. Disclosure of Conflict of Interest
5. Approval of Minutes
 - 5.1 February 9, 2026
6. Business Arising from Minutes
 - 6.1 2026 Dandelion Festival Planning
 - 6.2 Water School – April 1st, 2nd, 7th & 8th
 - 6.3 2026 Water Audit
 - 6.4 Proposed Change to Committee Responsibilities
 - 6.5 Property Maintenance Bylaw – Update
 - 6.6 Forest Management Plan – Update
7. New Business
 - 7.1 2026/27 Low Flow Fixture Rebate
 - 7.2 Environment Related Initiatives Proposed Budget 2026/27
8. Cornwall and Area Watershed Group Update
9. Correspondence
10. Adjournment

**Town of Cornwall
Environment and Sustainability Committee Meeting
Monday, February 9, 2026 at 5:00 PM**

Chair: Councillor Judy Herlihy

Committee Members Present: Councillor Cory Stevenson
Deputy Mayor Jill MacIsaac

Staff Members Present: Geoff Baker – Manager of Engineering and Capital Projects

Also Present: Jeannie Campbell, Resident Member; Hannah MacLean,
Watershed Coordinator; Veronica Jendrick, Project Manager;
Rosanne MacFarlane, Freshwater Fisheries Biologist,
Province of PEI

Regrets: Mayor Minerva McCourt

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chair, Councillor Herlihy.

2. Land Acknowledgement

The Chair read the land acknowledgement; that the land we gather on is the ancestral land of the Mi'kmaq and we respect the Mi'kmaq as the Indigenous People of Prince Edward Island.

3. Approval of Agenda/Additions to Agenda

Moved by Councillor Stevenson and seconded by Deputy Mayor MacIsaac that the agenda be approved as circulated.

4. Disclosure of Conflict of Interest - Nil

5. Approval of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Stevenson and seconded by Deputy Mayor MacIsaac that the Environment and Sustainability Committee minutes of January 12, 2026, be approved as circulated.

6. Guests/Presentation

6.1 Presentation from Rosanne MacFarlane, Freshwater Fisheries Biologist

Rosanne MacFarlane presented to the Committee on angling regulations throughout Prince Edward Island and requested that the Town consider supporting an extension of the angling season at Hyde

Pond for rainbow trout, from its current closing date of September 30 to November 30.

There was discussion around the proposed extension, specifically how it is consistent with fisheries management practices in other areas of Prince Edward Island, and how the extension would support the Town's objective of increasing recreational opportunities for residents.

The Committee recommends that Town Council support the extension to the angling season at Hyde Park and that the Town provide a letter of support indicating such.

There was also a discussion around the potential to install a boat launch or dock type facility at Hyde Pond to promote more use of this natural asset.

7. Old Business

7.1 Property Maintenance Bylaw

The Committee discussed a recent Ontario Superior Court decision (Ruck v. Mississauga) and its implications on the allowance of yard specific naturalized areas. It was noted that the decision recognizes yard specific naturalized areas as a form of expression and has relevance to how such areas may be addressed through municipal property maintenance bylaws.

Following discussion, the Committee agreed that a comprehensive re-draft of the Town's existing Property Maintenance Bylaw would be more appropriate than a limited amendment focused solely on naturalized areas. Staff will begin drafting the new Property Maintenance Bylaw and will provide an update to the Committee at its March meeting.

7.2 Forest Management Plan

The Committee received an update from the Climate Challenge Fund administrators indicating that applications are still under review. It was noted that the review process involves multiple stages of evaluation and approval, and as a result, a specific timeframe for notifying successful applicants is not yet available.

7.3 Staff Updates – Signage, Water Audits

The Committee received an update on "No Grass Mowing" signage for community naturalized areas. It was noted that the signs have been ordered and received, and installation is planned for the Spring.

The Committee received an update on the 2026 Water Audit Program. It was noted that the staff member who administered the program in 2025 will not be available in 2026. The Committee discussed exploring employment funding programs to support the hiring of a staff person to deliver the program in 2026. It was agreed that the 2025 program was successful and that there is interest in seeing it continue.

During the discussion, the Committee also considered committee oversight of the Water Audit Program and the Water School initiative and noted that the Utility Committee may be a more

appropriate committee to oversee these programs going forward.

8. New Business

8.1 2025/26 Financial Update

The Committee reviewed the 2025/26 financial statements as they relate to the Committee's activities. Specifically, the Dandelion Festival, the Green Lawn Rebate Program, the Water Audit Program, Water School, signage, and water conservation activities. It was suggested by the Committee that the Water Audit Program wages should be a Water Utility expense and not an Environmental Initiatives expense.

9. Cornwall Area Watershed Group (CAWG) Updates

9.1 Hannah provided an update on recent CAWG activities, including participation in the 2025 Christmas Parade and hosting the Snowshoe event during Snowfest. The Committee was advised that Hannah will be leaving her position with CAWG at the end of February to pursue an opportunity with another organization. Hannah introduced Veronica Jendrick who will be taking over for Hannah.

The Committee expressed its appreciation for Hannah's contributions to CAWG and the Town of Cornwall and welcomed Veronica into her new role.

10. Correspondence – Nil

11. In-Camera – *One item under Section 119(1)(b) of the Municipal Government Act.*

12. Adjournment

12.1 The meeting was adjourned at 6:26 PM

The next meeting time is Monday, March 9, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.

Judy Herlihy
Chair

Geoff Baker
Manager of Engineering and Capital Projects

Water School

From Billy Ramsay <bramsay@cornwallpe.ca>

Date Thu 26-Feb-26 3:41 PM

To Geoff Baker <gbaker@cornwallpe.ca>; Herlihy, Judy <judy.herlihy@holman.com>

Hi Geoff and Judy

Since I am not on the Environment Committee anymore I wanted to keep you updated on WaterSchool and Water Conservation initiatives.

Water School field trips are scheduled for April 1st and 2nd and 7th and 8th.

We are looking at gearing up for Water Audits. Taleah, who was on staff last summer and initiated the water audit program is wanting to come back again this year.

We are wanting to put a water audit flyer in with the water and sewer bills for advertising for water audits and rebate programs.

It would be nice to allocate some budget funds for rebate programs. Maybe \$3000 to start with Toilet Rebates and Shower head exchange programs. Another high water user is top load washers, something to think about. Residents would be required to have a water audit before qualifying for any rebate programs, we would like to get that message out there.

I will reach out to Lori to get updates on the budgets to see how many funds are remaining. I will be spending more money out of the budgets this year for waterSchool before April 1st.

Let me know if you have any questions

Thanks
Billy

**Environment Related Initiatives
Proposed 2026/27 Budget**

	2025/26 Budget	2025/26 Actual (to Jan 6, 2026)	2026/27 Budget Proposed
Environmental Initiatives - Town			
Dandelion Festival		\$ 1,688.78	
Green Lawn Rebate		\$ 1,085.60	
Water Audit		\$ 8,063.50	
Signs (Trail/Grass)		\$ 119.20	
Total (Environmental Initiatives)	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,957.08	\$ 7,500.00
Water Conservation Program - Utility	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 2,947.88	\$ 8,000.00
Water School - Utility	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 3,762.73	\$ 5,000.00
Water Audit Wages - Utility			\$ 13,224.00
Total Environmental	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 17,667.69	\$ 33,724.00

****2025/26 Water Audit expenditures include Taleah's salary of 7696.00, which will be reallocated to the water utility**

****Water Conservation Program Budget increased by \$3,000 for new low flow fixture rebate**