

9/7/16

➤ **Article 9D: CPC – Savery Pond II**

Bill Keohan, Chair of the Community Preservation Committee, presented Article 9D. Article 9D asks Town Meeting to appropriate \$250,000 to purchase approximately 11.5 acres off Old Sandwich Road and State Road for open space and recreational purposes. The property was appraised at \$285,000. The land will be held under the care, custody and control of the Conservation Commission. Purchase of this property will help restore the water quality in Savery Pond, which is a major freshwater contributor to Ellisville Harbor. The property contains a 6.5 acre active cranberry bog that is within the Pool A Ocean Spray Cooperative. The bog would be taken out of production and the Pool A rights sold off for approximately \$45,000. Also, the bog equipment can be utilized at our Center Hill bog location. Closure of this bog would improve the water quality in the area. This property is located within an area of approximately 375 acres of CPA land just across Savery Pond. It is almost entirely within a Commonwealth of MA designated “Interim Wellhead Protection Area,” and is directly adjacent to a “Zone I Wellhead Protection Area”. It directly abuts an area identified as “Sand Plain Natural Community Systems Grassland”, an uncommon habitat type in the state.

Paula Marcou, Director of the Friends of Ellisville Marsh, said that the Friends group supports this article. They will formulate an official statement at their upcoming meeting. Savery Pond has seen persistent closings over the past six years because of poor water quality. Compared with 38 ponds in Plymouth, it rated “impaired” with the highest levels of pollution of all ponds studied (data is available at [ellisvillemarsh.org](http://ellisvillemarsh.org)). Purchasing this land is an essential first step to repairing the pond.

Public Comment:

Steven Striar said that while he does not like the CPC, he commends them on this project. The town should acquire this property.

**Patrick O’Brien made a motion to recommend Article 9D to Town Meeting. Betty Cavacco, second. The motion carries unanimously (11-0-0).**