

May 14, 2021

Town of Mashpee
Department of Public Works
Attn: Catherine Laurent

Dear Ms. Laurent,

We are writing to request your assistance in addressing the ongoing problem with the Red Brook water retainage structure at Red Brook Road on the Mashpee/Falmouth line. We understand that the towns of Mashpee and Falmouth have submitted a grant request to the state of Massachusetts for funding to study the issue and implement a permanent fix. Seabrook Village Association has submitted a separate letter in support of this grant.

Last year, a breach in a concrete wall led to water draining from Red Brook Pond, turning the area into a series of shallow pools of stagnant water and mud. As a result, fish, turtles and vegetation in the pond died, and the area became a breeding ground for mosquitos. In addition to the ongoing health risks posed by the mosquitos, the rotting fish and vegetation produced a foul stench in the nearby residential area. It is expected that it will be a year (or more) before any permanent fix can be implemented.

The weather is starting to turn warmer and as we see warmer days, the problem will be exacerbated. In the interim, the Seabrook Village Association requests that measures be taken to provide a temporary fix in the water retainage structure to allow the water from Red Book to cover the shallow pools of stagnant water and mud until a permanent fix can be implemented. Residents experienced these problems last year and are sure to once again if the situation is not addressed. Your assistance with this matter is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Seabrook Village Association Board of Directors

Cc: Drew McManus Ashley Fisher Glen Harrington