

Friends of Moeckel Pond
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Historic Dam Gets a New Name.

The Friends of Moeckel Pond received a generous and significant donation of \$100,000 from Windham couple Dr. Elizabeth Marston and Dr. James Finn. At the January 9, 2017, Windham Selectboard meeting, Bruce Moeckel, former Windham Police Chief and grandson of the original pond and dam owners, announced the donation. "These people have a great passion for this project as evidenced by their donation and to that end we have renamed Moeckel Dam to the Marston-Finn Conservation Dam. I would like to thank them publicly and I think they need to be recognized". Dr. James Finn, current Vice Chair on the Windham Conservation Commission, thanked Bruce Moeckel on behalf of Elizabeth Marston and himself. He said "This is a very important project for town conservation. We have some dedicated people who are working to get this done and we want to help them. We would appreciate any help you can give them."

In 2014, Liz Marston and Jim Finn donated \$20,000 to the project in hopes that others in the community would step up to help restore Moeckel Pond. Their donation in 2014 sparked local business support led by A J Letizio Sales and Marketing followed by Windham Junction, Howie Glenn's & Sons Convenient Store, Cyr Lumber, and Windham Arts Association, raising over \$10,000.

The Marston-Finn's are dedicated to insuring the supply and quality of ground water, preserving existing wetlands and protecting wildlife habitat as well as providing public access to conservation areas for passive recreation and environmental education. The couple strongly encourage residents of Windham and surrounding communities to join them in funding the return of water to Moeckel Pond by reconstruction of the historic Simpson Mill foundation, Marston-Finn Conservation Dam.

You can "Give A Dam" and join the Marston-Finn's effort to restore Moeckel Pond, here's how:

Friends of Moeckel Pond
<https://www.facebook.com/friendsofmoeckelpond/app>

or

Friends of Moeckel Pond
26 Rock Pond Road

Windham, NH 03087
603.893.7334

Windham Endowment for Community Advancement

http://www.windhamendowment.org/projects/moeckel_pond/moeckel_pond_overview.shtml

or

Windham Endowment for Community Advancement
P.O. Box 4315, Windham NH 03087
Tel: 603.437.0686
Email: ContactWE@windhamendowment.org
Website: www.windhamendowment.org

Press Background Information:

While Friends of Moeckel Pond owns the in order dam to facilitate construction, the Pond is owned by the Town of Windham Conservation Commission. With the restoration of water, the pond and surrounding acres would provide residents with public access to 70 acres of calm water for kayaking, canoeing, and fishing, as well as 200 acres of adjacent woods for hiking, and the return of the vista from Deer Leap Ledge. In addition, the area would function more completely within the highly-ranked migratory corridor in which it lies, and would provide a habitat for migratory waterfowl. The rich history of Moeckel Dam/Simpson Mill complex (now Marston-Finn Conservation Dam) suggests eligibility for the National Register.

The Historic mill dam safeguarded the pond for 230 years but now requires significant modernization and repair totaling \$560,000. A consortium of concerned citizens and local organizations like the Windham Endowment for Community Advancement, has come together to preserve this unique southern New Hampshire parcel.

- Friends of Moeckel Pond: Dianna Fallon
- Windham Endowment for Community Advancement: Diane Carpenter
- Moeckel Pond Village District – Dan Masse
- Windham Conservation Commission – Lisa Ferrisi-Guttman or Dr. James Finn
- Windham Historic District/Heritage Commission – Frank Farmer
- Windham Recreation Commission – Cheryl Haas

So why does Friends of Moeckel Pond, a 501(c)3, non-profit charitable organization, own the dam? Why have a coalition of public and private organizations raise the funding necessary to restore water on town conservation land? Our Conservation

Commission is charged with protecting land, both upland and wetland. Owning a dam in need of repair diminishes their mission. Quite simply, we are more effective if we work cooperatively. To date, we have raised more than half the dollars needed to begin construction. If each of the 5,228 households in Windham donated \$55 to the cause, we could repair the dam in 2017. That \$55 represents one trip to the White Mountains to hike and kayak. 5,228, \$55 donations now would create the same recreational opportunity right here in Windham in 2017 .

The Friends of Moeckel Pond and the Windham Endowment are both volunteer-driven organizations. All funding is directed to reconstruction of the dam. Please consider making a tax-deductible donation today -- by doing so you can help ensure that Moeckel Pond is restored and available for public access in **2017!**

To learn more:

www.facebook.com/friendsofmoeckelpond

www.windhamendowment.org

Here is how to give:

Windham Endowment for Community Advancement

http://www.windhamendowment.org/projects/moeckel_pond/moeckel_pond_overview.shtml

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