

**Invention from page 32**

ing up with their ideas and building their invention. They used a wide range of words to describe each part of the process - “frustrating,” “easy,” and “exciting” were just a few of the feelings the invention process brought up. After they built their first model, students were not done - far from it. Rather than accept their first attempt, students tested their model and decided how it could be improved - and then made those changes happen.

By participating in this process, these third-graders had the chance to see what they are capable of. Rather than accept things the way they were, students worked to change things. The students worked through challenges and setbacks with critical thinking and creativity. They didn’t accept their first attempt - instead, they found ways to make what they’d created stronger and better. All of this work and thought and creativity led them, finally, to the day when they were able to share their invention with others.

As I watched students speak proudly

and confidently about their work, I remembered sharing my own invention when I was in third grade. Looking at them, I felt the same pride as I did at the end of my own Invention Convention, knowing that I had made life easier for the people around me. And here I was again, 18 years later, still trying to make the world a better place by teaching and supporting these developing young people.

I hope the third-graders of AE/MS (and their families) went home that Thursday night proud of what they’d achieved. However, I know that the Invention Convention didn’t end when the day was done. Through their invention work, these children had the opportunity to see that they are capable of changing the world. The most important thing we can do as humans is to make a world filled with hardship a little bit easier. I know that these students will continue to grow as problem-solvers and continue to make the world a safer, kinder, more supportive, better place.

Now that Andover’s third-graders have seen what they’re capable of, there is no stopping them. Watch out! The world is about to change. 

**Shoreland from page 16**

NHDES Shoreland Permit is required. When in doubt, call the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) at 271-2147.

Within the first 50’ from the water’s edge (reference line) is where most of the regulations are focused. Within this area, also called the Waterfront Buffer, except for a 6 foot wide walkway to the water, existing natural ground cover and shrubs may not be removed, landscaped, or converted to lawn. Ground cover and shrubs may not be pruned to any less than three feet in height. To allow better views, the bottom third of trees may be pruned, so long as the health of the tree is not endangered. Tree and sapling removal is permissible, without a NHDES Shoreland Permit, within this area but there are limitations. These limitations are explained in the Vegetation Management Fact Sheet. True timber harvesting operations can occur within the protected shoreland but they are subject to more stringent standards under NH Forestry Law RSA 227-J:9. For more information, please see the Vegetation Management within the Protected Shoreland FACT SHEET at <https://www.des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pip/factsheets/sp/documents/sp-5.pdf>

Graphic provided by Jason Aube, NHDES.

The area between 50 feet and 150 feet from the water’s edge (reference line) is designated as the Woodland Buffer. Within this area, at least 25% of the area must be managed as a natural woodland where all existing native

ground covers, shrubs and trees are allowed to grow. You can decide which areas of your property will be this 25%. Most people choose areas of their property along the property lines because dense vegetation in these areas increases privacy from neighboring properties.

Remember, the more trees and saplings you can leave in place, the better the water quality will be! If you’re seeking to obtain a better view, determine if pruning a tree, rather than completely removing it, will help you to achieve your goals.

If you still have questions, or want to be sure about something, you can call NHDES at (603) 271-2147 or visit their Shoreland Program Permit interactive website at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/tr/shoreland>

Please note that this article is for informational purposes only, and is not intended to be used as a reference to the laws. 

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