

AGENDA
Inland Wetland Agency
REGULAR MEETING
Monday, November 5, 2012
Council Chambers, Audrey Beck Building

Call to Order: 7:00 PM

Review of Minutes of Previous Meetings and Action Thereon:

10.01.2012 - Regular Meeting
10.10.2012 - Field Trip

Communications:

Conservation Commission:
GM Monthly Business memorandum

Public Hearings:

None

Old Business:

Pending:

W1504 - Kueffner - Rte 195 - Treescape
(Tabled until 11/19/12 for a Special Meeting)
W1502 - Wetlands Violation Ordinance - tabled (no new information)

New Business:

New Application:

W1505 - Beacon Hill Estates, Section II, Mansfield City Road, 17 Lot Subdivision
W1507 - (W1452/W1339)Shifrin- Mansfield Hollow Hydro Project

Request for Exemption:

W1506 - Footbridge, Lions Memorial Park/Dorwart Preserve, Mulberry Road

Reports of Officers and Committees:

Other Communications and Bills:

CT Wildlife-September/October 2012
CT DEEP Notice of Meeting to Discuss Public Act 12-155
CACIWC Annual Meeting and Conference
US Army Corp of Engineers Public Notice Re: CL&P Interstate Reliability Project
Notification of Timber Harvest-Wormwood Hill Road

Adjournment:

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DRAFT MINUTES
MANSFIELD INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY
Regular Meeting on Monday, October 1, 2012
Council Chambers, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building

Members present: J. Goodwin (Chairman), B. Chandy, R. Hall, K. Holt, G. Lewis (7:04 p.m.), B. Pociask, K. Rawn, B. Ryan
Members absent: P. Plante
Alternates present: A. Marcellino, V. Ward, S. Westa
Staff present: Grant Meitzler, Wetlands Agent

Chairman Goodwin called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., and appointed Marcellino to act in Plante's absence and Ward to act until Lewis' arrival.

Minutes:

9-4-12 – Regular Meeting- Ryan MOVED, Ward seconded, to approve the 9-4-12 minutes as written. MOTION PASSED with all in favor except Hall who disqualified himself.

9-12-12 – Field Trip Meeting- Ryan MOVED, Ward seconded, to approve the 9-12-12 field trip minutes as written. MOTION PASSED with Goodwin, Holt, Marcellino, Ryan and Ward in favor and all others disqualified.

Communications:

The 9-19-12 Draft Minutes of the Conservation Commission and the 9-26-12 Wetlands Agent's Monthly Business report was noted.

Public Hearings:

None.

Old Business:

W1501 - Block - Hanks Hill Rd - unit replacement in 150' area

Holt MOVED, Ryan seconded, to grant an Inland Wetlands License pursuant to the Wetlands and Watercourses Regulations of the Town of Mansfield to Michael Block of Block Properties, LLC, (File W1501) for the replacement of an existing single-wide mobile home with a double-wide unit on Lot 22, on property owned by the applicant, located at 8-22 Hanks Hill Road, as shown on plans revised to 8/22/12, and as described in other application submissions.

This action is based on a finding of no anticipated significant impact on the wetlands, and is conditioned upon the following provisions being met:

1. Although erosion and sedimentation controls may not be needed, care should be taken when grading existing lawn areas next to the new unit;
2. This approval does not extend to erecting a new shed on an old foundation on the opposite side of the brook.

This approval is valid for a period of five years (until October 1, 2017), unless additional time is requested by the applicant and granted by the Inland Wetlands Agency. The applicant shall notify the Wetlands Agent before any work begins, and all work shall be completed within one year. Any extension of the activity period shall come before this agency for further review and comment.

MOTION PASSED with all in favor except Hall who was disqualified.

1502 - Wetlands Violation Ordinance & new statute changes

Item was tabled.

New Business:

W1504 - Kueffner - Rte 195 – Tree Scape

Ryan MOVED, Holt seconded, to receive the application submitted by Christopher Kueffner and Lynn Stoddard (W1504) for a tree-scape, driveway and parking lot, on property located on the south side of Storrs Road, ½ mile south of Route 32 and west of Baxter, as shown on plans dated 9-25-12 as shown and described in application submissions, and to refer said application to staff and committees, for review and comments.
MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

W1503 - Town of Mansfield - Sunny Acres Park

Holt MOVED, Hall seconded, to approve the request for exemption (file W1503), submitted by the Town of Mansfield acting through Curt Vincente its Recreation Director, for replacement of playscape equipment at the Sunny Acres Park located on Meadowbrook Lane, proposed work for which application materials and sketch mapping dated 9.12.2012 have been submitted.

This action is based on a finding of no significant impact, and is conditioned on the following provisions being met:

1. All erosion and sediment controls as described in the application shall be in place prior to construction, maintained during construction and removed when disturbed areas are completely stabilized.
2. The future parking area noted in the application submissions shall require a wetlands permit application before construction is started on this improvement which requires substantial grading in lawn areas within 150' of wetlands located on the adjacent property.

This exemption is granted under the provisions of Section 4.1 B (second). Any change in the work proposed is to come back before the Agency for review.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

W1492 - Healey - barn renovation

Holt MOVED, Pociask seconded, to approve the application for a modification to the March 8, 2011 wetlands approval (file W1492), submitted by Michael and Mary Healey for barn renovation and improvements to be located on property owned by Michael and Mary Healey, located at 476 Storrs Road, as depicted on a plan dated January 17, 2012 and bearing latest revision date 9.25.2012.

This action is based on a finding of no significant impact, and is conditioned on the following provisions being met:

1. All erosion and sediment controls as described in the application shall be in place prior to construction, maintained during construction and removed when disturbed areas are completely stabilized.
2. All conditions of the original approval are to remain in effect.

This modification is an amendment to the original approval and is made a part thereof, and is to be valid for a period of five years (until October 1, 2017), unless additional time is requested by the applicant and granted by the Inland Wetlands Agency. The applicant shall notify the Wetlands Agent before any work begins, and all work shall be completed within one year. Any extension of the activity period shall come before this Agency for further review and comment.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

W1490 - Eastbrook Mall - retaining wall changes

Tabled.

Adjournment:

The Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Katherine Holt, Secretary

DRAFT MINUTES

MANSFIELD PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION
INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
FIELD TRIP
Special Meeting
Wednesday, October 10, 2012

Members present: J. Goodwin, B. Chandy, K. Holt, G. Lewis, A. Marcellino, B. Ryan, V. Ward,
S. Westa

Staff present: G. Meitzler, Wetlands Agent/Assistant Town Engineer
C. Hirsch, Zoning Agent

The field trip began at 3:30 p.m.

1. Kueffner/Stoddard – Storrs Road -Seasonal Aerial Ropes Course-W1504, PZC File #1313
Members were met on site by property owner Lynn Stoddard. Members observed current conditions, and site characteristics. No decisions were made.

The field trip ended at approximately 4:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

K. Holt, Secretary

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Town of Mansfield
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Meeting of 17 October 2012
Conference B, Audrey P. Beck Building
(draft) MINUTES

Members present: Aline Booth (Alt.), Neil Facchinetti, Quentin Kessel, Scott Lehmann, John Silander. *Members absent:* Joan Buck (Alt.), Robert Dahn, Peter Drzewiecki, Frank Trainor. *Others present:* Grant Meitzler (Wetlands Agent).

1. The meeting was **called to order** at 7:31p by Chair Quentin Kessel. Alternate Aline Booth was designated a voting member for this meeting.

2. The draft **minutes of the 19 September 2012 meeting** were approved as written.

3. **IWA referral: W1504 (Kueffner, Rte. 195)** An Aerial Forest Ropes Course is proposed on approximately 10 acres of a 118 acre parcel on the south side of Rte. 195 west of Baxter Rd. Parking for the facility would be on fairly level land between wetlands along Rte. 195 and fairly steeply rising land to the south. The parking lot would be accessed from Rte. 195 by a short driveway across a narrow isthmus of drier land between wetland areas. Portions of the lot would be quite close to wetlands – as close as 10 ft on the east; a gravel surface and rain gardens would attenuate storm-water flows from the lot into wetlands. After some discussion, the Commission agreed unanimously to the following **motion** (Facchinetti, Booth):

Because the parking surfaces are permeable and separated from wetlands in some areas by catchment basins, the Commission does not foresee a significant impact on wetlands from this project, despite its close proximity to wetlands and the large number of trees that need to be removed. However, to increase the margin of safety, the Commission recommends that the eastern and western ends of the parking area be shifted or reduced in size to increase their distance from wetlands. Sedimentation and erosion controls should be in place during construction, and the area should be stabilized and maintained for the long term after construction.

4. **Updates.**

a. Kessel reported that the draft EIS for the **Four Corners Area Water Source Study** is now scheduled for release on 06 November; the public comment period will be 45 days. The fourth of five meetings on siting UConn's **Hazardous Waste Transfer Station** will be tomorrow, 18 October. Kessel expects UConn to resist moving the facility from its current location behind Horsebarn Hill in a public water supply watershed on grounds of cost.

b. UConn has provided the Storrs Heights Neighborhood Association with a list (by brand name) of pesticides and herbicides used on the **UConn Agronomy Farm** in 2010 and 2011. Facchinetti provided the list, with information on active ingredients compiled by the Association, to the Commission (see attachment). He noted that a number of experimental chemicals (20 of 41 for 2011) had unspecified ingredients so the Association has no idea what they are. The Association fears that residential wells in Storrs Heights may be at risk of pollution and has asked that water samples from UConn's monitoring wells on the Farm be tested for all the pesticides and herbicides used on the farm. The University has refused to do so, citing expense (which it estimates at \$200K); samples are tested for only a few chemicals; concentrations of nitrates from fertilizer applications are used as a proxy for the others. After some discussion, in which Silander recalled being advised not to drink any water from taps

on the Farm during a visit there about 20 years ago, the Commission agreed unanimously on the following **motion** (Kessel, Lehmann):

The Commission is concerned about the potential for contamination of the public water supply watershed and nearby residential wells from pesticides and herbicides applied on the UConn Agronomy Farm, especially since water samples from monitoring wells are not tested for all of these chemicals and no information about the chemical composition of experimental applications has been released. The Commission asks the PZC to forward its concerns to the Connecticut DEEP.

8. Adjourned at 8:41p. Next meeting: 7:30p, Wednesday, 21 November 2012 (the day before Thanksgiving)

Scott Lehmann, Secretary, 18 October 2012.

Attachment: "2010-2011 Pesticide Applications – UConn Research Farm"

Memorandum:

November 1, 2012

To: Inland Wetland Agency
From: Grant Meitzler, Inland Wetland Agent
Re: Monthly Business

W1419 - Chernushek - hearing on Order

- 3.10.09: The hearing on the Order remains open and should continue until the permit application under consideration is acted upon.
(The Order was dropped on approval of the application required in the Order.)
- 4.30.09: Former rye grass seeding is beginning to show green. I spoke with Mr. Chernushek this afternoon who indicated health problems that delayed his starting but indicated he will be working this weekend. I will update on this Monday evening.
- 5.26.09: A light cover of grass growth has come in. Mr. Chernushek indicates health problems and two related deaths have delayed his start of work since the permit approval was granted. It appears that some light work has started. He has further indicated that he will start a vacation on June 22, 2009 to finish the work.
- 6.13.09: Work is underway.
- 6.21.09: Bulldozer work has been completed - finish work remains. The additional silt fencing has been placed along the northerly wetlands crossing, and the additional pipe under the southerly crossing has been installed. Remaining work includes finish grading along edges, spreading stockpiled topsoil, and establishing grass growth.
- 7.01.09: I spoke with Mr. Chernushek who indicated he expects work to be completed by September 1, 2009. (Site photo attached).
- 9.03.09: Mr. Chernushek has been working on levelling and grading. The formerly seeded areas have become fairly thick growth surrounding the central wet areas. He has further indicated that with the combination of weather and the slower moving of earth with the payloader compared to the earlier rented bulldozer has led him to contact contractors for earth moving estimates which have not yet been received. The site is not yet finished but has remained quite stable.
- 9.12.09: I met with Mr. Chernushek today and discussed again what his plans are for stabilizing this work site.
- 10.01.09: Mr. Chernushek indicated he has not heard back from the contractor he had spoken with about removing material, and is in progress of contacting others. In discussion is removal of material from the site either within the 100 cubic yard limit or obtaining a permit for such removal.
- 10.28.09: Mr. Chernushek has indicated he has made arrangements with DeSiato Sand & Gravel to remove 750 cubic yards of material. Staff is in the process of clarifying permit requirements.
- W1445 - Chernushek - application for gravel removal from site**
- 11.30.09: Packet of information representing submissions by Mr. Chernushek, Mr. DeSiato and myself is in this agenda packet as Mr. Chernushek's request for modification.
- 12.29.09: Preparation of required information for PZC special permit application is in progress. Tabling any action until the February 1, 2010 meeting is recommended.
- 1.12.10: 65 day extension of time received.
- 2.18.10: No new information has been received.

- 2.25.10: This application has been **withdrawn**.
- 6.30.10: As viewed from the adjacent property, the upstream and downstream areas have grown to a decent protected surface. I did not see indication of sediment movement.
- 10.26.10: A sale of the East portion of the Chernushek property has been in negotiation.
- 12.27.10: The property exchange has been completed. The owner is now the neighboring property owner Bernie Brodin. He has indicated his intention to stabilize the area as weather permits.
- 4.25.11: Mr. Brodin indicates he is starting with grading and spreading hay and seed to stabilize disturbed areas.

Mansfield Auto Parts - Route 32

- 11.03.11: Inspection - two vehicles are within 25' of wetlands. Vehicle doors and a camper or trailer are stored in the extreme rear lot not approved by zoning for use.
- 11.30.11 Inspection - two vehicles are within 25' of wetlands. Employees indicate cars will be moved soon. Payloader repair parts are to be there later today and cars will be moved as soon as parts are installed. Owner indicated in earlier discussion that the doors would be moved. Rate of tire removal has increased with a company in Massachusetts removing them by truckload. At time of this discussion (about a week ago) nearly 2,000 tires had been removed from the lot by the railroad tracks.
- 12.07.11: Inspection - two vehicles are within 25' of wetlands. Payloader repairs not yet completed. Weekly inspections will be made until the two vehicles and doors are moved.
- 12.27.11: Inspection - 1 vehicle within 25' of wetlands - owner indicates it will be moved this week. Payloader is back in operation. Owner indicates doors in "rear" lot will be moved this week. Large number of tires have been moved from lot by RR tracks - approximately 65% of tires have been removed.
- 2.01.12: Inspection - employee indicates payloader repair has had problems and the one car within 25' has not yet been moved. Tire removal has continued and about 90 percent of the tires have been removed. A truck from the company removing the tires arrived while I was at the site.
- 3.01.12: Inspection - owner indicates payloader is repaired. Owner indicates the one car within 25' will be moved. Tire removal is nearing completion.
- 3.28.12: On the way to see the car moved I found the payloader blocking the entrance drive to the rear area, with the mechanic under the hood. He indicated the new engine had stopped running on the way to move the remaining car. Inspection today showed the payloader in the same location.
- 5.01.12: Payloader remains in the same location with a bad motor.
- 5.17.12: Payloader and the one vehicle have been moved. There are no vehicles within 25' of wetlands.
- 6.22.12: Inspection - no vehicles are within 25' of wetlands.
- 7.10.12: Inspection - no vehicles are within 25' of wetlands.
- 8.16.12: Inspection - no vehicles are within 25' of wetlands.
- 9.19.12: Inspection - no vehicles are within 25' of wetlands.
- 10.05.12: Inspection - no vehicles are within 25' of wetlands.

11.01.12: Inspection - no vehicles are within 25' of wetlands.

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APPLICATION FOR PERMIT
MANSFIELD INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY
4 SOUTH EAGLEVILLE ROAD, STORRS, CT 06268
TEL: 860-429-3334 OR 860-429-3330
FAX: 860-429-6863

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
File # 1505
Fee Paid \$1,060-
Date Received 10-18-12

Applicants are referred to the Mansfield Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Regulations for complete requirements, and are obligated to follow them. For assistance, please contact Grant Meitzler, Inland Wetlands Agent at the telephone numbers above.

Please print or type or use similar format for computer; attach additional pages as necessary.

Part A - Applicant

Name Eagleville Development Group, LLC

Mailing Address P.O. Box 855

Manchester, CT Zip 06045

Telephone-Home 860-649-4800 Telephone-Business 860-247-7400

Title and Brief Description of Project

Beacon Hill Estates - Section II

17 Lot Residential Development

Location of Project South side of Mansfield City Road

Intended Start Date April 1, 2013

Part B - Property Owner (if applicant is the owner, just write "same")

Name Gladys Marshall c/o Diane Kestenholz (daughter)

Mailing Address 31 Aspen Circle

Barnegat, NJ Zip 08005

Telephone-Home 860-420-4953 Telephone-Business 609-698-7942
c/o Attorney Antoinette Webster or Diane Kestenholz (daughter)

Owner's written consent to the filing of this application, if owner is not the applicant:

Signature see attached purchase & sale agreement date _____

Applicant's interest in the land: (if other than owner) Purchaser

Part C - Project Description (attach extra pages, if necessary)

- 1) Describe in detail the proposed activity here or on an attached page. (See guidelines at end of application – page 6.)

Please include a description of all activity or construction or disturbance:

- a) in the wetland/watercourse
- b) in the area **adjacent** to (within 150 feet from the edge of) the wetland/watercourse, even if wetland/watercourse is **off** your property

See attached project description.

- 2) Describe the amount or area of disturbance (in square feet or cubic yards or acres):

- a) in the wetland/watercourse
- b) in the area **adjacent** to (within 150 feet from the edge of) the wetland/watercourse, even if wetland/watercourse is **off** your property

See attached project description.

- 3) Describe the type of materials you are using for the project: _____

- a) include **type** of material used as fill or to be excavated _____
- b) include **volume** of material to be filled or excavated _____

- 4) Describe measures to be taken to minimize or avoid any adverse impacts on the wetlands and regulated areas (silt fence, staked hay bales or other Erosion and Sedimentation control measures).

See E & S Control Plan Sheet 13 of 13.

Part D - Site Description

Describe the general character of the land. (Hilly? Flat? Wooded? Well drained? etc.)

See attached project description.

Part E - Alternatives

Have you considered any alternatives to your proposal that would meet your needs and might have less impact on the wetland/watercourse? Please list these alternatives.

Yes, a proposal was submitted showing the potential of constructing a new road from Mansfield City Road crossing the wetlands providing a conventional subdivision design.

Part F - Map/Site Plan (all applications)

1) Attach to the application a map or site plan showing **existing conditions** and the **proposed project** in relation to wetland/ watercourses. Scale of map or site plan should be 1" = 40'; if this is not possible, please indicate the scale that you are using. A sketch map may be sufficient for small, minor projects. (See guidelines at end of application – page 6.)

2) Applicant's map date and date of last revision 7-15-12

3) Zone Classification RAR 90

4) Is your property in a flood zone? Yes No Don't Know

Part G - Major Applications Requiring Full Review and a Public Hearing

See Section 6 of the Mansfield Regulations for additional requirements.

Part H - Notice to Abutting Property Owners

1) List the names and addresses of abutting property owners

Name Address

See attached sheet.

2) **Written Notice to Abutters.** You must notify abutting property owners by certified mail, return receipt requested, stating that a wetland application is in progress, and that abutters may contact the Mansfield Inland Wetlands Agent for more information. Include a brief description of your project. **Postal receipts of your notice to abutters must accompany your application.** (This is not needed for exemptions).

Part I - Additional Notices, if necessary

- 1) Notice to Windham Water Works is attached. If this application is in the public watershed for the Windham Water Works (WWW), you must notify the WWW of your project within 7 days of sending the application to Mansfield--sending it by certified mail, return receipt requested. Contact the Mansfield Inland Wetlands Agent to find out if you are in this watershed.
- 2) Notice to Adjoining Town. If your property is within 500 feet of an adjoining town, you must also send a copy of the application, on the same day you sent one to Mansfield, to the Inland Wetlands Agency of the adjoining town, by certified mail, return receipt requested.
- 3) The Statewide Reporting Form (attached) shall be part of the application and specified parts must be completed and returned with this application.

Part J - Other Impacts To Adjoining Towns, if applicable

- 1) Will a significant portion of the traffic to the completed project on the site use streets within the adjoining municipality to enter or exit the site? ___ Yes X No ___ Don't Know
- 2) Will sewer or water drainage from the project site flow through and impact the sewage or drainage system within the adjoining municipality? ___ Yes X No ___ Don't Know
- 3) Will water run-off from the improved site impact streets or other municipal or private property within the adjoining municipality? ___ Yes X No ___ Don't Know

Part K - Additional Information from the Applicant

Set forth (or attach) any other information which would assist the Agency in evaluating your application. *(Please provide extra copies of any lengthy documents or reports, and extra copies of maps larger than 8.5" x 11", which are not easily copied.)*

Part L - Filing Fee

Submit the appropriate filing fee. (Consult Wetlands Agent for the fee schedule available in the Mansfield Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Regulations.)

X \$1,000. ___ \$750. ___ \$500. ___ \$250. ___ \$125. ___ \$100. ___ \$50. ___ \$25.

X \$60 State DEP Fee

Note: The Agency may require you to provide additional information about the regulated area which is the subject of the application, or about wetlands or watercourses affected by the regulated activity. If the Agency, upon review of your application, finds the activity proposed may involve a "significant activity" as defined in the Regulations, additional information and/or a public hearing may be required.

The undersigned applicant hereby consents to necessary and proper inspections of the above mentioned property by members and agents of the Inland Wetlands Agency, at reasonable times, both before and after the permit in question has been granted by the Agency.

Applicant's Signature

Date

10/17/12

**Beacon Hill Estates - Section II - Mansfield City Road
Mansfield Inland Wetlands Agency Application**

Part C & D - Project description

Subject property is located on the southerly side of Mansfield City Road containing in total 62.0 acres. Parcel has 807.39 feet of frontage along Mansfield City Road and 51.46 feet along the future road extension from Beacon Hill Estates - Section I. The proposed development will consist of constructing a new road (1,490 feet) from Beacon Hill Drive for the development of 17 new residential lots. The entire property is presently wooded containing 48.71 acres of upland soils and 12.72 acres of wetland soils. The easterly portion of the property was historically fields with a farm lane crossing the wetlands to access the westerly portion of the property. This proposal intends to use the historic farm lane to cross the wetlands in the form of a common driveway for three residential lots. The majority of the proposed development will be to the east of the wetlands in the area which originally was fields and actively farmed. The majority of the subject property contains slopes less than 10 percent. There is a small area (approximately 0.89 acres) located at the westerly most portion of the property abutting land of the State of Connecticut and land of Dzurec adjacent to the wetlands that contains slopes exceeding 15 percent.

The wetland soils limits were delineated by a certified soil scientist.

The proposed activity within the upland review area is as follows:

- Lot #32: Site Grading - 140 feet at its closest point
Primary Septic Area - 149 feet at its closest point
Reserve Septic Area - 134 feet at its closest point
- Lot #38: Site Grading - 106 feet at its closest point
Primary Septic Area - 120 feet at its closest point
Reserve Septic Area - 77 feet at its closest point
- Lot #39: Site Grading - 100 feet at its closest point
Primary Septic Area - 110 feet at its closest point
Reserve Septic Area - 67 feet at its closest point
- Lot #40: Site Grading - 140 feet at its closest point
Reserve Septic Area - 121 feet at its closest point

Retention Basin: Located entirely in upland soils with site clearing and grading approximately 50 feet from wetland soils at its closest point.

Common Driveway: Proposal is to construct a common driveway in approximately the same location of the historic wetland crossing. The common driveway will cross two wetland areas, the first being approximately 40 feet wide displacing about 700 square feet of wetland soils and the second being approximately 166 feet wide displacing about 4,190 square feet of wetland soils. The proposed common driveway will require approximately 290 cubic yards of gravel fill.

Walking Trail: Proposal is to construct a walking trail along the easterly side of the open space parcel extending the existing walking trail from Section I of Beacon Hill subdivision northerly to the proposed common driveway approximately 480 feet in length. The walking trail would be about 2 feet from the edge of wetland soils at its closest point. A length of walking trail is also proposed on the westerly side of the open space in the conservation easement from the common driveway southerly about 140 feet to provide an access to the conservation easement along the southerly boundary of this parcel. The construction of the walking trail will require about 80 cubic yards of gravel and will be covered with wood chips.

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APPLICATION FOR PERMIT
 MANSFIELD INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY
 4 SOUTH EAGLEVILLE ROAD, STORRS, CT 06268
 TEL: 860-429-3334 OR 860-429-3330
 FAX: 860-429-6863

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
 File # 1507
 Fee Paid \$185.00
 Date Received 11-1-12

Applicants are referred to the Mansfield Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Regulations for complete requirements, and are obligated to follow them. For assistance, please contact Grant Meitzler, Inland Wetlands Agent at the telephone numbers above.

Please print or type or use similar format for computer; attach additional pages as necessary.

Part A - Applicant

Name SAM & MICHELLE SHIFRIN

Mailing Address 114 MANSFIELD HOLLOW ROAD
MANSFIELD CENTER, CT Zip 06250

Telephone-Home 860-423-3731 Telephone-Business 860-423-7800

Title and Brief Description of Project
MANSFIELD HOLLOW HYDRO - CONSTRUCT HYDRO ELECTRIC
GENERATING FACILITY AND MODIFIED 5/5/10
SAME AS ORIGINALLY APPROVED 4/6/06

Location of Project 114 MANSFIELD HOLLOW RD, MANSFIELD (THE KIRBY MILL)

Intended Start Date JAN 1, 2013 (PROJECT STARTED 10/15/2010)

Part B - Property Owner (if applicant is the owner, just write "same")

Name SAME

Mailing Address _____

Zip _____

Telephone-Home _____ Telephone-Business _____

Owner's written consent to the filing of this application, if owner is not the applicant:

Signature _____ date _____

*Applicant's interest in the land: (if other than owner) _____

Part C - Project Description (attach extra pages, if necessary)

1) Describe in detail the proposed activity here or on an attached page. (See guidelines at end of application - page 6.)

Please include a description of all activity or construction or disturbance:

- a) in the wetland/watercourse
- b) in the area adjacent to (within 150 feet from the edge of) the wetland/watercourse, even if wetland/watercourse is off your property

a) CONSTRUCTION OF INTAKE STRUCTURE, HEAD RACE, AND TAIL RACE.

b) CONSTRUCTION OF A PORTION OF THE HEAD RACE, TAIL RACE AND TRUSING

THIS PROJECT IS EXACTLY THE SAME AS WAS ORIGINALLY APPROVED ON MAY 5, 2010 APRIL 6, 2006 AND MODIFIED ON MAY 5, 2010

2) Describe the amount or area of disturbance (in square feet or cubic yards or acres):

- a) in the wetland/watercourse
- b) in the area adjacent to (within 150 feet from the edge of) the wetland/watercourse, even if wetland/watercourse is off your property

c) APPROX 5,200 SF

b) APPROX 6,400 SF

3) Describe the type of materials you are using for the project:

CONCRETE, PROCESS GRAVEL, STANDARD RIP RAP.

- a) include type of material used as fill or to be excavated ON SITE SANDS & GRAVEL
- b) include volume of material to be filled or excavated 1,245 CUBIC YARDS

4) Describe measures to be taken to minimize or avoid any adverse impacts on the wetlands and regulated areas (silt fence, staked hay bales or other Erosion and Sedimentation control measures).

SEE SEDIMENTATION & EROSION CONTROL PLAN AND ORIGINAL APPLICATION.

Part D - Site Description

Describe the general character of the land. (Hilly? Flat? Wooded? Well drained? etc.)

SLIGHTLY WOODED, GENTLY SLOPING, UNDERLAIN WITH WELL DRAINED SOILS.

Part E - Alternatives

Have you considered any alternatives to your proposal that would meet your needs and might have less impact on the wetland/watercourse? Please list these alternatives.

ALTERNATIVE CORROR DAM DESIGN; HEAD RACE CONSTRUCTION UTILIZING PIPES; AND DEWATERING ALTERNATIVES TO PREVENT SEDIMENT TRANSPORT.

Part F - Map/Site Plan (all applications)

1) Attach to the application a map or site plan showing existing conditions and the proposed project in relation to wetland/ watercourses. Scale of map or site plan should be 1" = 40'; if this is not possible, please indicate the scale that you are using. A sketch map may be sufficient for small, minor projects. (See guidelines at end of application – page 6.)

2) Applicant's map date and date of last revision APRIL 26, 2010

3) Zone Classification PAR-90

4) Is your property in a flood zone? Yes No Don't Know

Part G - Major Applications Requiring Full Review and a Public Hearing

See Section 6 of the Mansfield Regulations for additional requirements.

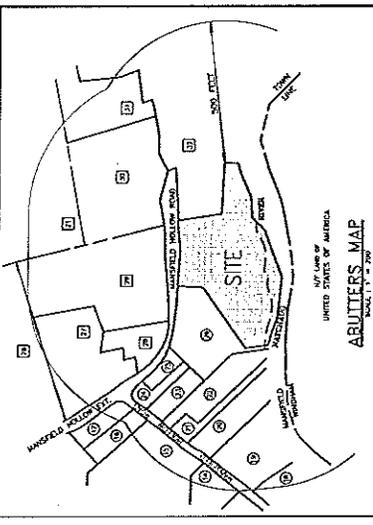
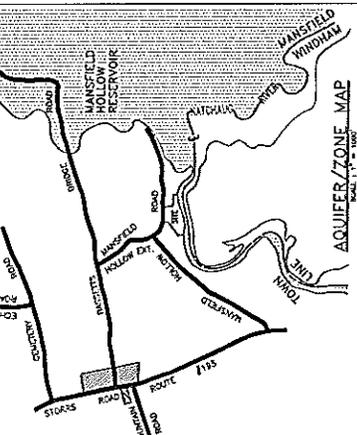
Part H - Notice to Abutting Property Owners

1) List the names and addresses of abutting property owners

Name Address

TO FOLLOW

2) **Written Notice to Abutters.** You must notify abutting property owners by certified mail, return receipt requested, stating that a wetland application is in progress, and that abutters may contact the Mansfield Inland Wetlands Agent for more information. Include a brief description of your project. Postal receipts of your notice to abutters must accompany your application. (This is not needed for exemptions).

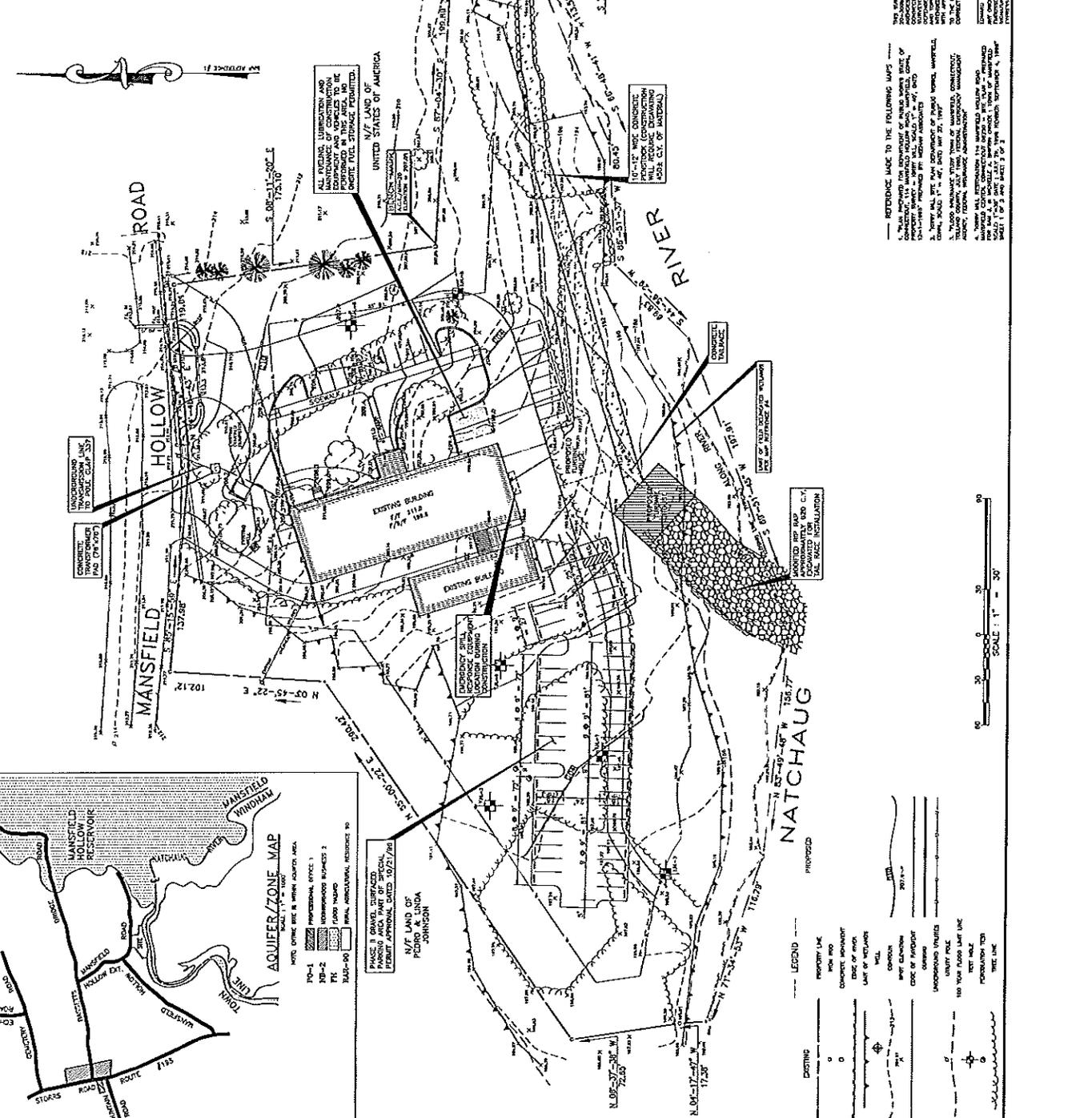


- ADMITTERS WITHIN 500 FEET**
- MAP #14 - BLOCK #110
 - 1. LINDA M. WILSON, A STATE E.
 - 2. LINDA M. WILSON, A STATE E.
 - 3. LINDA M. WILSON, A STATE E.
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MODIFICATION PLAN
MANSFIELD HOLLOW
HYDRO
 114 MANSFIELD HOLLOW ROAD
 MANSFIELD CENTER, CONNECTICUT 06250

— SITE PLAN —
 PREPARED BY
SAM & MICHELLE SHIFRIN
 ENGINEERING & SURVEYING, LLC
 132 CONANTVILLE ROAD
 MANSFIELD CENTER, CT 06250
 TEL: (860)586-0307 FAX: (860)586-0848

DATE: APRIL 28, 2010 SCALE: 1" = 30'



ADMITTERS WITHIN 500 FEET

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DATE: APRIL 28, 2010 SCALE: 1" = 30'

Memorandum:
To: Inland Wetland Agency
From: Grant Meitzler, Inland Wetland Agent
Re: New Business for November 5, 2012 meeting

November 1, 2012

New Application:

W1505 - Beacon Hill Estates, Sect. II - Beacon Hill Rd/Mansfield City Rd
17 lot subdivision

	yes	no
	-----	-----
fee paid	x	
notice to neighbors	x	
map dated	7.15.2012	

This application is for a 17 lot subdivision. The subdivision has frontage on Mansfield City Rd but access is provided through the earlier Sect. I of Beacon Hill. There is proposed work in wetlands for a shared drive way crossing wetlands.

Receipt and referral to the Conservation Commission are appropriate.

W1507 (W1452/W1339) - Shifrin - Mansfield Hollow Hydro Project

	yes	no
	-----	-----
fee paid	x	
notice to neighbors	x	
map dated	4.26.2010	

This application is for a hydro-power installation at the Kirby Mill in Mansfield Hollow. This project was originally approved (W1339, appr. 4.06.2006) with subsequent minor modification (W1452). Both of these approvals expired on 4.06.2011. With this expiration, approval of a new permit is needed. This delay has been caused by extensive time periods required to obtain state and federal permits and not by inaction on the part of the applicant.

The plan submitted with this application has remained unchanged since the Agency's last action on May 3, 2010. The earlier approvals have expired because of a recent change to the statute dealing with permit expiration time limits. The statute now requires a new permit application.

Receipt and referral to the Conservation Commission are appropriate. The Conservation Commission is meeting a week earlier than usual because their regular meeting day falls on Thanksgiving Eve. This will make it possible to complete the referral to the Conservation Commission within the time between 11.05.2012 and a Special Meeting on 11.19.2012, if the Agency is willing.

Request for Exemption:

W1506 - Town of Mansfield - Lions Memorial/Dorwart Preserve footbridge
Parks & Recreation

	yes	no
	-----	-----
fee paid	n.a.	
notice to neighbors	n.a.	
map dated	revised May 2012	

This request is for an exemption under Section 4.1 B (second) of the wetlands regulations:

"The following operations and uses shall be permitted, as non-regulated uses in wetlands and watercourses, provided they do not disturb the natural and indigenous character of the wetland or watercourse by removal or deposition of material, alteration or obstruction of water flow or pollution of the wetland or watercourse:

A. . . .

B. Outdoor recreation including play and sporting areas, golf courses, field trials, nature study, hiking, horseback riding, swimming, diving, camping, boating, water skiing , trapping, hunting, fishing and shell fishing where otherwise legally permitted and regulated."

C. . . .

The proposed work here will consist of placing a footbridge approximately 15 feet long over a wetland area better described as a groundwater seepage area than as a watercourse. Photographs attached. The location shows standing water rather than a flowing brook bed. The application indicates the bridge will be anchored with two iron rods on each end to stabilize a foundation for the bridge that will not require excavation.

I think this proposal represents a preferable alternative to creating a walkway through this location that would represent a long term potential for impact.

Sam and Michelle Shifrin
78 Bricktop Rd.
Windham, CT 06280
October 26, 2012

Mansfield Planning and Zoning Commission & Inland Wetland Agency
Chairman, Jo Ann Goodwin
Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
4 South Eagleville Road
Mansfield, CT 06268

Subject: P&ZC and IWA Approval Status

Dear Chairman Goodwin,

Please accept this letter as a request for the Mansfield P&ZC and the IWA to affirm the status of previous approvals for the Mansfield Hollow Hydro project. Modification approvals were granted by both agencies on May 5, 2010 (see attached letters). We have worked diligently on this project for many years, and although the progress has been slowed by a very weak economy and declining electricity values making it difficult to secure the full project funding, we have kept the project continuously moving forward.

Construction officially commenced on October 15, 2010 and has continued without interruption since that time. Monthly progress reports have been submitted to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) from that date and FERC has annually visited to review progress. The project has been accepted by Section 1603 of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 which required official "start of construction" prior to the end of 2011.

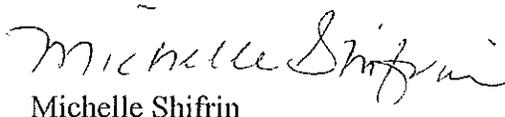
The work currently being done has not required us to actually "pull" building permits since most of that work has taken place inside the Kirby Mill and includes; construction of the project turbines, construction of the head gate mechanisms, test pits and boring, and power house cost reduction design modifications. We have received a land easement from the Army Corp of Engineers allowing access on Army Corp property for construction activities, and have also completed the Historic Properties Management Plan (HPMP) in coordination with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). Our archeologist has completed the above ground historic assessment of potential historically important areas per the HPMP.

Time is of the essence since we do anticipate site work and civil works construction to begin late this fall or very early in the spring of 2013, so will need to acquire the building permits very soon, thus the reason for our request of affirmation of our current permits.

If you need any additional information or would like to discuss this request, we would be very pleased to meet with you (or others) at your convenience. Thank you very much for your past support and for your consideration in this matter. We can be reached at 860-423-7800 (day) or 860-423-3731 (eve) and look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,


Sam Shifrin


Michelle Shifrin

Cc: Mr. Curt Hirsch, Zoning Agent
Mr. Grant Miesler, Wetlands Agent

**TOWN OF MANSFIELD
INLAND WETLAND AGENCY**

AUDREY P. BECK BUILDING
FOUR SOUTH EAGLEVILL ROAD
STORRS, CT 06268
(860) 429-3330

May 5, 2010

Sam and Michelle Shifrin
78 Bricktop Road
Windham, CT 06280

Re: Mansfield's modification request approval
IWA file #1452

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Shifrin,

At a meeting held on 5/3/10, the Mansfield Inland Wetland Agency adopted the following motion:

"to approve modifications to an Inland Wetlands License pursuant to the Wetlands and Watercourses Regulations of the Town of Mansfield granted to Sam & Michele Shifrin (file no. W1452), for modifications to approval of permit W1339 previously issued to Sam & Michele Shifrin installation of Hydro-Power facilities at the Kirby Mill within regulated areas located at 114 Mansfield Hollow Road. The modifications include relocation of the structure containing the turbines, a portion of the inlet conduit, and modification to the outlet sluiceway, as shown on a revised site plan dated 4.26.2010, and other application submissions.

This action is based on a finding of no anticipated significant impact on the wetlands, and is conditioned upon the following provisions being met:

1. The conditions of the previous approval are to remain in effect except for the following modifications.
2. Erosion and sedimentation controls shall be in place prior to construction and maintained during construction and removed when disturbed areas are completely stabilized.
3. A double row of silt fencing is to be placed along the downhill side of the construction area.

This approval is valid until April 3, 2011, at which time a renewal of the modified permit is required if work has not been completed. The applicant shall notify the Wetlands Agent before any work begins, and all work shall be completed within one year. Any extension of the activity period shall come before this Agency for further review and comment."

If you have any questions regarding this action, please call the Planning Office at 429-3330.

This letter constitutes your license.

Very truly yours, 

Katherine K. Holt, Secretary
Mansfield Inland Wetland Agency

Wetlands Draft Motion for exemption:

Re: W1506 - Town of Mansfield

_____ moves and _____ seconds, to approve the request for exemption (file W1506), submitted by the Town of Mansfield acting through Jennifer Kaufman its Recreation Coordinator, for placement of a footbridge at the Lions Memorial Park/ Dorwart Preserve located off Wormwood Hill Rd and Mulberry Rd, proposed work for which application materials and sketch mapping dated May 2012 have been submitted.

This action is based on a finding of no significant impact, and is conditioned on the following provisions being met:

1. All erosion and sediment controls as described in the application shall be in place prior to construction, maintained during construction and removed when disturbed areas are completely stabilized.

This exemption is granted under the provisions of Section 4.1 B (second). Any change in the work proposed is to come back before the Agency for review.

PAGE
BREAK

APPLICATION FOR PERMIT
MANSFIELD INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY
4 SOUTH EAGLEVILLE ROAD, STORRS, CT 06268
TEL: 860-429-3334 OR 860-429-3330
FAX: 860-429-6863

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	
File #	1506
Fee Paid	-0-
Date Received	10-31-12

Request for Exemption

Applicants are referred to the Mansfield Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Regulations for complete requirements, and are obligated to follow them. For assistance, please contact Grant Meitzler, Inland Wetlands Agent at the telephone numbers above.

Please print or type or use similar format for computer; attach additional pages as necessary.

Part A - Applicant

Name Town of Mansfield Parks and Recreation

Mailing Address 105. Eagleville Road
Storrs, CT Zip 06268

Telephone-Home _____ Telephone-Business 860-429-0618 x 204

Title and Brief Description of Project

Install bridge over creek, build a bench and place it
near the creek and clear the invasive plants around the creek

Location of Project Lion's Memorial Park/Darwin Preserve

Intended Start Date ASAP

Part B - Property Owner (if applicant is the owner, just write "same")

Name same

Mailing Address _____
Zip _____

Telephone-Home _____ Telephone-Business _____

Owner's written consent to the filing of this application, if owner is not the applicant:

Signature _____ date _____

Applicant's interest in the land: (if other than owner) _____

Part C - Project Description (attach extra pages, if necessary)

1) Describe in detail the proposed activity here or on an attached page. (See guidelines at end of application – page 6.) *See attached project description*
Please include a description of all activity or construction or disturbance:

- a) *in* the wetland/watercourse
- b) *in* the area *adjacent* to (within 150 feet from the edge of) the wetland/watercourse, even if wetland/watercourse is *off* your property

1) Installation of a bridge across a creek in Snowcat Preserve
Installation of a bench made of logs near the creek
Clearing of invasive species of plants near the creek

2) The bridge will be fastened to the ground through use of threaded rods (2' inserted into the wetland), 0

2) Describe the amount or area of disturbance (in square feet or cubic yards or acres):

- a) *in* the wetland/watercourse
- b) *in* the area *adjacent* to (within 150 feet from the edge of) the wetland/watercourse, even if wetland/watercourse is *off* your property

There will be no soil excavation, thus no disturbance in the wetlands

3) Describe the type of materials you are using for the project: Tools such as saws, hand saws, drills, nails, clippers

Supplies such as pressure treated wood

a) include *type* of material used as fill or to be excavated none

b) include *volume* of material to be filled or excavated none

4) Describe measures to be taken to minimize or avoid any adverse impacts on the wetlands and regulated areas (silt fence, staked hay bales or other Erosion and Sedimentation control measures).

There is no soil disturbance, therefore no measures need to be taken

Part D - Site Description

Describe the general character of the land. (Hilly? Flat? Wooded? Well drained? etc.)

Flat, wooded trail in the preserve adjacent to Lions Memorial Park

Part E - Alternatives

Have you considered any alternatives to your proposal that would meet your needs and might have less impact on the wetland/watercourse? Please list these alternatives.

Other alternatives were considered but this was determined to have the least impact on the wetlands as it will be executed by hand by trained Eagle Scout candidate and troop instructors.

Part F - Map/Site Plan (all applications)

1) Attach to the application a map or site plan showing **existing conditions** and the **proposed project** in relation to wetland/ watercourses. Scale of map or site plan should be 1" = 40'; if this is not possible, please indicate the scale that you are using. A sketch map may be sufficient for small, minor projects. **(See guidelines at end of application – page 6.)** see attached

2) Applicant's map date and date of last revision May 2012

3) Zone Classification RAR 90

4) Is your property in a flood zone? Yes No Don't Know

Part G - Major Applications Requiring Full Review and a Public Hearing

See Section 6 of the Mansfield Regulations for additional requirements.

Part H - Notice to Abutting Property Owners

1) List the names and addresses of abutting property owners

Name	Address
	<u>Request for Exemption</u>

2) **Written Notice to Abutters.** You must notify abutting property owners by certified mail, return receipt requested, stating that a wetland application is in progress, and that abutters may contact the Mansfield Inland Wetlands Agent for more information. Include a brief description of your project. **Postal receipts of your notice to abutters must accompany your application.** (This is not needed for exemptions).

Part I - Additional Notices, if necessary

- 1) Notice to Windham Water Works is attached. If this application is in the public watershed for the Windham Water Works (WWW), you must notify the WWW of your project within 7 days of sending the application to Mansfield--sending it by certified mail, return receipt requested. Contact the Mansfield Inland Wetlands Agent to find out if you are in this watershed.
- 2) Notice to Adjoining Town. If your property is within 500 feet of an adjoining town, you must also send a copy of the application, on the same day you sent one to Mansfield, to the Inland Wetlands Agency of the adjoining town, by certified mail, return receipt requested.
- 3) The Statewide Reporting Form (attached) shall be part of the application and specified parts must be completed and returned with this application.

Part J - Other Impacts To Adjoining Towns, if applicable

- 1) Will a significant portion of the traffic to the completed project on the site use streets within the adjoining municipality to enter or exit the site? ___ Yes / ___ No ___ Don't Know
- 2) Will sewer or water drainage from the project site flow through and impact the sewage or drainage system within the adjoining municipality? ___ Yes ___ No ___ Don't Know
- 3) Will water run-off from the improved site impact streets or other municipal or private property within the adjoining municipality? ___ Yes ___ No ___ Don't Know

Part K - Additional Information from the Applicant

Set forth (or attach) any other information which would assist the Agency in evaluating your application. *(Please provide extra copies of any lengthy documents or reports, and extra copies of maps larger than 8.5" x 11", which are not easily copied.)*

Part L - Filing Fee

Submit the appropriate filing fee. (Consult Wetlands Agent for the fee schedule available in the Mansfield Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Regulations.)

___ \$1,000. ___ \$750. ___ \$500. ___ \$250. ___ \$125. ___ \$100. ___ \$50. ___ \$25.

___ \$60 State DEP Fee NA

Note: The Agency may require you to provide additional information about the regulated area which is the subject of the application, or about wetlands or watercourses affected by the regulated activity. If the Agency, upon review of your application, finds the activity proposed may involve a "significant activity" as defined in the Regulations, additional information and/or a public hearing may be required.

The undersigned applicant hereby consents to necessary and proper inspections of the above mentioned property by members and agents of the Inland Wetlands Agency, at reasonable times, both before and after the permit in question has been granted by the Agency.

Denise Kaufman
Applicant's Signature

10/31/2012
Date

Project Description

Pratik KC

Lion's Memorial Park/Dorwart Preserve Project

My Eagle project has three major components: Installing a bridge over a creek in a trail of Lion's Memorial Park/Dorwart Preserve, building a log bench near the creek and clearing out the invasive species of plants near the creek.

The bridge will be built ahead of time with a few scouts in my troop and then driven out to be installed over the creek in mid-Spring. The log bench will be composed of any fallen tree logs near the creek which will be used to create a flat log bench which will be placed near the creek/trail. The clearing of the invasive plant species will also occur during mid-Spring with the help of members from my troop. There will be no disturbance or damage done to any of the wetland or non-wetland areas nearby. No soil will be excavated either.

The bridge will be built with pressure treated wood and my troop and I will be using tools such as saws, hammers, nails to make sure the bridge will be durable during the Spring season. The bridge will be approximately 12ft -14ft in length and 3-4 feet wide which includes a small stepping ledge for both sides of the bridge to elevate it off the ground. The work will be done during a few weekends in mid-Spring. For the log bench, I will be using a saw to cut notches in two logs that will stand up right while a third log is placed across them to fit them together and then the bench will be supported by the ground. The clearing of the invasive plant species around the creek will be done with clippers and small saws.

I will be attending a Wetlands Commission meeting to present my project for approval and I believe with their guidance, my project will have minimal disturbances on the preserve

while maintaining a safe environment for the community. I will be working with Mrs. Kaufman who is the Parks Coordinator for the Town of Mansfield. In the past, she has helped a member from my troop undergo the process of filling out a wetlands application so she will be my advisor for this project.

Lion's Memorial Park

There is a 0.5-mile loop trail around the perimeter of the Park. A 1.25-mile trail connects from the soccer fields through the Dorwart Preserve to Mulberry Road.

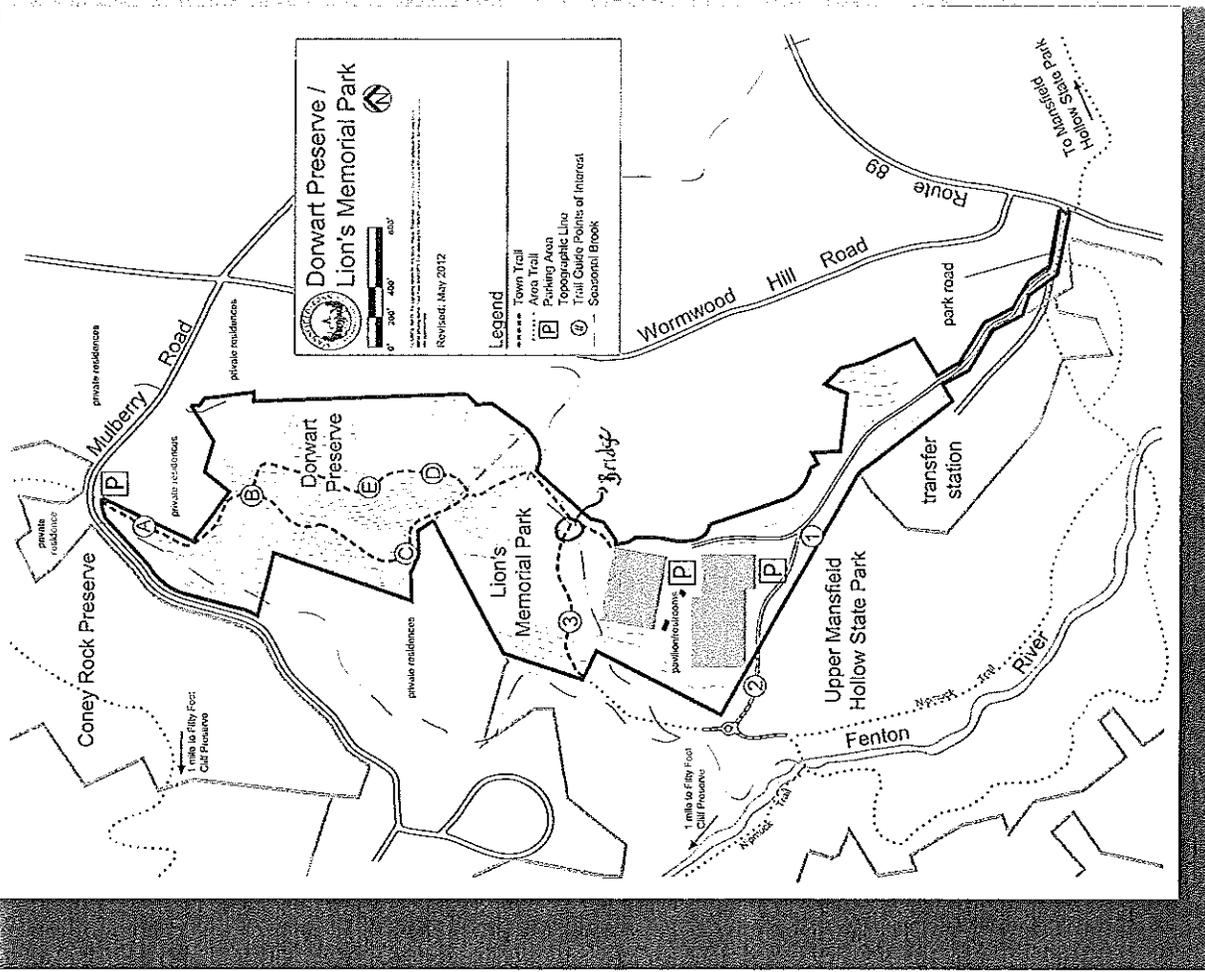
- Mansfield Soccer Complex** – Built by the Town, this recreational area currently contains 4 full-sized soccer fields, a pavilion, a concession stand with restrooms, and parking areas.
- Loop Trail** – Where the entrance road meets the soccer field area, it turns left and goes along the south side of the fields, then downhill to a turnaround area. Park by the soccer field and walk along this road to the turn-around. From here you can either continue downhill into Mansfield Hollow State Park to explore its trails or follow the white-blazed loop trail as it heads north and curves to the right to start uphill.
- Ravine** – The loop trail follows a small brook then travels uphill to follow a ravine. You will cross a seasonal brook. If you go left you will come to a bridge that will take you into Dorwart Preserve. If you go right you will complete the loop back to the soccer fields.

Dorwart Preserve

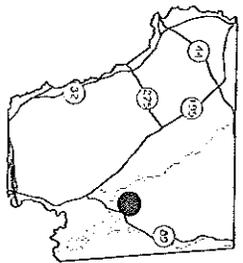
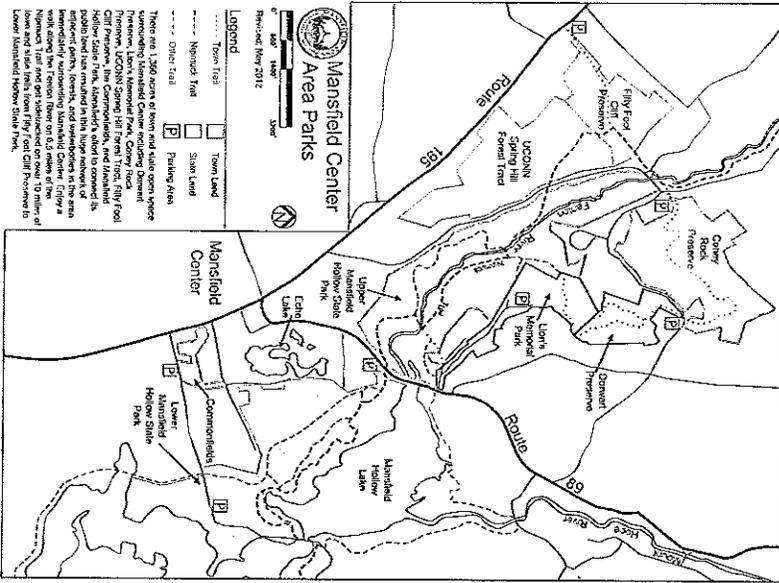
There is a one-mile loop trail.

- Stream Valley** – The Preserve entrance on Mulberry Road is by a scenic brook that drops over many cascades. The brook follows the path of the significant regional Eastford Fault, which extends from Mansfield northeast to Woodstock. This fault was active hundreds of million years ago and was associated with the formation of the super continent, Pangeaea. The year-round stream flows from the large marsh across Mulberry Road and through the Preserve on its way to the Fenton River. The white-blazed trail begins on an old road bed leading to a former bridge crossing. Follow the trail uphill and along the stream valley past large oaks, evergreen hemlocks and mossy boulders of all shapes and sizes. These rocks were carried here by the last glacier and left in place as it melted away.

- River of Rocks** – The trail skirts around the upper edge of a small valley choked with rounded boulders (glacial till) that were deposited by glaciers as the ice melted hundreds of millions of years ago. Till is a mix of sand, mud, and boulders and covers many of the hills in eastern Connecticut, including most of Dorwart Preserve. The trail then passes a junction with the upper part of the loop trail on the left. Continue straight on the lower trail through rocky terrain with views of Coney Rock ridge in fall and winter.
- Old Road** – The trail turns left onto an old road by a cellar hole and an abandoned car from over 70 years ago. The road was probably a local shortcut and also provided access to adjacent pastures and wood lots. Follow the road east as it climbs along the side of a steep hill. (A trail leading downhill to the right takes you to a footbridge and trails in Lion's Memorial Park. After you cross the bridge, note the change from glacial till and rounded boulders to stratified drift, which is composed of layers of finer sediments deposited by water flowing from the melting glacier.) Beyond this connecting trail, continue on the old road downhill, then uphill again. Watch for a stone wall on the left and make a sharp left turn to follow the loop trail up an old wagon track next to the wall.
- Glacial Terrace** – Beyond the top of the ramp, note an L-shaped stone wall on the right that may have been part of a livestock pen. Few stone walls were built in the Preserve (other than animal pens and boundary walls) because most of the land was too stony to be worth clearing for crops. Watch for a vernal pool on the right that is noisy with breeding frogs in the spring. The trail continues on the wagon track along a level terrace that drops off steeply on the west side. The terrace features a mature forest of red and white oak with hemlocks and pines scattered throughout. This diverse woods offers fine opportunities for observing wildlife and their signs, such as the many woodpecker holes in the trees.
- Scenic Lookout** – The trail leads uphill to a lookout with views in fall and winter across the Fenton River valley to Spring Hill and a view of Coney Rock to the right. A vernal pool is visible in the woods far below the lookout. The trail continues back to the wagon track and soon turns left to go downhill past a hemlock grove. Where it joins the lower part of the loop trail, turn right to return to Mulberry Road.



Lion's Memorial Park and Dorwart Preserve are adjacent town properties totaling 125 acres. These link Mansfield Hollow State Park on the south and west to Corey Rock Preserve and Fifty-Foot Cliff Preserve on the north. Together, these properties protect a large forested area that shelters diverse wildlife and woodland plants. There are trails for walking each of these properties, and it is possible to hike a nine-mile loop through all of them by using connecting trails. Lion's Memorial Park was purchased by the Town in 2009. The Dorwart Preserve was purchased by the Town in 2010 with the assistance of a CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection grant.



DIRECTIONS

To Lion's Memorial Park: from Route 195 turn onto Route 89/Warrenville Road in Mansfield Center. Travel one mile, turn left, and follow the signs to the park. Park along the road at the edge of the soccer field.

To the Dorwart Preserve entrance: continue past the entrance of Lions Memorial Park on Ft. 89 and take the next left onto Wornwood Hill Road. Travel one mile and take a left onto Mulberry Road. Travel 0.4 miles and park on the left before the bridge.

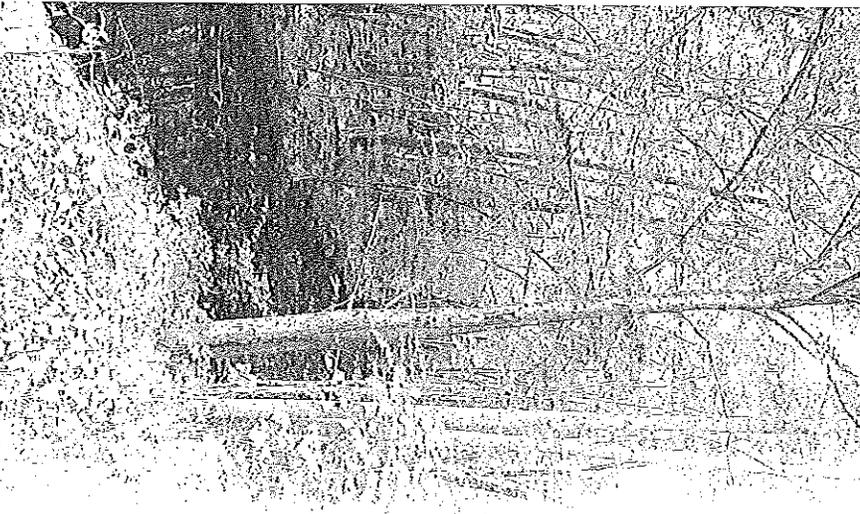
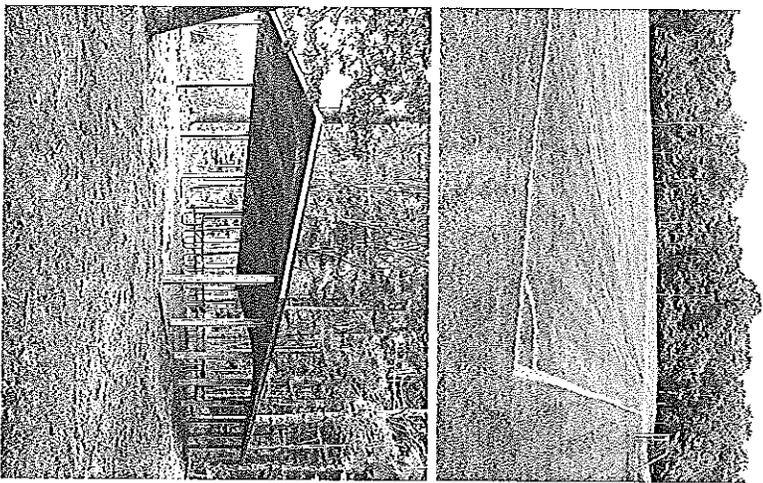


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US Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration
For more up-to-date trail information or to download maps click on www.mansfieldct.org/trails

**Lion's Memorial Park/
Dorwart Preserve**
Mansfield, CT







September/October 2012

Connecticut Wildlife

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
BUREAU OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISIONS OF WILDLIFE, INLAND & MARINE FISHERIES, AND FORESTRY



From the Director's Desk



On September 22, the Bureau of Natural Resources and the Friends

of Sessions Woods celebrated Connecticut Hunting & Fishing Appreciation Day at the Sessions Woods Wildlife Management Area in Burlington. Those who have attended this event in the past include hunters, anglers, families with children of all ages, and many who haven't tried hunting or fishing yet but had their interest sparked. The celebration this year is even more special as we highlight the 75th anniversary of the federal Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program.

For me, hunting and fishing are like forces of gravity, drawing me to our wonderful lakes, ponds, streams, fields, and woodlots. These activities offer times of reflection, relaxation, stress relief, laughter, and wonder. I can't think of a fishing trip without images of my dad firing up our 1950s-era Johnson outboard tethered to the transom of my Uncle Rud's trusty 14-foot Alumicraft rowboat. We would putter out to the middle of the lake where we would drop the eight-pound Roloff's Manufacturing cast iron anchor with a splash. I can still hear the sound of the Plano tackle box scraping across the aluminum seat, and the lid popping off the top of the coffee can holding the night crawlers we had collected the night before. Dad would remind me to be careful putting the worm on the hook; his way of reminding me it was my job, not his. Next came attaching the red-and-white bobber, the split shot, and casting the line as far as I could. After that, it was all about the anticipation of watching that bobber and hanging with my dad.

At the time, it never occurred to me how or why we enjoyed such riches of fish and wildlife. They simply existed, and seemed inexhaustible. Now, as an adult, I have come to realize that those riches are the product of the remarkable commitment of those like my dad, the original conservationists.

For those that don't know, the vast majority of funding for fish and wildlife conservation comes from hunters and anglers. One obvious source is from license fees. But largely unknown is the excise tax paid by hunters and anglers on firearms, ammunition, archery equipment, and fishing tackle. This is a tax that people like my dad, and the hunters and anglers of his generation, argued for. A tax, collected by the federal government and returned to the states, exclusively for the conservation of fish and wildlife.

We lost my dad a couple of years after those early fishing trips, but those memories are as real today as if they occurred yesterday. The sounds, smells, even the feel of water lapping against a boat or canoe bring those images back. And, they bring a smile to my face. Now, as I watch our daughters during our too infrequent fishing trips, I hope that they keep with them the memories of hazy, lazy summers paddling in a nearby pond.

I have a lot to thank my dad for, and ensuring that our family will enjoy healthy and abundant fish and wildlife populations is a big one. Now, what will we do for the generations that follow us?

Rick Jacobson, DBEP Wildlife Division Director

Cover:

Wetland restoration projects (see article on page 6) have restored and created habitat for wading birds, like the glossy ibis.

Photo courtesy of Paul J. Fusco

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The Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Program was initiated by sportsmen and conservationists to provide states with funding for wildlife management and research programs, habitat acquisition, wildlife management area development, and hunter education programs. Connecticut Wildlife contains articles reporting on Wildlife Division projects funded entirely or in part with federal aid monies.



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Monitoring Connecticut's Rare Plant Species

Article and photography by Nelson DeBarros,
DEEP Wildlife Division

Just as field surveys are conducted for shorebirds, bats, and other wildlife, so are they conducted for Connecticut's rare plants. These data are used to determine status, trends, and changes in distribution for these plant populations, and to inform future management decisions.

Every year, volunteers and DEEP staff monitor and manage habitat for Connecticut's rare plant populations. Monitoring occurs over a wide range of habitats – from coastal beaches and marshes to the summits of Connecticut's highest points. Some sites may look pristine, while others may bear noticeable scars.

The data collected are often simple and generally consist of the number of plants observed over a given geographic area. With this information, changes in density and spatial extent can be tracked over time. The possible expansion or contraction of a population also can be determined. In addition to monitoring known populations, surveys for new occurrences are conducted. Occasionally, previously unknown populations

are discovered or species are found to be more common than previously thought.

When monitoring data indicate that a plant population is in decline, conservation actions can be implemented. Vegetation can be managed to conserve plants in the same way that it can be managed to promote particular wildlife species. The management goal for many rare plants is to turn back the "successional clock." A number of Connecticut's rare plants grow best under the high-light levels present in early successional habitats rather than the deep shade of mature forests. Selective tree harvests or the creation and maintenance of early successional habitat can be used to provide habitat for these sun-loving species.

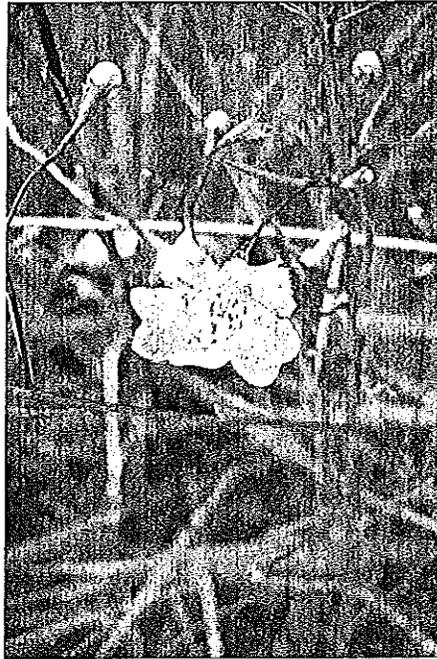
Invasive species management also has become a regular component of rare plant



A population of the state endangered few-flowered nutrush (*Scleria pauciflora* var. *caroliniana*) was discovered while surveying for another rare plant species.



(left) Low frostweed (*Hellanthenum propinquum*; state threatened) occurs in sand barrens or open woods. These areas are often targeted for development. Natural succession to mature forest can also eliminate suitable habitat. (right) Connecticut's only population of sandplain gerardia (*Agalinis acuta*), a state and federally endangered plant species, requires well-timed mowings to reduce competition from other plants.



conservation. Invasive species, such as bittersweet, autumn olive, and common reed, often dominate sites and exclude other species. Control of these aggressive plants gives native species a fighting chance.

Get Involved!

Over the years, much of Connecticut's rare plant data has been collected and contributed by volunteers with the New England Plant Conservation Program (NEPCoP). This program, administered by the New England Wild Flower Society, trains volunteers in monitoring protocol and coordinates monitoring efforts across the six New England states. Becoming a NEPCoP volunteer is an excellent way to explore the outdoors, meet new people, and learn more about Connecticut's rare flora! To learn more, please visit www.newfs.org/protect/rare-plants-and-conservation/Volunteer. Learn more about state-listed plant species on the DEEP website at www.ct.gov/deep/endangeredspecies.

Written by Penny Howell, DEEP Marine Fisheries Division

The Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration (SFR) Program has had a major impact on sport fishing nationwide since its enactment in 1950. This program is made possible by people doing the things they love - fishing and boating - and at the same time helping to restore and protect fish and their habitats by paying a small tax on their fishing equipment and motor boat fuels. The premise of this program is a direct cycle of user pay/user benefit. Ten years after the formation of the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection in 1971 from its roots in the state's Department of Fish and Game, marine fisheries management and research was launched in Long Island Sound and then flourished with the agency's participation in the SFR Program. Over the past 29 years, the SFR program has supported seven major marine projects in Connecticut; four are still ongoing. These projects span a wide range of species and important research and management needs.

Marine Recreational Information Program

Information on marine angler activity has been collected in Connecticut since 1979 from intercept interviews conducted by Marine Fisheries Division staff. This project became part of the coastwide Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistics Survey conducted by the National Marine Fisheries Service in 1984,

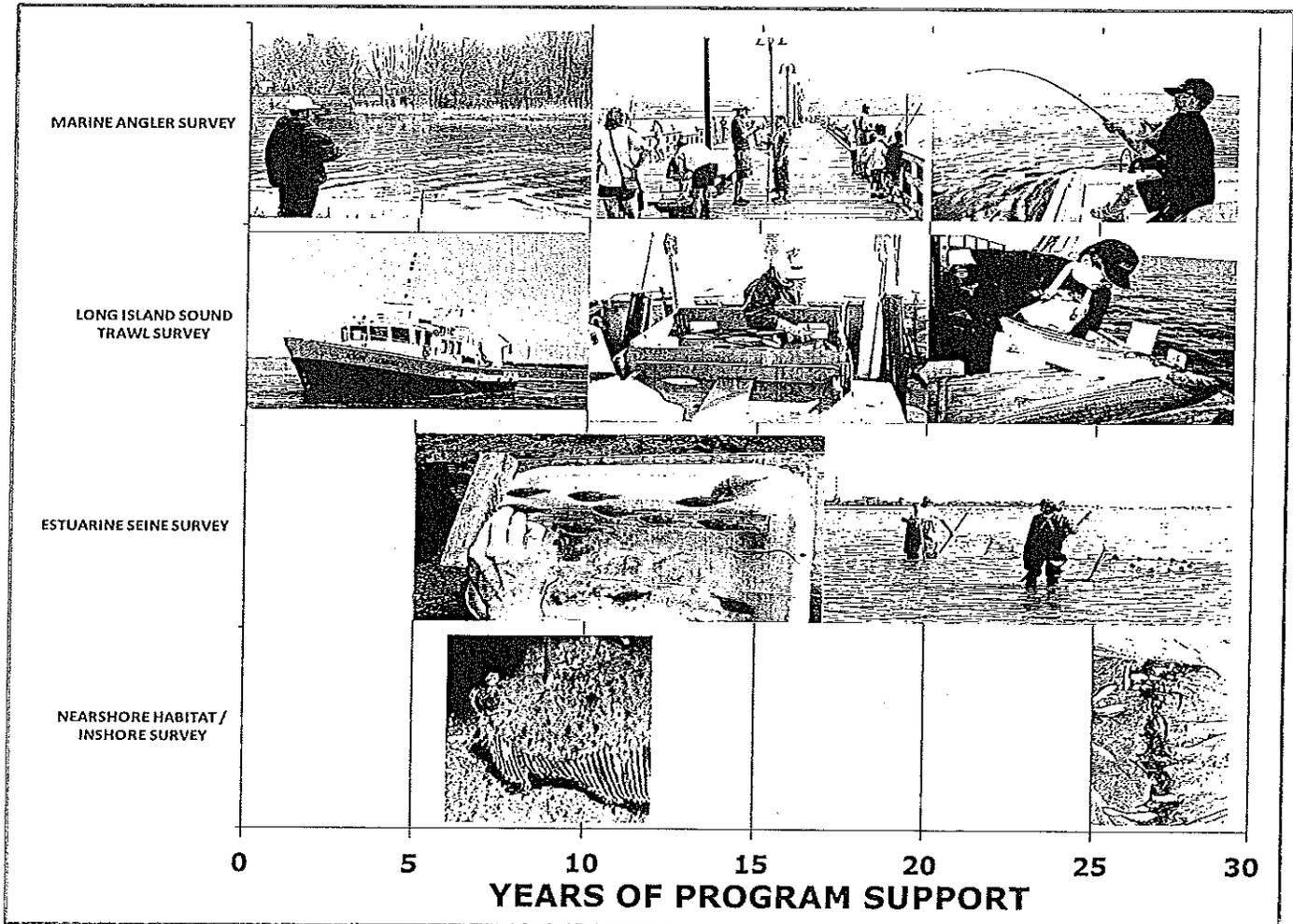
and then the Marine Recreational Information Program in 2010. The program provides statewide estimates of marine fishing trips, total fish caught, and angler numbers. An additional Volunteer Angler Survey characterizes the size composition of both kept and released fish reported by volunteer anglers.

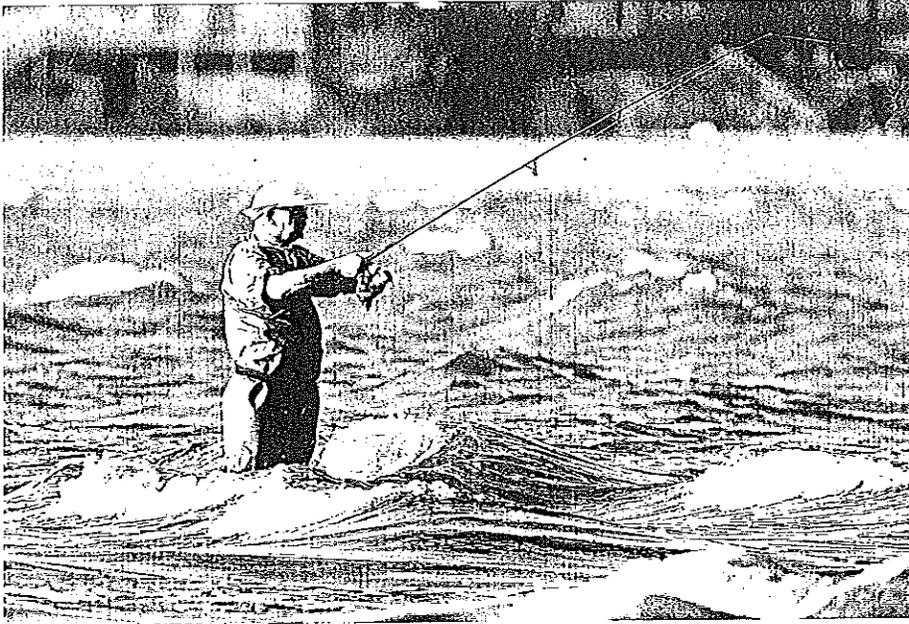
Long Island Sound Trawl Survey

The relative abundance of over 100 finfish species, and many more invertebrate and algal species, is monitored seasonally through Long Island Sound-wide survey trawl catches. Age specific indices of abundance are generated for several recreationally important species, including scup, tautog (blackfish), winter flounder, summer flounder (fluke), bluefish, and weakfish. Numbers and biomass (total weight) are used in coast-wide resource models to assess productivity and the impact of fishing on migratory species.

Estuarine Seine Survey

The relative abundance of young-of-year winter flounder, as well as other nearshore finfish and crab species, is obtained from fall seine sampling conducted at eight beach sites from Groton to Greenwich. An intertidal forage fish abundance index also is generated.





Recreational saltwater fishing opportunities abound along the Connecticut shoreline.

dredging and land-use practices, affect the health and abundance of valued recreational species. An additional two years of examining larval production in two of these harbors was followed years later by an ongoing study of Connecticut River anadromous fish production. Seine catches at seven sites stretching from Holyoke, Massachusetts, to Essex, Connecticut, provide annual indices of juvenile shad, blueback herring, menhaden, and other nearshore species abundance, along with information on the adult American shad spawning population (length, age structure, and sex ratio). Comparable data are gathered at eight sites in the Thames River.

Past SFR-funded Studies

Past studies no longer funded by the Sport Fish Restoration Program include:

- Examination of *Gear-Induced Incidental Mortality in Marine Finfish*;

- *Studies in Conservation Engineering*, which evaluated commercial and sport fishing gear and fishing practices to quantify incidental mortality from non-target net by-catch and recreational hook and release;
- *Connecticut River White Perch Assessment*, which found that abundance of this ubiquitous fish was lower, but fish were growing faster than in the 1970s, and that enacting a minimum harvest size of eight inches could increase the population's productivity; and

- An accompanying *Connecticut River Angler Survey*, which showed that white perch support one of the most popular recreational fisheries in the river, along with striped bass and catfish, and that the fishing rate was at a level producing maximum yield.

All of these programs have provided one of the strongest databases available with which management strategies can be developed and implemented to meet both resource and angler needs. The long-term studies have allowed managers

to plan for effects due to habitat loss and restoration, climate change, and changes in harvest practices. The SFR grant program of dedicated funds has enabled natural resource agencies from Connecticut and neighboring states to protect fish stock productivity, along with improving opportunities for anglers to get out on the water and have a great fishing experience.

Inshore Survey/Study of Nearshore Habitat

This program began as a five-year study of five harbors which mapped the distribution of nearshore fish habitat to increase understanding of how non-fishing activities, such as

ing gear and fishing practices to quantify incidental mortality from non-target net by-catch and recreational hook and release;

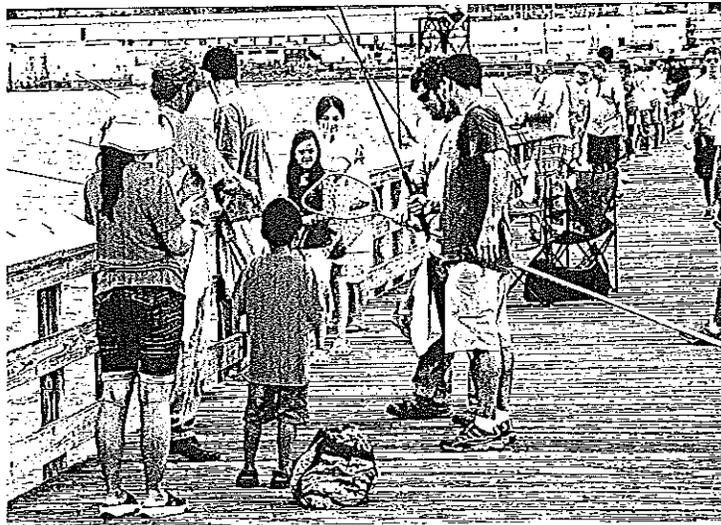
- *Connecticut River White Perch Assessment*, which found that abundance of this ubiquitous fish was lower, but fish were

Marine Fishing Day 2012

No Child Left Inside® Great Parks Pursuit participants spent Saturday, August 4, casting into the Thames River off of the fishing access pier within Fort Trumbull State Park, in New London. DEEP staff from the Inland Fisheries, Marine Fisheries, and State Parks Divisions, teamed up with volunteers from the Connecticut Aquatic Resources Education (CARE) Program to provide an exciting day of hands-on fun, education, and angling. For each of the past five years, No Child Left Inside® programs have offered freshwater

and ice fishing events, introducing thousands of families to the sport of fishing. The salty air provided a welcome change of pace and set the stage for a day of learning about Connecticut's coastal marine life. Several activities included a marine fish identification challenge, "touch tank" full of shellfish and finfish (some of which were recently caught by the participants), lobster pot maze, crabbing, and of course fishing. The juvenile form of the voracious predator, the "bluefish," provided the most action, with hundreds of these "snapper blues" being caught throughout the day! Other fish brought into the pier included "keeper" scup (porgy), black sea bass, cunner, and croaker. Most importantly, families were able to spend quality time together while angling for some of Connecticut's bountiful natural resources at one of our most historic and scenic state parks.

Justin Wiggins, DEEP Inland Fisheries Division, photo by J. Murtagh

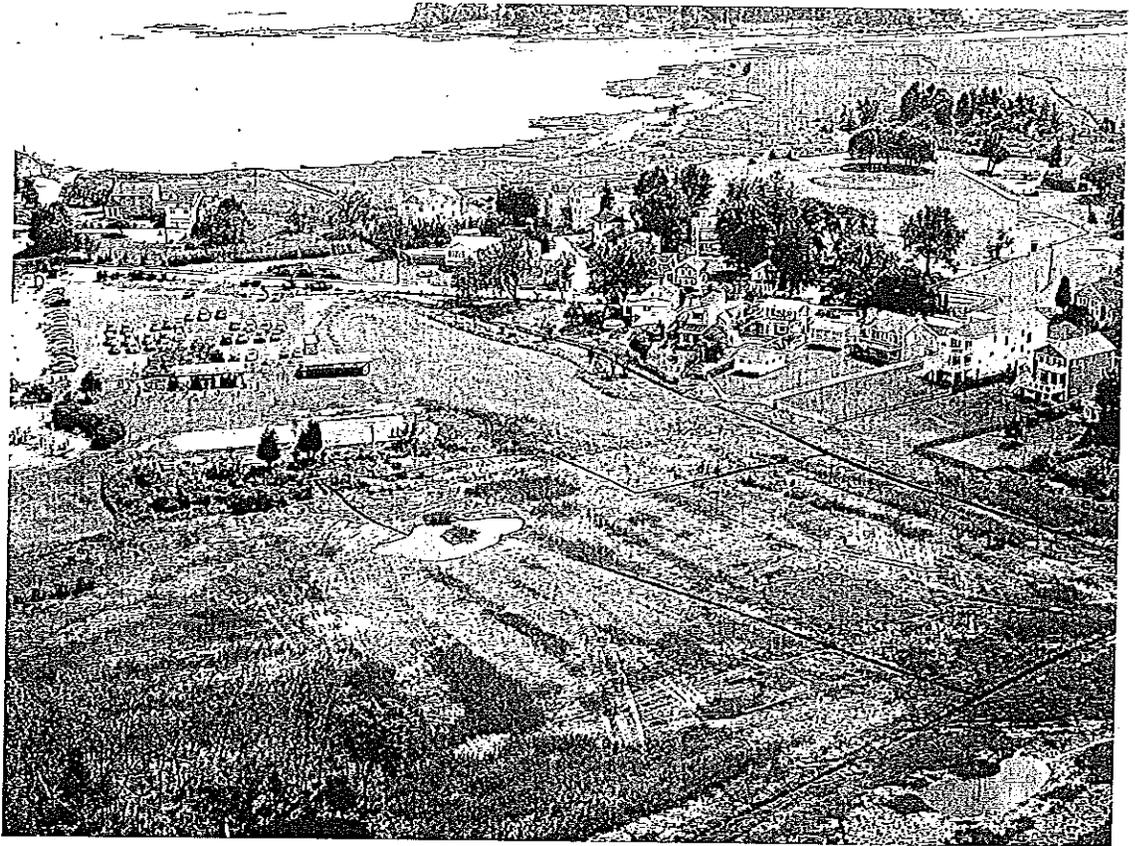


WHAMM Projects Clear the Way for Improved Wetlands

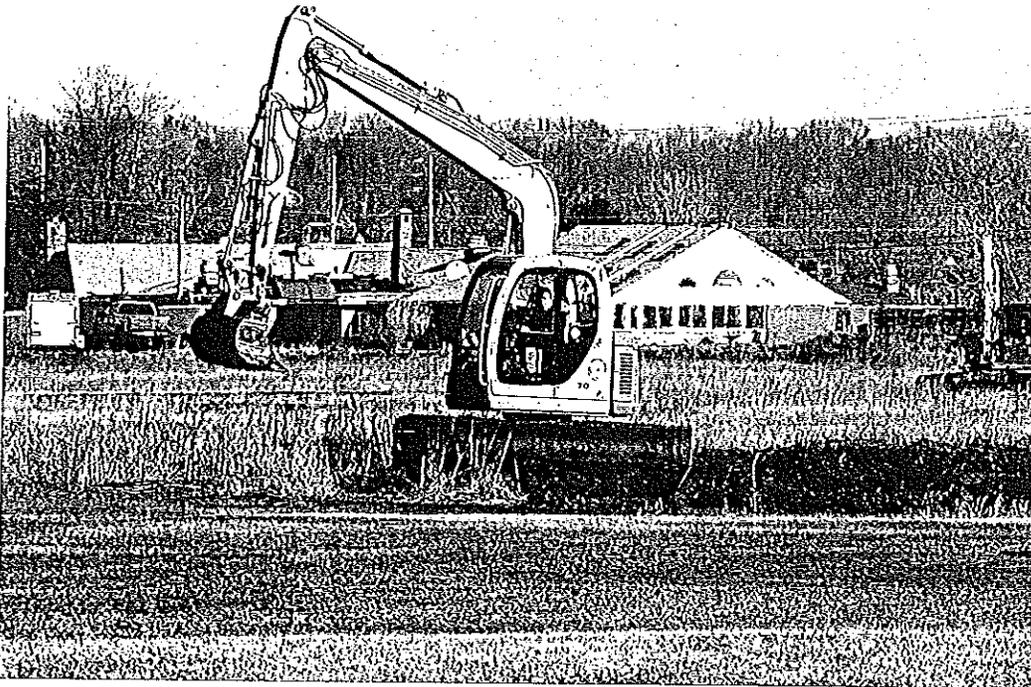
Written by Paul Capotosto; photography by Roger Wolfe; DEEP Wildlife Division

The DEEP Wetlands Habitat and Mosquito Management (WHAMM) Program completed three wetland restoration projects during January to July 2012. All of the projects involved the use of Integrated Marsh Management (IMM) techniques. IMM takes a holistic approach to wetlands management. It combines several management techniques, including invasive plant (common reed, purple loosestrife, etc.) control, culvert replacement for tidal flow restoration, and Open Marsh Water Management (OMWM) practices for biological mosquito control and wildlife habitat enhancement.

The WHAMM Program plays a crucial role in the restoration of tidal wetlands in Connecticut. Established in 1994, the



A view of the wetland restoration work conducted at Jacob's Beach off of Seaside Avenue in Guilford. Note that several pools and linear channels have been cleaned. This photograph was taken on June 14, 2012.



A low-ground pressure excavator is used to create a new pool and clean old mosquito control ditches in the Jacob's Beach Marsh in Guilford.

program is one of the first wetland restoration programs in the country with dedicated staff and specialized, low-ground pressure equipment used exclusively in restoration activities. Some of this specialized equipment was purchased with funding from the Connecticut Migratory Bird Conservation (Duck) Stamp Program.

Marsh Restoration in Guilford

The first project was conducted at two marshes in Guilford: Jacob's Beach Marsh and Chittenden Park Marsh. The WHAMM crew worked with the Engineers Office and the Environmental Planner for the Town of Guilford to start the process. Work started in January 2012 and was completed in April. Two low-ground pressure excavators were used to clear out 4,000 linear feet of old mosquito control ditches, 1,000 linear feet of new



A view of the wetland restoration work conducted at Groton Long Point. A long channel was excavated to allow tidal water in and out of the site. This photograph was taken on June 8, 2012.

channels, and several new pools. These pond and ditch networks are not connected directly to tidal channels and, therefore, do not drain at low tide. After excavation, a higher water level is maintained, which provides habitat for fish and other wildlife, and encourages revegetation by native marsh grasses. Mosquito management is achieved by modifying egg-laying sites and by creating open water habitat for small, naturally-abundant killifish, which prey on mosquito larvae and pupae. OMWM systems provide long-term control of mosquitoes, thus reducing the need to apply chemical insecticides.

LIP Project at Groton Long Point

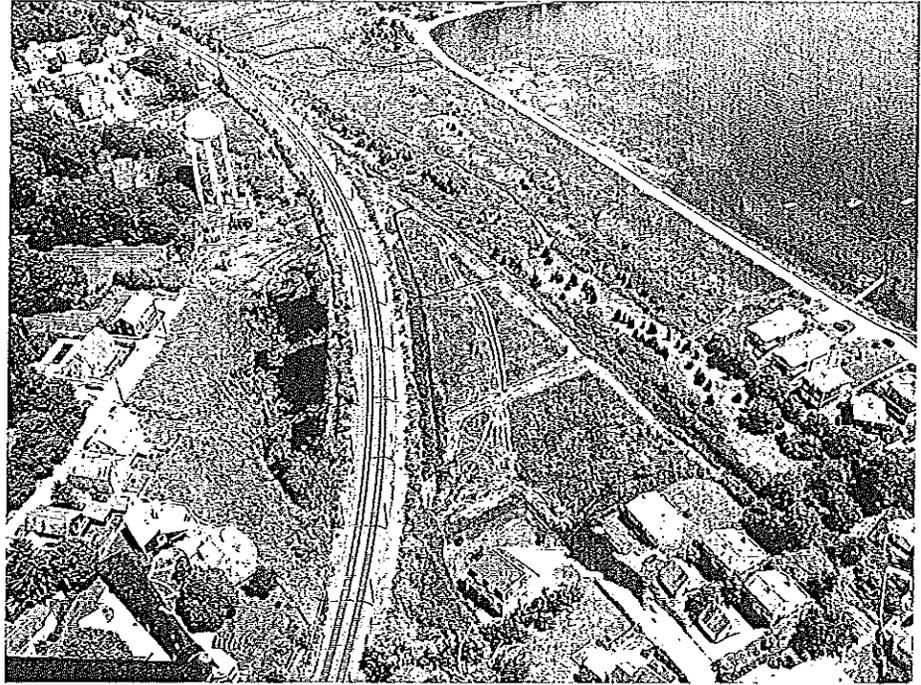
A low-ground pressure excavator was used for a DEEP Landowner Incentive Program (LIP) project at Groton Long Point to clean out 1,200 linear feet of old mosquito control ditches and restore tidal flows in and out of the area. The work began in April and took less than a month to complete.

Mosquito Management in Stonington

Two low-ground pressure excavators cleaned out 3,649 linear feet of old mosquito control ditches as part of a DEEP Mosquito Management Program project with the Stonington Borough. Work was conducted at marshes located north and south of the railroad tracks. The project was completed in late June 2012.

Project Monitoring

Upon completion of projects, many of the sites are monitored over time to document bird use of the area, regrowth of native vegetation, and water quality. The final results demonstrate how fortunate Connecticut is to have a wetland restora-



The Stonington Borough marshes can be seen north and south of the railroad tracks. This photograph shows the newly cleaned ditches in the marsh to the south. The marsh to the north was not yet completed when this photograph was taken on June 8, 2012.



Ditches were cleaned and several pools were created at Chittenden Park in Guilford. This photograph was taken on June 14, 2012.

tion program in place that is working with other state and federal agencies and dedicated partners to conserve and restore such ecological treasures as our tidal wetlands.

WHAMM Crew Accomplishments

Paul Capotosto and Roger Wolfe, of

the Wildlife Division's WHAMM crew, co-authored an article on Integrated Marsh Management that was recently published in the scientific journal, *Wetlands Ecology and Management*. The article is available electronically on SpringerLink (www.springerlink.com/openurl.asp?genre=article&id=doi:10.1007/s11273-012-9251-9).

Prepare Windows and Turn Off Lights to Protect Birds

Written by Shannon Kearney-McGee, DEEP Wildlife Division

Have you ever heard a strange “thwack” sound early some morning that was caused by an object hitting a window at your house? The object most likely colliding with your window was a migratory songbird. Research suggests that one of the most likely causes of direct mortality to migratory songbirds in North America is collisions with glass windows. This cause of mortality is second only to habitat destruction. Surprisingly, these collisions are not limited to tall office buildings of urban centers. In fact, most collisions occur below the forest canopy, which corresponds to the height of windows of homes and smaller buildings.

If you take a moment to think about how birds move through the landscape, it makes sense that they would run into house windows. Birds often fly through and around shrubs and trees. These shrubs and trees are often reflected in shiny windows, and birds unknowingly fly right into the glass. Impact with glass can cause immediate fatal brain injury or, if the birds are lucky, it will just leave them stunned. However, stunned birds become more vulnerable to predation or further injury.

Death Toll Staggering

It is estimated that one to 10 birds are killed every year by each building in North America. Based on the most recent United States census, there are just over 90,000 privately owned structures in Connecticut. Using these numbers, it is estimated that 90,000-900,000 birds are killed each year by striking windows just in our own small state. These numbers may be quite surprising to homeowners who may only recollect a bird collision at their home once or twice. In fact, the majority of birds that collide with windows are never observed by the building occupants.

Misconceptions About Window Strikes

Although bird collisions can happen at any time of year, birds are more likely to collide with windows of new buildings, particularly when the birds are completing their migration and are not familiar



Most bird/window collisions occur during the early morning hours. At that time, people may not be awake or outside to observe a collision, and often the neighborhood cat, fox, or other predator will find an injured or stunned bird before a homeowner would detect it.

with their surroundings. Because most migratory songbirds migrate at night and descend into shrubbery in the morning, it is during these early hours when most window collisions are likely to occur. People may not be awake or outside to observe the collision, and often the neighborhood cat, fox, or other predator will find an injured or stunned bird before a homeowner would detect it.

Another misconception is that rare bird species are not at risk for collision with windows. Actually, almost 300 different species have been documented hitting windows, and they include some rare and declining species, like northern saw-whet owl, yellow-breasted chat, golden-winged warbler, and whip-poor-will.

Although statistics demonstrate that most collisions occur below four stories, it is important to consider the magnified effects of urban centers. Connecticut lies along the Atlantic Flyway, a major migration route from Canada to South America. Migrating birds use the stars to orient them as they navigate this route. The overwhelming light emitted from our urban centers confuses and attracts

these migrating birds, especially on foggy nights, where they can become trapped in a maze of glass windows.

What You Can Do

With all of the windows out there, it may seem like there is little anyone can do to reduce the impact. On the contrary, every one of us can do a few simple things to prevent window collisions at our home or office, and make a difference. It is important to remember that window reflections need to be broken up to be effective in reducing bird/window collisions. Although it was previously recommended that homeowners use a falcon decal or silhouette to stop birds from hitting windows, we now know that *just one* decal is not effective. Many migratory birds are very small and will try to squeeze around and through small openings. To be effective, window reflections should be broken up with vertical strips spaced less than four inches apart or horizontal stripes spaced less than two inches apart.

Several other techniques or items can be used to break up window reflections. Some projects might even be perfect for getting the kids involved:

S. SCHARF FLAP

- Add images to windows by applying tempera paint with stencils.
- Use tape to create patterns on windows. See www.abcbirdtape.org to find out how to order this special tape that will help prevent collisions. It lets birds see glass and you see out; is easily applied and easily removed; and lasts up to four years.
- Apply a window film that lets you see out the window, but birds can see from the outside (www.collidescape.org).
- Apply window decals that won't obstruct your view, but reflect ultraviolet sunlight that is visible to birds (www.windowalert.com).
- Keep full length screens on the outside of windows.
- Keep blinds closed to help reduce reflection and the appearance of an escape route through windows. However, this is not as effective as putting something on the outside of windows.
- Keep cats indoors to give window-stunned birds a fighting chance to survive.

What Can Businesses Do?

Making changes to windows in urban centers also can help migratory birds safely make their journey through Connecticut. "Kill the Lights - Save the Birds" is the motto of the Lights Out Toronto campaign, which encourages

businesses and building managers to save energy and help bird conservation at the same time.

It also should be recognized that windowed terrariums can be very dangerous because birds are unable to distinguish the window barrier between the outside and the plants inside the building.

Using lighting that is broadcast in a downward direction, as opposed to "up lighting," still provides safety lighting at night but does not illuminate the sky. More specific building guidelines and LEED recommendations can be found at www.birdsand-buildings.org/documents/BirdFriendlyBuildingDesign.pdf.

Learn More and Get Started!

There are many excellent resources for learning more about preventing bird collisions with windows. These resources offer advice on how to landscape yards, treat windows, and even how to start a local "Lights Out" campaign in your area. Lighting and building recommendations are offered as well.



The landscape is often reflected in windows and birds unknowingly fly right into the glass.

The following websites are good starting points: www.abcbirds.org and www.flap.org. Help make a difference for our migratory birds and get started now on your efforts to reduce bird/window collisions!

What Can I Do As a Homeowner?



Homeowners can use a number of different window treatments to reduce bird/window collisions. Bird strikes typically occur at windows that reflect nearby habitat. Birds unknowingly fly toward the reflection and collide with the glass. The far left photo shows a bare window reflecting habitat. This is the most dangerous for birds. The second photo of the same window shows how the reflection is muted when the shades are drawn. An external screen has been added to the window in the third photo. The reflection is still visible, but the screen serves as a barrier to a window strike. In the photo on the right, a bird decal has been applied to the outside, which makes birds aware of an obstacle. Applying multiple decals to a window works better than applying just one decal.

Summer Fishing Fun!

Written by Justin Wiggins, DEEP Inland Fisheries Division; Photography by Jim Murtagh; DEEP Certified Volunteer CARE Instructor.

Do you remember catching your first fish? Like many life-long anglers, I remember it like it was yesterday! Mine was a pumpkinseed sunfish, caught on the banks of Lake Winfield in Plymouth, Connecticut, where I grew up. In fact, one of my first and favorite childhood memories is netting that very sunfish, placing the fine specimen in a five-gallon bucket for further investigation, and showing off my proud catch to parents, grandparents, siblings, and whoever else would listen. That five-gallon bucket I toted around with my pumpkinseed sparked the beginning



This happy young angler poses with his first catch, a sunfish!



Day campers line the banks of Lake Wintergreen in New Haven during a Summer Fishing Class.

of a passion and a career in FISH!

The Inland Fisheries Division's Connecticut Aquatic Resources Education (CARE) Program provides the opportunity to learn about water, fish, and fishing. By instilling basic principles, practices, and rules of fishing, the goal is to create many memories of "first fish" and, as a result, create life-long anglers. Throughout the year, CARE accomplishes this goal by delivering the fishing message through several methods. First, "Family Fishing Courses" are continually offered around the state. They are taught by over 250 volunteers who have completed the official "CARE Instructor Training Course." Each of the instructors then facilitates formal educational classes

consisting of two hours of fun, hands-on classroom training followed by a fishing trip.

A second approach begins the last week of June when five seasonal employees are added to the CARE staff to teach Summer Fishing classes to day-campers around the state. The Summer Fishing Crew consists of science teachers out of school for summer, instructors in training, and college students aspiring for a career in the field of biology (several crew members have returned for over 10 seasons!). For seven weeks, the Summer Fishing Crew will venture out to lakes, ponds, and saltwater fishing piers to teach morning and afternoon classes to approximately 25-35 students per class. The first hour consists of environmental information presented through discussion and games, followed by an hour and a half of fishing. Water quality, pollution, biodegradation, species diversity, fish identification, knot-tying, bait selection, and safety around water are all on the agenda during the first hour. Then comes the 90 minutes of fishing!

Armed with spincast rods and reels spooled with six-pound monofilament line, the Summer Fishing Crew and students make their way to the water. At the end of each fishing pole is a number 8-bait holder hook tied using the improved clinch knot. A small split-shot is placed a foot-and-a-half above the hook, and directly above that is a bobber (an excellent strike indicator). Bait of choice is the good ole' night crawler threaded on the hook like a sock onto a foot. Students "bait up" and walk to the water's edge. A gentle reminder to check behind to ensure a safe cast comes from a staff member. After safety is ensured, lines fly into the air and bobbers meet the water. The first bobber goes down and the excitement begins!

The quarry is (you guessed it!) the sunfish, a fine adversary for a nine-year-old child that is preparing to take his/her first cast with a fishing rod. Sunfish are densely populated in most lakes and ponds throughout Connecticut and often found roaming close to shore during summer. They are willing biters even on the hottest days, can be caught all day, and provide an excellent fight. What more can one ask for while seeking that elusive first fish? Thanks to some excellent opportunities provided by the Inland



A sunfish provided a lot of entertainment to this young family of anglers at a Summer Fishing "Family Night."

Fisheries Division, many Summer Fishing students experience the same thrill of having a "fighter" on the line just like many "grown up" counterparts who catch larger gamefish like catfish, bass, and even trout!

Research has shown that angling success during initial fishing experiences is a critical component in "hooking" a life-long angler. The Inland Fisheries Division has created opportunities for the public that dramatically increase angling success. To supplement already self-propagating fish populations, "Trout Parks" and "Community Fishing Lakes" are stocked frequently with trout from state fish hatcheries during spring and fall. Community Fishing Lakes are also stocked with catchable size (14-18 inches) channel catfish that are purchased from commercial suppliers each June. These locations offer easy access, ample shore fishing areas, and have bathrooms readily available. These sites also offer perfect conditions for introducing new anglers to the sport of fishing! In fact, over 40% of Summer Fishing classes are hosted at three "Community Fishing Lakes" – Lake Wintergreen, Keney Park Pond, and Bunnells Pond. These sites are located in the heart of large cities - New Haven, Hartford, and Bridgeport, respectively. Reliable partners in municipal park and recreation departments, YMCAs, Boys and Girls Clubs, and Outdoor Adventure Camps can easily transport

students to these local hot spots.

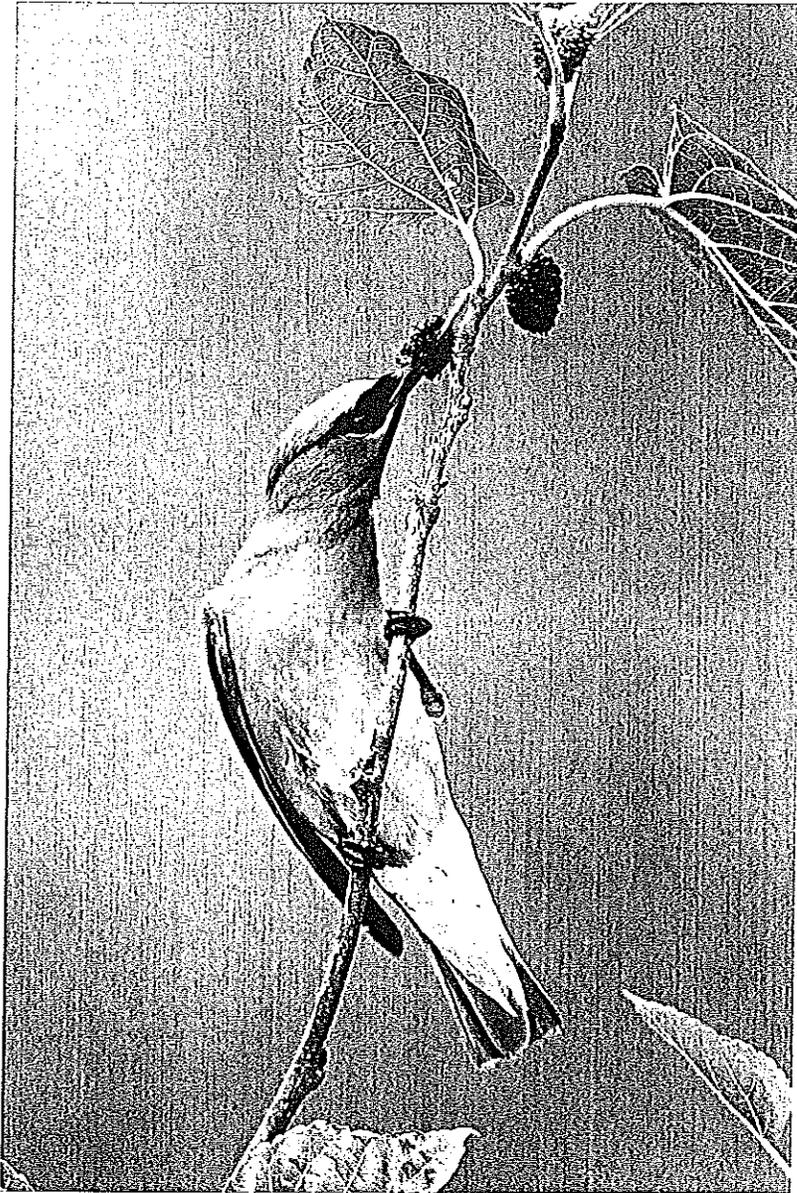
Another method was introduced this past summer and is an expansion of our Summer Fishing program. "Family Nights" were held to encourage the day-campers, now armed with their newfound angling expertise, to invite their families and return to the same waterbody for an evening of fishing. High attendance at these events proved that Summer Fishing classes were successful at delivering the message that fishing is a fun and exciting family activity. The Summer Fishing Crew received well-deserved praise from parents for their efforts. This past Summer Fishing season resulted in 1,521 day-campers being introduced to fishing, with an additional 359 students attending seven "Family Nights." Since 1990, the CARE Summer Fishing Crew has taught over 35,000 students, watching many of them catch their very first sunfish!

To learn more about the CARE Program, please visit the DEEP website at www.ct.gov/deep/CARE. The program is always looking for enthusiastic and caring individuals who would like to share their passion for fishing with others by becoming certified CARE Instructors. If this appeals to you and you think you have what it takes, please call the CARE Center at 860-663-1656 and speak with Tom or Justin. The next training session will be held in February 2013.

Sociable Wanderers - Cedar Waxwings

Article and photography by Paul Fusco, DEEP Wildlife Division

With a continuous series of clear, high-pitched whistling calls announcing their arrival, a flock of cedar waxwings descends into a small tree on a cold fall morning. The tree is a Japanese crabapple, holding thousands of ripened fruits that are ready for the opportunistic, berry-loving birds to eat.



Mulberries are a favorite for many species of birds and other wildlife, including cedar waxwings.

Within a few days, the berries will be gone and the flock will have moved on to its next fortuity. Such is the way of life for the waxwings. They are wanderers, nomads that are constantly on the move to their next food source. Waxwings are highly gregarious, and when one member of the flock finds food, the call goes out for the rest of the flock to join the gluttonous feast. In fact, waxwings are so sociable that they are often seen perching close together, side by side on a branch, sharing food

by passing a berry back and forth before one finally eats it. At times, waxwings may consume large quantities of over-ripened, fermented berries and have been known to become intoxicated.

While berries are their favorite food, cedar waxwings will also eat flower petals and buds from fruit trees. In spring and summer, waxwings will catch insects by "hawking," that is hunting from an open perch to snatch a flying insect. Then, the birds will return to the perch to await their next opportunity. Among the insects waxwings are known to consume are beetles, cankerworms, tent caterpillars, and carpenter ants.

Description

The cedar waxwing is small, about the size of a bluebird. Named for its fondness for cedar berries, the waxwing is known colloquially as "the cedar bird." Descriptively, it is often referred to as elegant, dapper, and sleek. The plumage is silky brown and gray. The bird has a black mask and chin giving it a somewhat exotic appearance. The soft browns of the underside transition smoothly into a bright lemon yellow on the lower belly. The tail is gray with a bright yellow band at the tip. Waxwings have a short, brown crest which is frequently seen laying flat to the top of the head. In flight, they show broad pointed wings and short tails, making them similar in size and shape to the abundant European starling.

The characteristic that gives waxwings their name is the bright red waxy droplets ornamenting the tips of their secondary feathers. The waxy tips are a prolongation of feather shafts, colored by astaxanthin, a carotenoid pigment, and are not always visible.

The purpose of the waxy feather tips is uncertain, but one of the theories is that the waxy tips help prevent the ends of the secondary feathers from becoming prematurely broken or frayed by frequent wing fluttering in thick branches. Another theory states that the waxy tips on each wing correspond to bird's maturity, and is thought to serve as a visible breeding marker whereby males and females will pair and mate according to age. Considered to be late nesters, cedar waxwings synchronize their nesting season so that chicks are raised during the time of peak summer berry development.

Open cup nests are built of twigs and grasses, with a lining of softer material, and placed at heights ranging from five to 50 feet off the ground. The normal clutch size is four to six pale blue or blue-gray eggs. The eggs may be spotted with dark speckles. Incubation takes 12 to 16 days and chicks fledge after 14 to 18 days. Two broods are frequently raised each year. Cedar waxwings

are somewhat colonial and non-territorial, and can frequently be found nesting in loose groups.

Range and Habitat

Generally considered woodland birds, cedar waxwings can be found almost anywhere at any time. Because of their nomadic nature, they use a wide variety of habitats from urban to remote forests, from orchards to wetlands, wherever there are

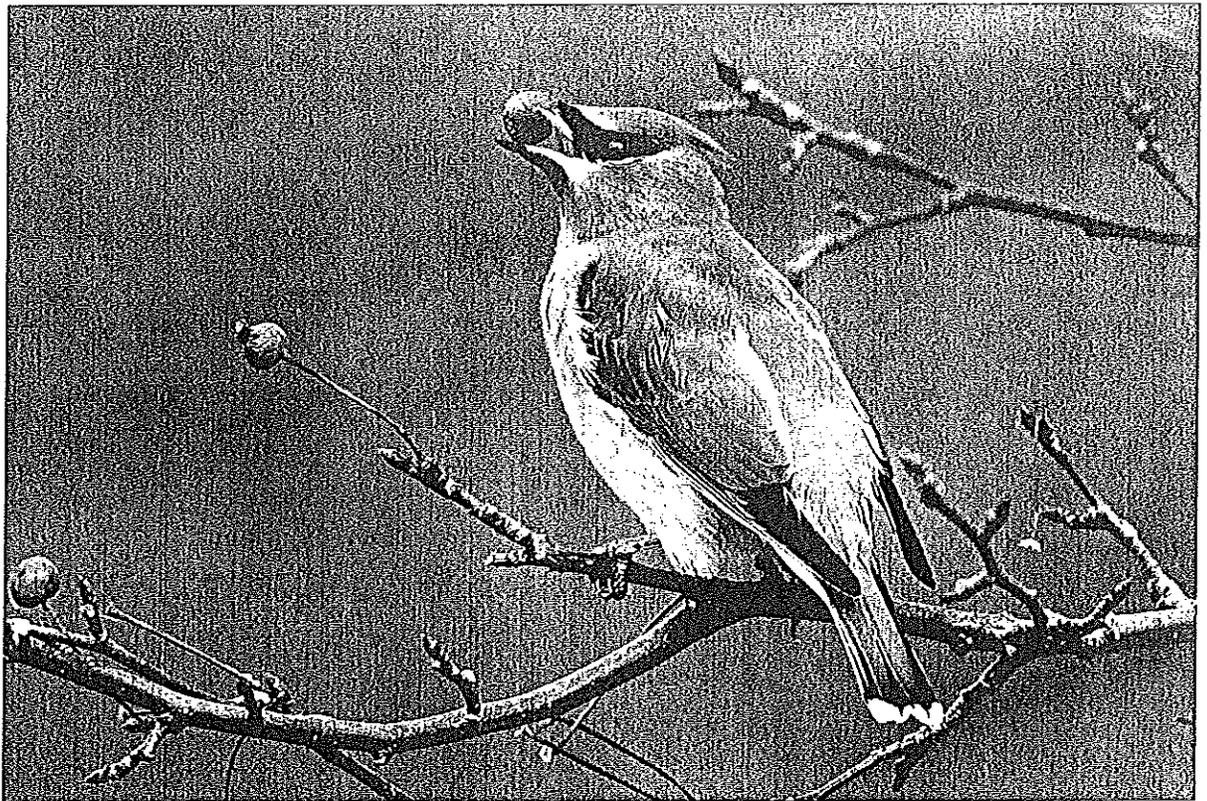
fruiting trees and shrubs. Typically, fruiting plants are found around edges and open areas, and often near water.

Suburban landscape plantings have greatly benefitted waxwings, as well as other fruit eating birds, such as robins and mockingbirds. Common backyard plantings like dogwoods, honeysuckle, crabapple, and mulberry produce berries that are relished by waxwings. Homeowners who wish to enhance their property for waxwings can plant native flowering fruit trees and shrubs that produce berries. Wild cherries, cedar, serviceberry, and winterberry are a few more plants that will attract waxwings.

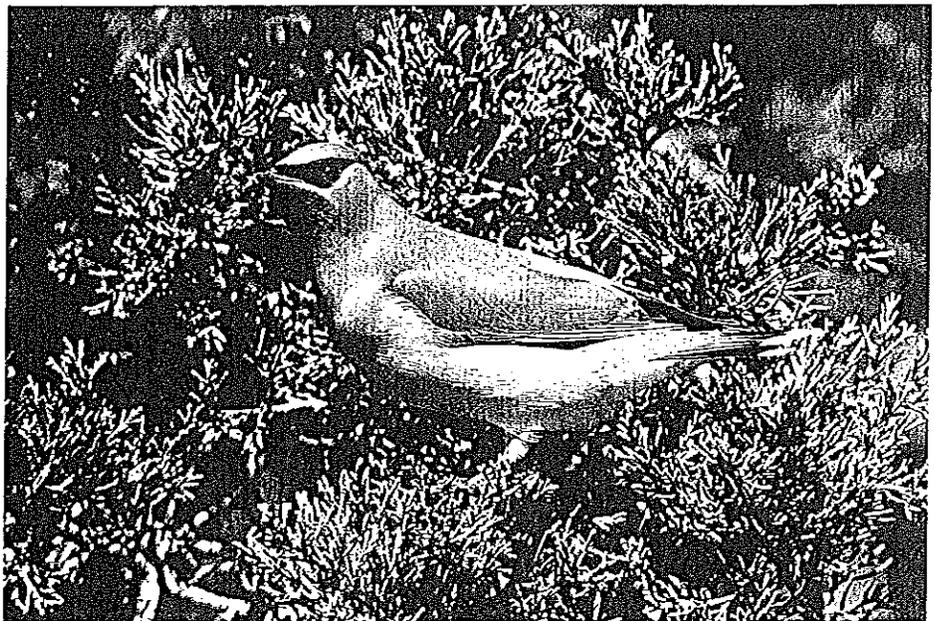
Cedar waxwings are abundant throughout most of their range. The breeding range extends coast to coast from New Foundland and North Carolina in the east, to southeastern Alaska and northern California in the west. In winter, they may be found as far south as northernmost South America. In general, waxwings migrate south for the winter, but in Connecticut some birds will remain while others from farther north will come into our state to spend the winter.

In Connecticut, the distribution of cedar waxwings is statewide but their occurrence is unpredictable. Waxwing flocks may travel extensively in their search for food. At times, they can be hard to find, especially in winter when food becomes scarce. Look for them when the berries on local fruit trees are ripening.

Cedar waxwings are normally found in small to large flocks throughout the year. Most flocks include up to a dozen birds, while flocks with more than 50 are rare. The birds are frequently seen perched in a close-knit group at the top of a tree, vocalizing with soft whistles and calls, communicating constantly with one another. Together, their high-pitched, thin lispy calls of "zee, zee" are multiplied, creating a louder resonance. From the treetop, the flock will suddenly



Crabapple berries are another waxwing favorite.



Named for their close association with cedar trees, cedar waxwings can often be found in stands of red cedar during fall and winter when the berry fruits are ripe. Note the red, waxy tip of the secondary feathers that give this bird its name.

stir, as if on command, taking off all at once. The birds fly in a tight circle, then depart, only to land at the top of another tree some distance away. Next time you are out for a walk in the wild or your neighborhood, listen carefully for the soft, high-pitched calls of the wandering flocks of cedar waxwings. You never know when and where these sociable birds may show up.

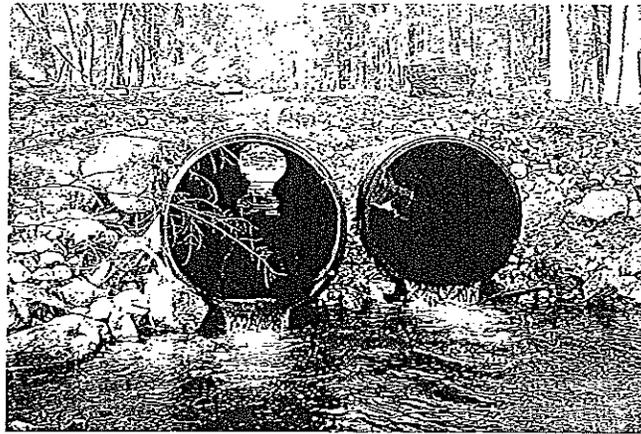
Providing “Fish Friendly Passage” at Stream Crossings

Article and photography by Brian Murphy, DEEP Inland Fisheries Division

We travel on roads every day as part of our normal daily routine. Yet, lurking under these roadways are old culverts that convey streams and brooks, many of which block movement of upstream fish passage. While much attention has been focused on obtaining fish passage at dams, few residents are aware that poorly maintained or improperly installed culverts pose a serious threat to fish movements. Impassable culverts fragment or isolate fish populations within a stream network, preventing fish from reaching critical spawning, nursery, feeding, or seasonal refuge habitats important for growth and survival. Populations of native brook trout, which typically reside in stream headwaters, are often impacted by impassable culverts. Movements of other stream dependent species, such as white suckers, blacknose dace, and fallfish, as well as diadromous species like river herring and American eel, can also be impacted. Unfortunately, the northeastern U.S. has some of the highest density of road crossings in the country, with an average of 106 road crossings per 100 miles of river, thus creating numerous potential obstacles to fish movement.

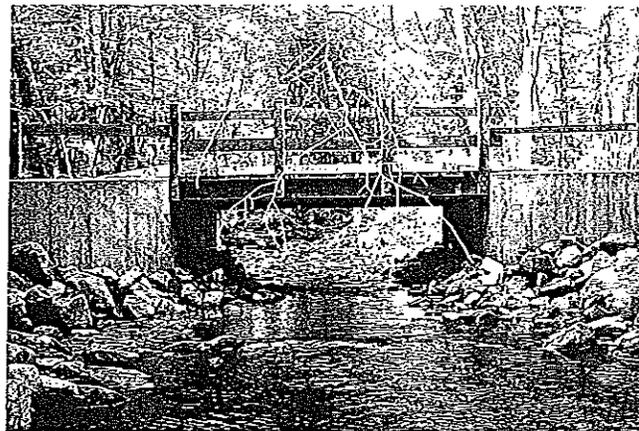
One of the more common problems in Connecticut is “perched” culverts that are situated above the elevation of the stream bottom at the culvert outlet (downstream end). These present physical barriers to upstream fish passage since most Connecticut stream fishes cannot jump high enough to gain entrance to the culvert. Another common problem is a culvert that creates shallow water or sheetflow conditions. Fish cannot swim through these structures due to insufficient water depths. Excessive water velocities create another problem, especially within smooth bottom culverts that do not contain natural streambed substrates. Culverts with excessive velocities cause many species to become physically exhausted and prohibit them from successfully navigating to the upstream side.

Municipal, state, and federal regulatory permits are required for stream crossing



Before restoration: Perched twin culverts at a stream crossing of Leadmine Brook, in Ashford, blocking upstream fish passage for native brook trout.

replacement projects. As part of the advisory permit review process, staff from the Inland Fisheries Division Habitat Conservation and Enhancement (HCE) Program have been assessing fish passage needs at stream crossings throughout Connecticut since the late 1980s. To facilitate construction of “fish passage friendly” culverts, HCE staff developed standard stream crossing guidelines, which can be found on the DEEP website at www.ct.gov/deep/lib/dep/fishing/restoration/



After restoration: Leadmine Brook twin culverts were removed and replaced with a clear span timber bridge, thus restoring fish passage to 2.9 miles of upstream habitats.

[streamcrossingguidelines.pdf](#). While the guidelines focus primarily on fish passage and protection of habitats, incorporating the suggested best management practices can also benefit other wildlife.

For new or replacement stream crossing projects, HCE Program staff typically recommend the installation of clear span bridges or bottomless arch culverts for the

crossing of perennial streams. These structures are “fish passage friendly” because they do not create barriers or impediments to fish migration and preserve instream habitats. The goal is to create crossings that are essentially “invisible” to aquatic organisms by making them no more of an obstacle to movement than the natural channel. If culverts with a bottom have to be used, it is recommended that they be sunken or buried one to two feet below the existing streambed. This strategy provides for fish passage and creates more natural conditions in the culverts because native stream substrates are placed over the culvert bottom.

More recently, many aging, corrugated metal culverts that convey streams under major Connecticut highways are in need of repair or replacement. Because complete culvert removal can be expensive and presents a multitude of construction and traffic issues, alternate measures to extend culvert life have been proposed. Often referred to as “baby-boomer” culverts (a term used to describe infrastructure built post WWII), these culverts are being rehabilitated with a method called “sliplining.” This technique involves placement and stabilization of a smaller diameter culvert within the failing culvert. Unfortunately, sliplining increases water velocities and may exacerbate existing perched conditions, making upstream fish passage a real challenge. HCE Program staff, in conjunction with the Connecticut Department of Transportation, are working hard to solve fish passage issues at these slipline projects. Culverts are proposed to be retrofitted using a variety of techniques, such as baffle systems, fishways, and rock weirs, to provide upstream fish passage.

HCE Program staff are available to provide technical guidance to municipalities and private landowners regarding the creation of fish passage friendly stream crossings. In eastern Connecticut, contact Brian D. Murphy at 860-295-9523 (brian.murphy@ct.gov) and, in western Connecticut, contact Donald J. Mysling at 860-567-8998 (donald.mysling@ct.gov).

2012 Connecticut Spring Wild Turkey Harvest

Written by Michael Gregonis, DEEP Wildlife Division

The spring wild turkey season continues to be the most popular turkey hunting season. Many sportsmen enjoy hearing the gobble of a mature tom and the challenge of harvesting a wild turkey during spring. The 2012 spring turkey season was open statewide and ran from April 25 to May 26. A total of 8,615 permits were issued and 1,364 birds were harvested. At least one turkey was harvested by 583 hunters for a 6.8% statewide success rate. In addition, 263 hunters harvested two birds, 95 hunters harvested

three birds, 11 hunters took four birds, and five hunters reported five birds. The harvest consisted of 937 adult males, 424 juvenile males, and three bearded hens.

Harvest decreased by 4.2% from 2011; however, permit issuance increased by nearly 44%. Although the 2012 permit issuance appears to indicate a large increase in spring turkey hunting permits, it may not reflect an actual increase in spring turkey hunters. The increase may be attributed to changes in a relatively new license packaging system. Some hunters, who had no intention of hunting turkeys, may have purchased a Firearms Supersport License or an Archery Supersport License (which includes a Spring Turkey Permit) because the package was less expensive than buying individual permits separately.

In general, the highest harvest occurs on opening day and on Saturdays. The 2012 spring season was no exception as 18% (239 birds) of the total harvest occurred on the first day of the season and 26% (357 birds) occurred during

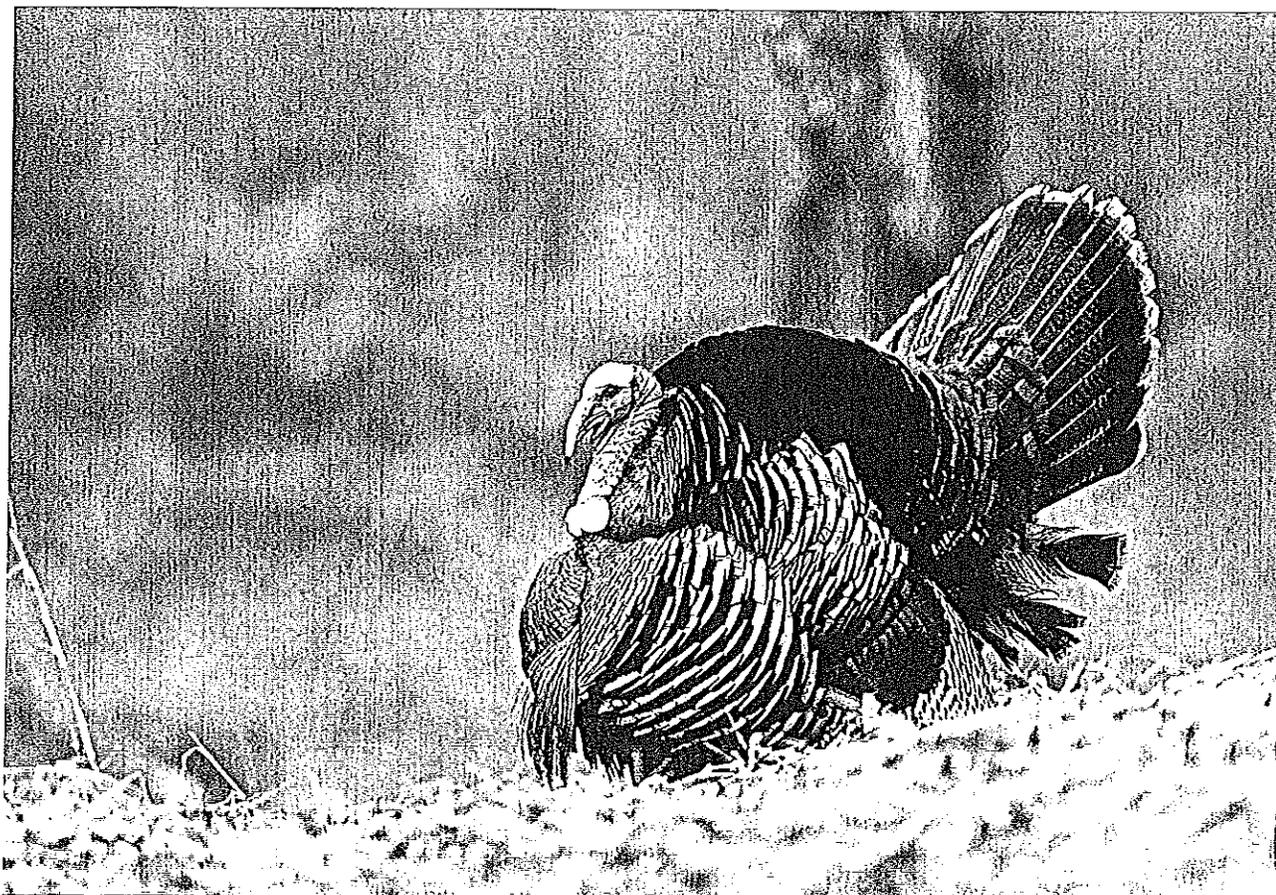


PHOTO BY P. J. FUSCO

five Saturdays. It is assumed that the majority of hunters had time off on these days, enabling them to enjoy recreational activities.

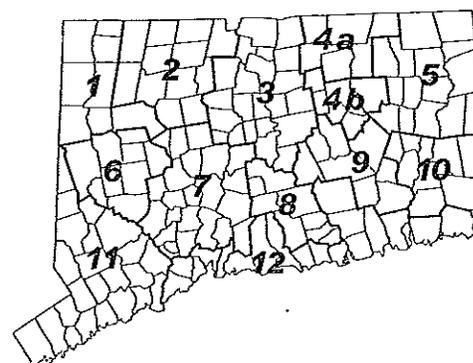
At least one turkey was harvested from 144 of Connecticut's 169 towns (85%). Lebanon (36), Suffield (32), and Woodstock (30) reported the highest harvest. State land hunters reported the highest harvest from Pachaug State Forest (18), Cockaponset State Forest (15), and Tunxis State Forest (14). On a regional basis, the highest harvests were reported in wild turkey management zone 5 (216 birds), zone 2 (165 birds), and zone 1 (135 birds).

In an effort to provide a quality wild turkey hunting experience for junior hunters (ages 12 through 15), Connecticut holds junior turkey hunter training days on two Saturdays every April. This year, youths harvested 71 turkeys during the training days. Junior hunter training days have been well received by both participants and mentors as many positive comments are made on hunter

surveys. These special days also prove to be a great way to introduce youth hunters to spring wild turkey hunting.

Although harvesting a wild turkey during the spring season can be a challenge, the rewards are plenty with excellent table fare and many watchable wildlife moments in the spring woodlands of Connecticut.

Connecticut Wildlife Management Zone Map



Deer Program Update 2012

Written by Andrew LaBonte, DEEP Wildlife Division

The DEEP Wildlife Division's Deer Program has been busy working on several projects this year.

Deer Study

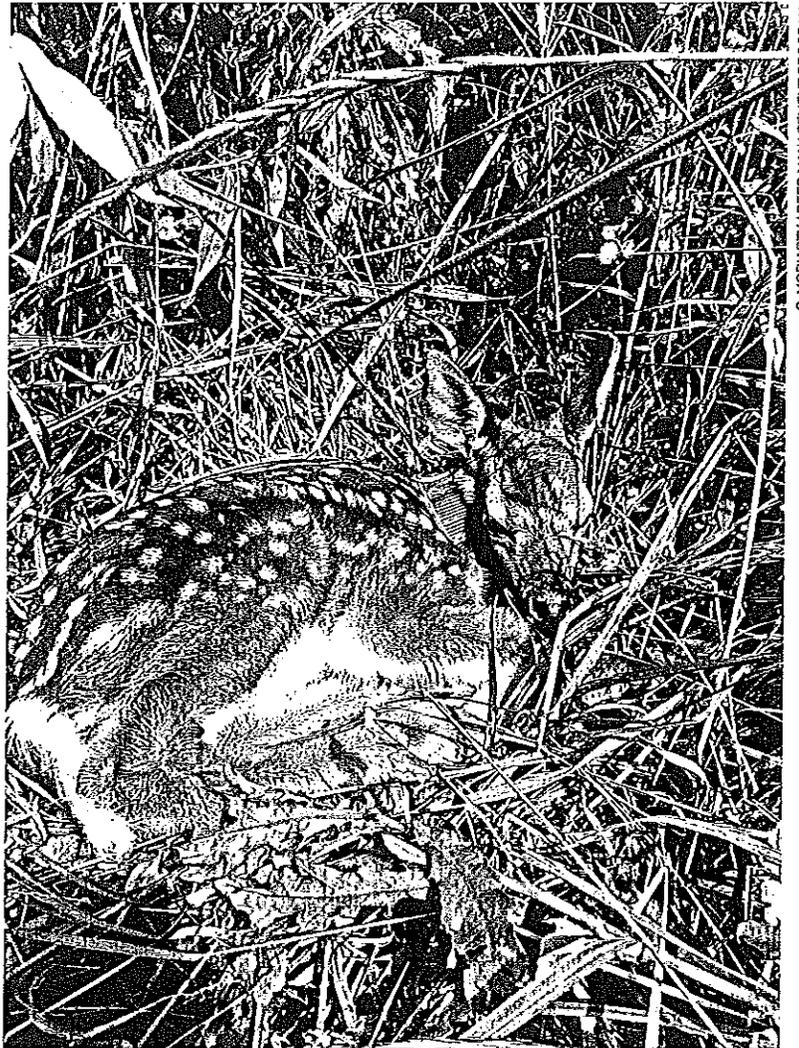
An intensive, multi-year research project, which began in fall 2011, will determine fawn production, adult and juvenile survival rates, causes of mortality, and habitat use in northwest Connecticut (deer management zone 1). Deer Program staff conducted spotlight surveys in Sharon, Salisbury, Cornwall, and Canaan an hour after sunset from the back of a pickup truck on specified routes to determine fawn to doe ratios. Staff observed 0.36 fawns per doe, which was slightly lower than the number reported by hunters during the hunting season (0.40-0.53 fawns per doe).

The following winter (January-April, 2012), 26 adult female deer (15 in Sharon, 9 in Salisbury, and 2 in Cornwall) were captured and equipped with radio-collars, ear tags, and a temperature sensitive vaginal implant transmitter (VIT). Radio-collars were used to locate the adult females several times a week, using a hand-held receiver and antenna, to determine survival and movements. During the first six months of the study, adult survival was 92%. One deer was struck by a motor vehicle within a few days and one died in July of unknown causes.

During the fawning period (May 23-June 27), 22 fawns were captured and equipped with a radio-collar. Many does gave birth late at night and moved their fawns before morning, making it difficult to locate them. Most does (67%) gave birth to single fawns; 27% gave birth to twins and one doe gave birth to triplets. Fawns were born as close as 17 yards (avg. = 113 yards) from a road and 26 yards (avg. = 124 yards) from a house. Average birth rate was 1.4 fawns per doe. Average weight of fawns at birth was 7.5 pounds and 68% of fawns were male. A total of 10 fawns died within 90 days of birth. Sources of mortality included natural causes (40%), predation (20%), agricultural practices (20%), and unconfirmed causes (20%). The fawn survival rate is currently 50% (0.67 fawns per doe). It can be expected that a few more fawns will be lost to some source of mortality by the end of their first year. Analysis on deer movements and landscape use of does and fawns will be evaluated in the future, and there are plans to capture additional deer this winter.

Chronic Wasting Disease Surveillance

After nine years of chronic wasting disease (CWD) surveillance in Connecticut, funding provided by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service was eliminated from the federal budget. CWD is a degenerative neurological disease that affects cervids, such as deer, elk, and moose. Since Connecticut began CWD surveillance in 2003, nearly 5,000 deer have tested negative. Of greatest concern to Connecticut's deer population has been the status of CWD in neighboring New York. CWD was first documented in 2005 in seven deer in New York. Over 32,000 deer have been tested in New York, with no additional cases documented. The outlook for the deer population in New York looks good and some previ-



C. MORIARTY / DEER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

A total of 22 fawns were captured and equipped with a radio collars to determine survival rates, movements, and use of the landscape.

ous restrictions related to CWD concerns are being lifted.

Unfortunately, each year CWD is being documented in new states, with the most recent case occurring in a captive cervid facility in Iowa in July 2012. Many of the states where CWD has been documented have large numbers of captive cervid facilities. The movement of captive cervids is believed to be the primary means affecting the spread of CWD from state to state. Concerns with these actions have prompted tighter restrictions on the captive cervid industry and restrictions on hunters in New York. Few captive cervid facilities exist in Connecticut, and those that do primarily consist of a few animals. Although a large source of funding for CWD monitoring has been lost, the Deer Program will continue to test deer displaying symptoms associated with CWD, such as emaciation, abnormal behavior, and loss of bodily functions.

Tick Sampling

Wildlife Division biologists, along with staff from the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, have been assisting

the community of Mason's Island, in Mystic, in assessing the use of 4-poster devices to reduce tick populations in the small isolated community. Division staff has been collecting ticks at Mason's Island where the devices are being used and at a control site (Black Point) where no 4-poster devices exist. Over a five-year period (2008-2012), ticks were collected in June at 37 sites at Mason Island and 39 sites at Black Point. At Mason Island, tick density and infection rates declined over a four-year period, although cases of Lyme disease remained similar (infection rates and cases of Lyme disease are not yet available for 2012). In addition to using the 4-poster devices at Mason Island, 61-68% of residents have been using a commercial tickicide application on their properties. A tickicide was also used on open space lands. At Black Point, the control site, tick density essentially remained the same over the five-year period. It appears that the 4-poster devices, in conjunction with commercial tickicide application, have reduced tick density and the percentage of ticks carrying the Lyme disease spirochete. However, the rate of human cases of Lyme disease in the Mason Island community has shown little change.

Biological Data Collection

Biological data have been collected by Wildlife Division staff during peak days of the hunting season at select check stations since 1975. Data collected includes sex, age, dressed body weight, number of antler points, and beam diameter of yearling bucks. These data are used to assess the health of Connecticut's deer herd. An analysis of data collected over the past 18 years shows little change in the health of the deer population.

Beginning in 2011, in an effort to explore alternate means of collecting biological data, several questions were added to the online and telephone harvest reporting system that provided greater sample sizes and confidence levels, as well as a variety of data. Sex, age, and antler points can still be determined through this method, along with hunter observation rates. Observation rates are used to determine fawn:doe ratios, buck:doe ratios, and deer observed per hour.

With the advancement and convenience of the on-line and telephone reporting system, Deer Program staff is able to collect similar and additional data in a more efficient and practical manner, negating the need to continue collecting biological data at deer check stations. Based on responses from hunters on the 2010 hunter survey, most hunters (69%) were in favor of closing



The 4-poster device is a passive feeding station designed to control ticks on white-tailed deer. As deer feed on bait at the station, tickicide-treated rollers brush against the neck, head, and ears where many adult ticks feed.

check stations if alternative methods were used to collect data on harvested deer. Moving forward, trend information generated from the new system should provide better insight into management of Connecticut's deer population. Hunters will be allowed to report harvested deer during the entire hunting season, including the first four days of the shotgun-rifle season, via the online and telephone reporting systems, and will not be required to bring their deer to a check station. Check stations will remain open for obtaining replacement tags for deer management zones 11 and 12, and during the first four days of the shotgun-rifle season, to accommodate those hunters who may not have been informed of the new changes.



Biological data have been collected by Wildlife Division staff during peak hunting days at select check stations since 1975. However, starting this year, hunters are no longer required to bring deer to a check station. Harvests should be reported via the online and telephone reporting systems.

H. KILPATRICK / DEER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

P. J. FUSCO

A Welcome Alliance

Written by Rebecca Foster, DEEP Wildlife Division; photography by Paul Fusco

The 2012 piping plover and least tern nesting season in Connecticut has come to a close and the birds all likely migrated South by early September. The season was typical, with both ups and downs. One very positive note for the 2012 season was the tremendous assistance of the Audubon Alliance for Coastal Waterbirds (AAfCW) in its inaugural year. The AAfCW

help the DEEP Wildlife Division monitor our threatened shorebirds. The USFWS volunteer group was over 60 people strong in 2012, greatly increasing observations on beaches and strengthening educational efforts with the general public.

An Early Start

Beginning in March and ending in late August, the Wildlife Division locates, monitors, protects, and collects productivity data for the federally and state threatened piping plover and state threatened least tern populations along the Connecticut shoreline.

This year, piping plovers began arriving and establishing nesting territories in early March, somewhat sooner than is typical. Plovers and least terns scrape small inconspicuous nests in the sand, usually between dune vegetation and the high tide line. This, unfortunately, is also where most beach pedestrian traffic occurs.

Once plovers were located, wooden and string fencing and cautionary signs were erected around the nesting areas with the help of the AAfCW staff and volunteers. The wooden fencing provides a “psychological barrier,” both alerting beach-goers to the birds’ presence and directing people away from nesting areas. Fencing is vitally important to prevent the vulnerable and camouflaged eggs from being stepped on. Once a piping plover nest is located, a team of trained individuals enters the fenced area to erect an “exclosure” around the nest. An exclosure is an oval metal cage with openings large enough for plovers to walk through, but small enough to prevent most mammalian predators from reaching the eggs. The exclosure is covered with fine netting to deter avian predators. Exclosures must be constructed and placed around the plover nest within a 20-minute window so that the eggs are not exposed to the elements while the adult bird is off the nest. Adhering to this timeframe also limits the amount of stress caused by the team’s presence on the adult birds. With AAfCW staff assistance in erecting exclosures, plovers were able to return to their nests to incubate their eggs more quickly.

A Very Thorough Survey

DEEP staff was able to survey many more beaches for threatened shorebirds in 2012 than in previous years. If piping plovers successfully nest on a beach, they generally return to the same area the next year. Conversely, the birds may change locations from year to year due to human disturbance, predator “pressure,” and nest losses. The Wildlife Division annually monitors 28 historical nesting sites from Greenwich to Stonington. However, most of the breeding pairs

are concentrated on five beach complexes that support prime nesting habitat. In 2012, an additional 12 beaches were surveyed thanks to the increased manpower provided through the AAfCW and USFWS volunteers, with piping plovers found at two new sites.

Similar to the 2011 season, the greatest numbers of nesting



DEEP Piping Plover Technician Rebecca Foster putting up cautionary signs and string fencing in Stratford.



DEEP Seasonal Resource Assistant Brian Blais assisting with piping plover and least tern field work.

is an alliance between the two Audubon groups in Connecticut, Connecticut Audubon and Audubon Connecticut. The AAfCW was able to train, organize, and collect data from seven AAfCW seasonal field staff members and seven Audubon staff members, as well as all of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) volunteers, including Master Wildlife Conservationists, who

birds were found at Stratford, Milford, West Haven, Old Lyme, and Groton. Between these five sites, there were over 20 pairs of piping plovers and over 300 pairs of least terns – the largest concentrations of nesting plovers and terns in Connecticut. Two beaches in Fairfield and Westport that were used by plovers in 2011 were not used in 2012. Piping plovers will often shift to a new, nearby beach, but even with all of the additional surveys conducted in 2012, the two missing pairs from 2011 were not located.

Low Plover Productivity

A number of factors contributed to low piping plover productivity in 2012. Human disturbance has always been and continues to be a barrier to successful piping plover nesting. Human disturbance may have caused at least two nest abandonments in Milford. Fencing was set up for a returning pair of plovers observed defending a territory at another beach in Milford. Unfortunately, a day later, the remains of two bonfires were observed just beside the nesting area. The plover pair left and was not observed again during the 2012 season.

Weather is often a contributing factor to nest losses. Storms, extreme highs and lows in temperature, and high tides all affect the plovers' ability to properly incubate eggs. As is common every season, at least three nests were washed-out by June high tides in Milford and Groton. Heavy rains early in the season may have contributed to several nest abandonments in West Haven.

This year, it is believed that predators had the largest negative impact on both nest and fledgling success statewide. Nests and chicks were lost to predators at five beaches. Foxes, raccoons, and black-backed gulls were observed in close proximity to nesting pairs throughout the season. In addition, predator tracks were frequently documented in the sand within nesting areas. On four occasions, at two beaches, a mammalian predator attempted to dig under exclosures to reach eggs. Exclosures are buried deep into the sand so the attempts were unsuccessful, but the "pressure" of the predator disturbance



Although final numbers for the 2012 piping plover nesting season are still being tabulated, productivity appeared to be negatively affected by human disturbance, weather events, and predation. These three juveniles were beating the odds as they foraged at one of the plover nesting beaches.

caused the adults to abandon their nests. In Old Lyme, nests were documented as hatching three and four chicks only to have the young chicks gone within a day or two. The Wildlife Division is working with the USFWS to address predator issues should they be an issue again in 2013.

Tern Numbers Similar to 2011

Least tern data collection for 2012 is still ongoing, but initial results indicate that the numbers of tern pairs, nests, chicks, and fledges will be similar if not slightly higher than those of 2011. The largest numbers of breeding least terns were found in Stratford, West Haven, Old Lyme, and Groton. Unfortunately, the predator(s) present in Stratford resulted in the failure of more than 22 observed least tern nests.

Human disturbance from recreation likely caused a number of nest abandonments in Groton. Many kayakers and boaters land and pull their boats up onto the beach precisely where the least terns are nesting. At this same site in Groton on a weekend day in July, 14 boats and many picnickers with grills and radios were observed recreating beside the protected shorebird areas. Human disturbance may have caused the terns to abandon the area – adult tern counts went from 26 pairs

to 17 pairs to two pairs in a two week period. West Haven terns were the most productive, with over 165 fledges from more than 125 nests.

Public Education Is Key!

Threatened shorebirds must share the best nesting sites with people who also find the beaches ideal. Equestrians, kayakers, boaters, hikers, and, most importantly, beach-goers must all be made aware of sensitive nesting areas. Beach recreation can coexist along with nesting piping plovers and least terns as long as people maintain a safe distance from the fencing, obey postings, refrain from bringing dogs onto the beach, pack out garbage, and generally respect the space given to the nesting birds.

The DEEP Wildlife Division would like to sincerely thank the AAWCW and Audubon staff, and the USFWS volunteers for educating, immeasurably, more people on Connecticut beaches this year. Experience has demonstrated that if beach-goers are educated in a professional manner and shown literature and pictures of these beautiful birds, they become piping plover and least tern advocates. Public education and advocacy are crucial to maintaining and ultimately increasing Connecticut's threatened shorebird populations.

Measures in Place to Contain Destructive Emerald Ash Borer

Connecticut's ash trees are facing a serious threat due to the recent discovery of the invasive, non-native emerald ash borer (EAB) in areas of New Haven County. The EAB specifically targets ash trees, eventually killing them. Ash trees are an important species throughout Connecticut. In some parts, these trees comprise up to 19% of the forest. Ash is not only a source of economic revenue for the forest products industry and a favorite firewood of homeowners, but the trees are also ecologically significant as habitat for wildlife and in urban landscapes.

Unfortunately, research has shown that EAB cannot be eradicated. However, there is a strong chance infestations can be significantly slowed with the cooperation of Connecticut's visitors and residents, especially in the early stages of an infestation. DEEP is committing its resources and experience to prevent the widespread loss of the state's ash trees. This commitment includes supporting the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES) and its regulatory effort to slow the spread of this invasive insect.

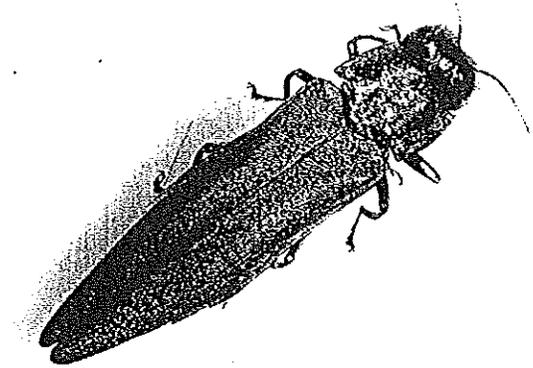
CAES is requiring that all who transport firewood abide by emergency regulations to limit the movement of infested, or potentially infested ash wood into and within Connecticut. Both CAES and DEEP are asking that Connecticut's residents and visitors not move firewood

out of Connecticut. You may be transporting harmful forest pests to other states unknowingly. Furthermore, other states have prohibited moving untreated firewood across their borders.

In addition to these regulations, CAES has placed a quarantine on New Haven County that regulates the movement of ash logs, ash materials, ash nursery stock, and hardwood firewood from within New Haven County to any area outside of that county. The quarantine mirrors a federal quarantine also imposed on New Haven County, and requires permits for the transport of many wood products in the state, especially products harvested in New Haven County. Restrictions on moving hardwood products, especially firewood, are necessary because the small insects can hide in the wood and be easily transported into uninfested areas. Ashwood is difficult to identify in mixed loads of firewood. Therefore, split firewood and wood intended to be cut and split cannot be moved out of New Haven County unless the wood is heat-treated in a drying kiln or the bark and some of the wood are removed to ensure that EABs are not present. The goal of these regulatory efforts is to provide clear guidance for all, to help protect our state's ash trees.

When transporting firewood within Connecticut, a document stating the origin and destination must be with the transporter. A Self-Issued Firewood Transportation Certificate is available on the DEEP website (www.ct.gov/deep/EAB) to comply with this regulatory requirement.

Any questions about the regulations can be directed to the DEEP Division of Forestry at 860-424-3630, or by email at deep.forestry@ct.gov. You may also contact CAES at 203-974-8474 or by email at CAES.StateEntomologist@ct.gov. Detailed information about EAB, the quarantine, emergency firewood regulations, and the necessary permits for transporting wood products can be found at www.ct.gov/deep/eab or www.ct.gov/caes.



CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURE EXPERIMENT STATION

Detecting the Emerald Ash Borer

Efforts to monitor for EAB in Connecticut have been in place ever since this destructive insect was confirmed just over the state border in New York. This year, 541 purple prism detection traps, containing a special chemical lure, were placed across the state by the University of Connecticut Cooperative Extension System via an agreement with the USDA APHIS PPQ.

In addition, the U.S. Forest Service is supporting "blosurveillance" monitoring efforts that use a ground-nesting, native wasp (*Cerceris fumipennis*). This wasp hunts for buprestid beetles of all types (including EAB) and brings them back to its nesting hole to provide food for its young. Citizen scientist "wasp watchers" catch the wasp as it returns to the nest, taking the prey to determine if the wasps are foraging on EAB. This highly efficient and effective survey tool was responsible for the initial detection of EAB specimens in Prospect. Three additional EAB specimens were captured in a trap in Prospect, while other beetles were captured in a trap in Naugatuck. With this discovery, Connecticut became the 16th state in the nation to document this invasive beetle.

The EAB is small – approximately 1/2-inch long and 1/8-inch wide – and metallic green in color. Adults emerge from the bark of infested trees leaving a small "D"-shaped exit hole roughly 1/8-inch in diameter. This insect is native to Asia and was first discovered in 2002 in the Detroit, Michigan, and Windsor, Ontario, regions of North America. It has since spread through the movement of firewood, solid-wood packing materials, infested ash trees, and by natural flight dispersal.

Prevent the Spread of Invasive Insects

- Leave firewood at home when going camping anywhere in Connecticut or out-of-state. That includes hunters heading to hunting camps for the upcoming season. Purchase campfire wood from vendors located near your campsite.
- Burn all firewood at your campsite before you leave and do not bring it back to Connecticut.
- When purchasing firewood for the upcoming winter season, buy locally and make sure your supplier is following the emergency regulations and has obtained the proper permits for transporting wood.
- Report any possible infestations of the emerald ash borer or Asian longhorned beetle to the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station at 203-974-8474 or CAES.StateEntomologist@ct.gov. Please do not move the insect or wood from the site. Take a digital photo and send it to the email address above. Give a precise description of the location of the tree so that an investigator from CAES can visit the site.

Canada Goose

Brant canadensis

Background

The Canada goose was abundant in Connecticut during colonial times, principally as a migrant. Unregulated hunting and market hunting in the 1700s and 1800s caused a population decline. However, protective measures in the early 1900s gradually reversed this trend. Releases of geese by game breeders, sportsmen, private groups, and the State Board of Fisheries and Game resulted in an established population of resident geese that eventually spread throughout the state. Currently, Canada geese nest statewide, with the highest populations occurring in the 3 most urbanized counties (Fairfield, Hartford, and New Haven counties).

Canada goose numbers have increased substantially over the last 50 years. This increase is due to the ability of geese to adapt to man's landscaping practices. The multitude of new ponds, lakeside lawns, golf courses, and athletic fields created since the 1950s have resulted in a large expansion of the goose population. These areas provide the right combination of water, cover, and grazing sites for geese.

The establishment of special hunting seasons that focus on the harvest of resident geese have helped in controlling the resident goose population. Breeding waterfowl population survey data indicate that the resident Canada goose population is declining in those areas of the state where hunters are provided access to the birds during the hunting seasons.

Range

"Migrant" populations of Canada geese nest in Alaska and northern Canada and primarily winter in the United States. "Resident" populations, which are non-migratory, have become established since the 1950s and nest throughout the United States.

Description

The Canada goose is Connecticut's largest native waterfowl species, weighing between 6 and 13 pounds and measuring 22-48 inches. It is easily recognized by its black head, bill, and neck that contrast strikingly with a pale gray breast. The distinct white cheek patch, or chinstrap, that covers the throat is a characteristic field mark. The birds are gray-brown to dark brown on the back and wings and white on the belly; they have a black rump and tail

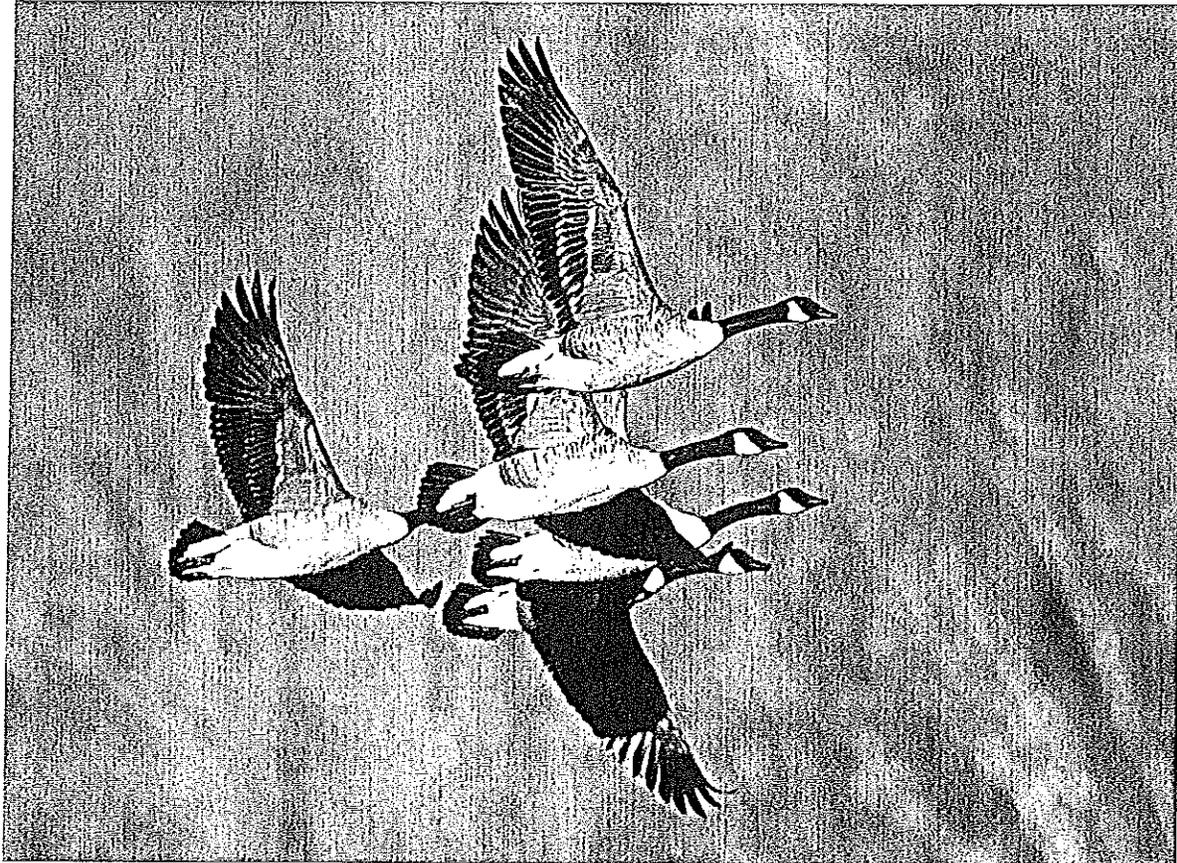


PHOTO BY P. J. FUSCO

feathers that are separated by a narrow but distinct band of white feathers.

Habitat and Diet

Canada geese are found in a variety of habitats that are located near water bodies, such as lakes, marshes, ponds, reservoirs, and rivers. Geese also are attracted to open grassy areas like lawns, parks, golf courses, athletic fields, and airports, as well as agricultural fields. These habitats provide ample food in the form of aquatic plants, seeds, clovers, cultivated grains, and lawn grass. When inland freshwater areas freeze in Connecticut, geese concentrate in the bays and inlets of Long Island Sound.

Life History

Canada geese are among Connecticut's earliest spring nesters. They may start to defend territories in March and nest by early April. Yearling geese generally do not attempt to nest; about one-third of 2-year-old birds nest, as do most of the 3-year-olds. Canada geese are monogamous and pairs mate for life. They use a variety of nest sites, such as islands, man-made structures, muskrat and beaver lodges, and shoreline edges. Nest site requirements include proximity to water, cover for the nest, and good visibility for the incubating bird. Usually 4 to 7 white eggs are laid and incubated by the female while the male stands guard a short distance away. Incubation lasts about 28 days. Hatching occurs from April through June, with the peak occurring the first week of May. Nesting success and gosling survival are generally high. Most nest losses are caused by flooding, desertion,

and predation. Egg predators include raccoons, skunks, foxes, coyotes, dogs, and gulls. Young goslings may be preyed upon by snapping turtles, gulls, owls, and coyotes.

Interesting Facts

Year-round resident geese that breed in the state are distinct from migratory populations that nest in the northern Canadian provinces. Most migrant geese that occur in Connecticut breed in Labrador, Newfoundland, and northern Quebec, arriving in Connecticut in early October. Migration continues through November with another peak number of migrants arriving in mid-December. Most migrant geese leave the state by mid-January to continue further south. However, in some years with mild winters, substantial numbers of migrant geese have remained in Connecticut the entire winter.

Flocks of geese travel in long lines, flying in V-formations. Their raucous honking can be heard for miles. The resonant calls from flocks of migrating geese have long been a welcome harbinger of autumn.

Resident geese sometimes serve as decoys, attracting migrant waterfowl. This can lead to crowded conditions and encourage the spread of diseases through the wild population. Further complicating the situation in Connecticut is the feeding of geese by the public. Geese and ducks that are fed nutritionally deficient food, such as bread, may be more susceptible to disease and malnutrition. Supplemental feeding of geese also creates unsanitary conditions and public safety issues at feeding areas. The DEEP Wildlife Division strongly discourages the supplemental feeding of geese and other waterfowl. Consult the Division's publication, "Do Not Feed Waterfowl," to learn how you can help waterfowl by NOT feeding them.

Conservation and Management

All migratory game birds, including Canada geese, are man-

aged by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Biologists manage the migrant and resident populations differently even though the two overlap during fall and winter and are indistinguishable in appearance. The migrant population is generally susceptible to high hunting pressure because of its long migration. The resident population receives too little hunting pressure. Special hunting seasons, timed to occur when migrants are not present in Connecticut, are used to direct hunting pressure toward resident geese. Regulated hunting is an effective management tool which can reduce nuisance problems. However, many nuisance goose problems occur in urban and suburban areas where hunting may not be a viable option.

Non-lethal techniques can be effective, particularly if several different methods are used in concert with each other and at the appropriate time. However, most of the available non-lethal methods, except for habitat modification, are transitory in their effectiveness. If habitat is not altered and human tolerance of nuisance geese does not change, some level of population reduction, together with non-lethal conditioning, is the only long-term, successful option.

Reducing the number of breeding adults is the only way to achieve and maintain a population decline of resident Canada geese. There are a number of ways to remove adult geese, such as regulated hunting and the issuance of federal depredation permits. Connecticut has liberal goose hunting seasons and hunting has resulted in a decline of goose numbers and problems in areas where hunters have access to the birds. However, hunting is limited in urban areas, making it necessary to use other means to reduce adult survival.

A separate fact sheet on how to deal specifically with nuisance goose problems is available on the DEEP's Web site (www.ct.gov/deep/wildlife) or by calling the Wildlife Division at 860-424-3011.

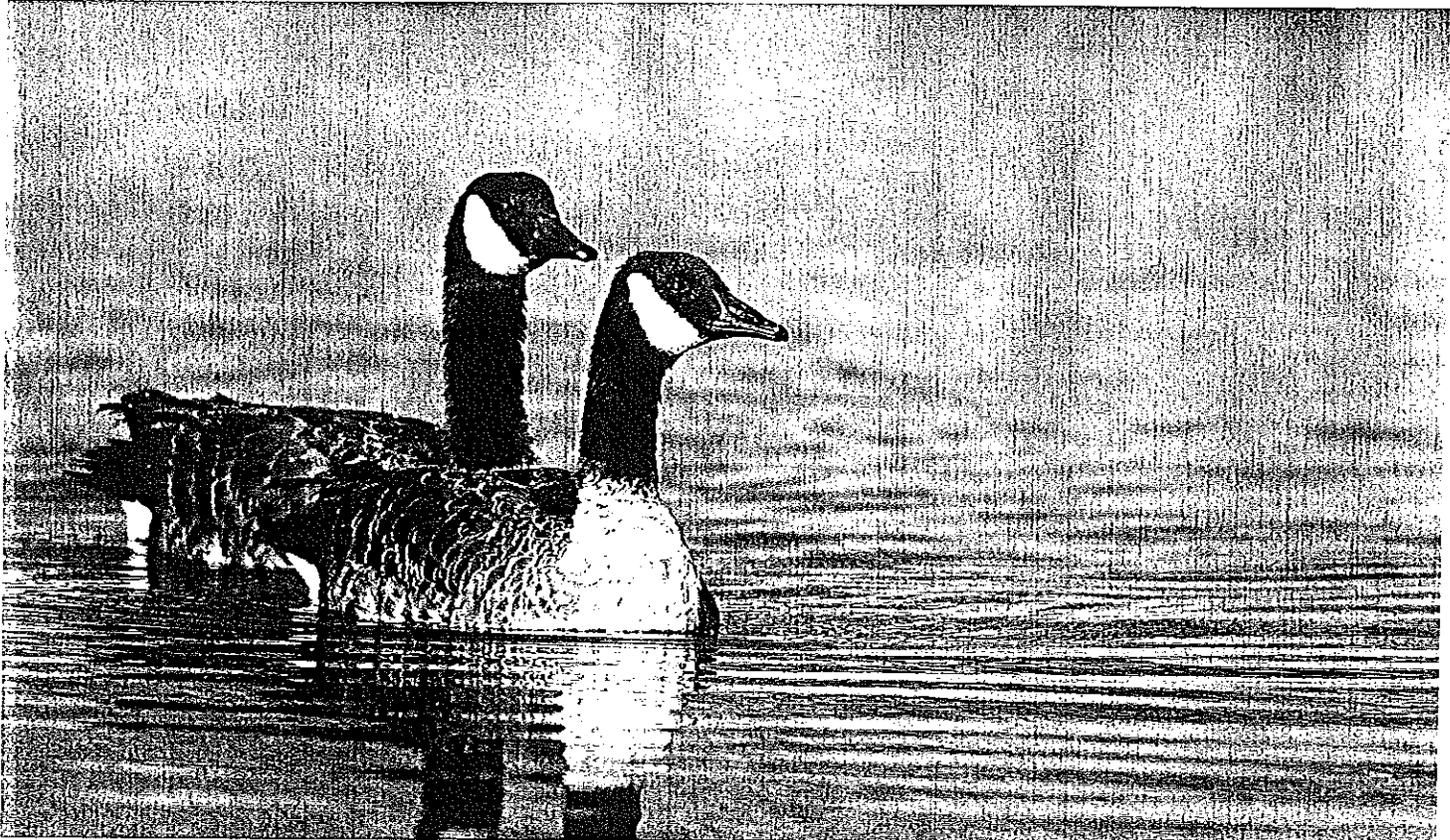


PHOTO BY P. J. FUSCO

Conservation Calendar

Programs at the Sessions Woods Conservation Education Center

Programs are a cooperative venture between the Wildlife Division and the Friends of Sessions Woods. Please pre-register by calling 860-675-8130 (Mon.-Fri., 8:30 AM-4:30 PM). Programs are free unless noted. An adult must accompany children under 12 years old. No pets allowed! Sessions Woods is located at 341 Millford St. (Route 69) in Burlington.

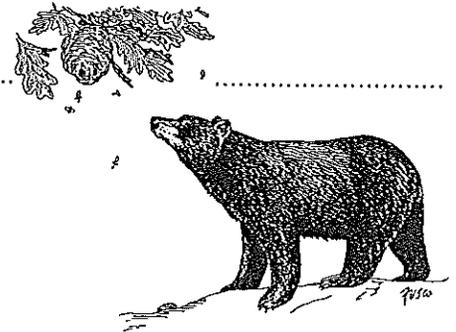
- Oct. 9 **Beaver Marsh Fall Evening Walk**, starting at 5:15 PM. Join DEEP Wildlife Division Natural Resource Educator Laura Rogers-Castro on an evening walk to the Beaver Marsh at Sessions Woods. View signs of fall along the trail during this two-mile round trip hike. Learn about beavers and other marsh animals as we explore this wetland habitat and beautiful location in the wildlife management area. Participants should dress appropriately and bring water.
- Dec. 1 **The Wolves & Bears of Yellowstone**, starting at 1:30 PM. Master Wildlife Conservationist and Photographer Gary Melnysyn returns to Sessions Woods to present an informative program on wolves and bears. The program will provide insight on the reintroduction of the wolf population to Yellowstone in 1995, and the successful growth of the population and its current status. Gary also will present information about wolf habitat, predation, and social structure. The bear portion of the program discusses the plight of the grizzly bear from the very beginnings of park history through the Grizzly Bear Recovery Act and ending with the current status of grizzlies in Yellowstone.
- Nov. 3 **Children's Program: Migration and Hibernation**, starting at 1:30 PM. How do animals get ready for winter? What changes do we see in the forest as the days get shorter and the nights longer? Take a walk at Sessions Woods with educator Laura Rogers-Castro to look for signs that winter is soon to arrive! Please wear appropriate outdoor gear and meet in the exhibit area of the Conservation Education Center.
- Dec. 15 **Meet & Greet Reception**, from 2:00 to 4:00 PM. Visit Sessions Woods for an open house to meet photographer and Master Wildlife Conservationist Gary Melnysyn and view his award-winning photography. Gary is an avid outdoor enthusiast and has been interested in wildlife from a very young age. A self-taught photographer, Gary's travels have taken him from the far reaches of Alaska, across the Canadian tundra, through the wilderness of Montana and Wyoming, southwest to the shores of the Sea of Cortez, through the Great Divide, and into the deep woods of Maine. Gary's passion for photography, combined with his wildlife background, results in stunning, wildlife images. If you like bears, birds, and breath-taking scenes, you won't want to miss this unique opportunity.

Hunting Season Dates

- Sept. 15-Nov. 13 First portion of the deer and turkey bowhunting season on state land (season extends until Dec. 31 on State Land Bowhunting Only Areas).
- Sept. 15-Dec. 31 Deer and turkey bowhunting season on private land (private land bowhunters in deer management zones 11 & 12 may hunt deer until January 31, 2013).
- Oct. 6 & Nov. 3 Junior Waterfowl Hunter Training Days
- Oct. 13 Junior Pheasant Hunter Training Day
- Oct. 20 Opening Day for the small game hunting season
- Nov. 3 & Nov. 10 Junior Deer Hunter Training Days
- Nov. 14-Dec. 4 Private land shotgun/rifle deer hunting season

Consult the 2012 Connecticut Hunting and Trapping Guide and the 2012-2013 Migratory Bird Hunting Guide for specific season dates and details. Printed guides can be found at DEEP facilities, town halls, and outdoor equipment stores. The guides also are available on the DEEP Web site (www.ct.gov/deep/hunting). Go to www.ct.gov/deep/sportsmenlicensing to purchase Connecticut hunting, trapping, and fishing licenses, as well as required deer, turkey, and migratory bird permits and stamps. The system accepts payment by VISA or MasterCard.

Connecticut Wildlife



Subscription Order

Please make checks payable to:
Connecticut Wildlife, P.O. Box 1550, Burlington, CT 06013

Check one:

- 1 Year (\$8.00) 2 Years (\$15.00) 3 Years (\$20.00)

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Announcement
Open Meetings to Discuss Public Act 12-155
An Act Concerning Phosphorous Reductions in State Waters

To: Municipal Chief Elected Officials
Municipal Water Pollution Control Authorities and Superintendents
Other Interested Parties

From: Macky McCleary, Deputy Commissioner
Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

Date: October 5, 2012

The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) is pleased to announce two initial meetings to discuss the requirements of Public Act 12-155 and to discuss plans and strategies to move forward. The Act requires DEEP to collaborate with chief elected officials (or their designees) of Danbury, Meriden, Waterbury, Cheshire, Southington and Wallingford, and any other municipality impacted by the state-wide strategy to reduce phosphorus, and to collaboratively evaluate and make recommendations regarding a state-wide strategy to reduce phosphorus in order to comply with United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) standards.

In order to best frame the issues, the two initial meetings are divided by topic and scheduled as follows:

Topic- State-wide response to address phosphorus nonpoint source pollution

November 5, 2012
9-11 AM
Phoenix Auditorium
Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT.

Topic- Scientific methods to measure phosphorous levels, approaches for municipalities to comply with phosphorous standards, and guidance for wastewater treatment and treatment plant upgrades

December 6, 2012
9-11 AM
Phoenix Auditorium
Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT.

All interested parties are welcome to attend. Please RSVP to Patty Gilmore at Patty.Gilmore@ct.gov if you plan to attend the meetings.

Background

DEEP has been working with the USEPA on a statewide nutrient control strategy for our waters. Nutrient enrichment is one of the most pressing water quality issues facing Connecticut and the nation as a whole. Excess nutrients jeopardize water quality resulting in excessive algae and aquatic plant growth (eutrophication) which impairs fish and aquatic life, recreational use and, in limited cases, can cause health concerns. Phosphorus in particular is the limiting nutrient in freshwaters in the state, is the primary cause of many water impairments, and threatens many others. As a result, the USEPA has required more aggressive action by states to limit nutrients to surface waters. The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) has been working with the USEPA on a statewide nutrient control strategy for our waters. The strategy uses best available science to identify phosphorus enrichment levels in waste receiving rivers and streams that adequately protect water quality. Discharges from wastewater treatment plants (WWTP) are the leading source of phosphorous to our waters, while polluted runoff (stormwater and other non-point sources) also contribute to a lesser degree.

PA 12-155 specifically requires DEEP to collaborate with towns on the following:

- a state-wide response to address phosphorus nonpoint source pollution
- scientific methods to measure current phosphorous levels and to make future projections of phosphorous levels
- approaches for municipalities to comply with standards established by the USEPA for phosphorus, including guidance for treatment and potential wastewater treatment plant upgrades.

Additional Information

The Department has posted information and materials concerning phosphorous and the proposed control strategy on our website:

http://www.ct.gov/dep/cwp/view.asp?a=2719&q=474130&depNav_GID=1654

Additional meetings will be scheduled to further explore these topics as necessary including possible workgroups. If you have further questions please contact the Water Protection and Land Reuse Bureau, Planning & Standards Division at 860 424-3020.



Connecticut Association of Conservation and Inland Wetlands Commissions, Inc.

deKoven House Community Center
27 Washington Street
Middletown, CT 06457
860 344-8321
www.caciwc.org

September 27, 2012

Greetings to our Connecticut Conservation and Inland Wetlands Commissions

The CACIWC Board of Directors is very pleased to invite you to our **35th Annual Meeting and Environmental Conference**, scheduled for Saturday, November 17, 2012 at Four Points by Sheraton in Meriden, CT (*note new location*). This year we will be hosting *Dr. Michael Klemens*, as our keynote speaker. Dr. Klemens will present his thoughts on *Ecological Stewardship and Economic Development: Do We Have to Choose?* During our business meeting, we will be voting on several bylaws amendments (over) designed to provide us with more flexibility in recruiting members to our board.

The CACIWC Annual Meeting Committee has scheduled a series of informative speakers and workshops on a host of relevant topics for both experienced and new conservation and inland wetlands commissioners and staff. This year's workshops are arranged within four reconfigured tracks: Open Space & Conservation Biology, Land Use Law & Legal Updates, Wetlands Science & Engineering, and Commission Administration and Planning. Additional details can be found at www.caciwc.org and in the fall issue of *The Habitat* that will be arriving in your mailbox shortly.

While we have raised our basic registration fees, we are offering a \$15 discount to commissioners and staff of commissions who have paid their 2012-13 membership dues (see list on the reverse side of the registration form). The savings from sending just four members to the meeting will cover your annual membership dues. Please complete a copy of the attached registration form for each attendee and return it to us before the Wednesday, October 31, 2012 deadline to save an additional \$10. Want to renew your commission membership? The 2012-13 membership renewal form can be found at www.caciwc.org. Please direct any questions to us at: AnnualMtg@caciwc.org

We are also asking you to consider making an additional individual contribution to CACIWC this year to help defray the increasing expenses of operating our annual conference. (See additional categories on the bottom of the form.) Your prompt return of the completed registration form and check to CACIWC at the above address will help us fund our annual meeting, future issues of *The Habitat*, and additional proposed education and training sessions that we are planning.

The CACIWC Board and I thank you and hope to see you at the conference!
Alan J. Siniscalchi, President

CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION
& INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSIONS, INC.

BYLAWS

Adopted 1977; amended 1984, 1993, 2000, 2005 2012 Proposed (deletions in brackets,
additions are underlined)

ARTICLE I - NAME, PURPOSE, and OFFICES

- 1.4 The principal office of the association is located in the
Town of [Vernon] Middletown, County of [Tolland] Middlesex, State of
Connecticut.

ARTICLE IV - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- 4.1 The Board of Directors shall consist of:
- the four officers of the association;
 - eight County Representatives, one from each Connecticut county ;
 - eight Alternate County Representatives, one from each Connecticut
county;
 - up to three Alternate at Large Representatives from any
Connecticut County; and
 - past presidents of the association (ex officio, without voting power).

ARTICLE VII - ELECTION AND TERMS OF OFFICE

- 7.1 Officers and directors of the Board of Directors shall be elected at the
Annual Meeting and shall serve for a term of two years, or until his/her
successor has been elected and has taken office. Any past or present
member or designated agent / enforcement officer of a Connecticut
Conservation or Inland Wetlands Commission / Agency may be elected to
the Board of Directors as an Officer, County, or Alternate County
Representative. Any Connecticut resident with experience working
on conservation issues may be elected to the Board of Directors as
an Alternate at Large Representative.

ARTICLE X - MEETINGS

- 10.3.5 An Alternate County Representative or Alternate at Large
Representative shall be entitled to vote at meetings of the Board of
Directors if he/she is substituting for [the] a County Representative or is
seated by the President. No more than 12 voting members may be
seated at any Board of Directors meeting.

Connecticut Association of Conservation & Inland Wetlands Commissions
35th Annual Meeting & Environmental Conference
Saturday, November 17, 2012
Four Points by Sheraton (275 Research Parkway Meriden, CT 06450)

Registration Form

Name: _____
Town: _____
Commission name: _____
Phone: _____ Email: _____

Workshop cost includes continental breakfast, hot lunch, workshops, and gratuities.

- Enclosed is my \$40 check (members & staff of CACIWC member commissions in good standing, registration postmarked by October 31, 2012)
- Enclosed is my \$50 check (members, postmarked after October 31, 2012)
- Enclosed is my \$55 check (non-members, postmarked by October 31, 2012)
- Enclosed is my \$65 check (non-members, postmarked after October 31, 2012)
- My town will submit payment prior to event.

No refunds after November 9, 2012 Questions? Please contact us at: AnnualMtg@caciwc.org

Please make checks payable to CACIWC. Return to CACIWC deKoven House Community Center, 27 Washington Street, Middletown, CT 06457; also see: www.caciwc.org

I will attend the following workshops: (Please check one workshop per session)

Session 1 9:30-10:30 AM

- A1. "New Approaches to Natural Resource Inventories"
- B1. "Working with Expert Consultants"
- C1. "Vernal Pools: Road Effects on Biochemical Cycling & Amphibian Performance"
- D1. "The State Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD): Next Steps"

Session 2 10:45-11:45 AM

- A2. "CT Wildlife Update: Declining Birds, Declining Dollars: Cause and Effect"
- B2. "2012 Wetlands Law Update with Question & Answers Session"
- C2. "How Sanitarians & Wetlands Agents Can Work Together to Protect Wetlands"
- D2. "Can Open Space Be Permanently Protected?"

Session 3 2:00-3:15 PM

- A3. "Invasive Species, Climate Change & Other Factors"
- B3. "Working Within Your Town to Manage Complex Applications"
- C3. "Defining a 'Likely' Impact to the Physical Characteristics of Wetlands"
- D3. "Strengthening Conservation Commissions, a Panel Discussion"

Yes, I will be a Sponsor for CACIWC's 2012 Environmental Conference.

\$_____ Tax Deductible Contribution (as allowed by law), see below categories:

Great Horned Owl: \$500 and up,

Barred Owl: \$250-\$499,

Screech Owl: \$100-\$249,

Saw-whet Owl: \$10-\$99

Paid Commissions as of 9/15/2012

TOWN	COMMISSION NAME	TOWN	COMMISSION NAME
BROOKFIELD	CONSERVATION COMMISSION	OLD SAYBROOK	CONSERVATION COMM.
BROOKFIELD	INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION	OLD SAYBROOK	INLAND WETLANDS COMM.
DARIEN	ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION COMM.	WESTBROOK	CONSERVATION COMMISSION
EASTON	EASTON CC/IWC	WESTBROOK	IWWC
FAIRFIELD	CONSERVATION COMMISSION	ANSONIA	CONSERVATION COMM.
FAIRFIELD	INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY	ANSONIA	INLAND WETLAND COMM.
GREENWICH	CONSERVATION COMMISSION	BEACON FALLS	CONSERVATION COMMISSION
GREENWICH	INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY	BEACON FALLS	IW & WATERCOURSES
MONROE	MONROE INLAND WETLANDS COMM.	BETHANY	CONSERVATION COMM.
NEW CANAAN	CONSERVATION COMM.	BETHANY	INLAND WETLANDS COMM.
NEW CANAAN	INLAND WETLANDS COMM.	CHESHIRE	CHESHIRE IWWC
NEW FAIRFIELD	CONSERVATION/IWC	CHESHIRE	ENVIRONMENTAL COMM
NEWTOWN	CONSERVATION COMMISSION	GUILFORD	INLAND WETLANDS COMM.
NEWTOWN	INLAND WETLANDS COMM.	GUILFORD	CONSERVATION COMMISSION
NORWALK	CONSERVATION COMMISSION	MADISON	INLAND WETLANDS COMM.
REDDING	REDDING CC / IWC	MIDDLEBURY	CONSERVATION COMMISSION
RIDGEFIELD	RIDGEFIELD CONSV. COMM.	MILFORD	CONSERVATION COMM.
RIDGEFIELD	INLAND WETLANDS BOARD	MILFORD	INLAND WETLANDS COMM.
SHELTON	CONSERVATION COMM.	NAUGATUCK	INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION
SHERMAN	INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSE COMM.	NORTH BRANFORD	CONSERVATION & IWWC
TRUMBULL	IWWC	NORTH HAVEN	NORTH HAVEN IWC
TRUMBULL	CONSERVATION COMM.	OXFORD	INLAND WETLANDS COMM.
WESTPORT	CONSV. COMM.	OXFORD	CONSERVATION COMM
WILTON	CONSERVATION COMM.	SEYMOUR	CONSERVATION COMMISSION
WILTON	INLAND WETLANDS COMM.	SOUTHBURY	INLAND WETLANDS COMM.
BERLIN	CONSERVATION COMMISSION	WALLINGFORD	INLAND WETLANDS COMM.
BRISTOL	BRISTOL CC / IWC	WALLINGFORD	CONSERVATION COMM.
EAST HARTFORD	INLAND WETLAND/ENVIRON. COMM.	BOZRAH	IWCC
EAST WINDSOR	IWWC	EAST LYME	CONSERVATION of NAT. REX.
ENFIELD	CONSERVATION COMM.	EAST LYME	INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY
ENFIELD	ENFIELD IWWC	GRISWOLD	GRISWOLD IWW / CC
GLASTONBURY	GLASTONBURY CC / IWWC	GROTON	CONSERVATION COMMISSION
GRANBY	CONSERVATION COMM.	GROTON	INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY
GRANBY	GRANBY IWWC	LEBANON	INLAND WETLANDS COMM.
MANCHESTER	P&Z/IWC	LEBANON	CONSERVATION COMM
MANCHESTER	CONSERVATION COMM.	LISBON	CONSERVATION COMM
PLAINVILLE	IWWC	LYME	LYME IWC/CONSERVATION COMM
PLAINVILLE	CONSERVATION COMM.	NEW LONDON	NEW LONDON IWCC
SOUTH WINDSOR	IWA/CC	NORTH STONINGTON	CONSERVATION
WEST HARTFORD	INLAND WETLAND AGENT	OLD LYME	OLD LYME IWWC
WEST HARTFORD	CONSERVATION/ENVIRONMENT COMM.	PRESTON	CONSERVATION
WETHERSFIELD	IWWC	PRESTON	IWWC
WINDSOR	CONSERVATION COMMISSION	SALEM	CC / IWC
WINDSOR	WINDSOR IWWC	SPRAGUE	SPRAGUE CC / IWC
WINDSOR LOCKS	CONSERVATION COMMISSION	STONINGTON	IWWC
WINDSOR LOCKS	INLAND WETLANDS COMM	WATERFORD	CONSERVATION COMMISSION
BARKHAMSTED	CONSERVATION COMMISSION	ANDOVER	CONSERVATION COMM.
BARKHAMSTED	INLAND WETLANDS COMM.	BOLTON	CONSERVATION COMMISSION
BETHLEHEM	INLAND WETLANDS COMM.	BOLTON	INLAND WETLANDS COMM
CANAAN	IWC/CC	COLUMBIA	INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION
GOSHEN	CONSERVATION COMM	COLUMBIA	CONSERVATION COMMISSION
GOSHEN	INLAND WETLANDS COMM.	COVENTRY	CONSERVATION COMM.
HARWINTON	IWWC	COVENTRY	INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY
NEW HARTFORD	IWWC	HEBRON	CONSERVATION COMMISSION
NEW HARTFORD	CONSERVATION COMMISSION	MANSFIELD	INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY
NEW MILFORD	CONSERVATION COMMISSION	TOLLAND	INLAND WETLANDS COMM.
NEW MILFORD	IWWC	TOLLAND	CONSERVATION COMMISSION
NORFOLK	CONSERVATION/IW AGENCY	WILLINGTON	WILLINGTON IWWC
PLYMOUTH	PLYMOUTH IW/CC	WILLINGTON	CONSERVATION COMM.
ROXBURY	CONSERVATION COMM.	ASHFORD	ASHFORD CONSERVATION COMM.
ROXBURY	ROXBURY IWWC	ASHFORD	ASHFORD IWWC
SHARON	SHARON IWWC	CANTERBURY	IWWC
THOMASTON	THOMASTON IWWC	CHAPLIN	CONSERVATION COMMISSION
WARREN	CONSERVATION & IW	CHAPLIN	CHAPLIN IWWC
WASHINGTON	INLAND WETLANDS COMM.	EASTFORD	EASTFORD IWWC
WOODBURY	CONSERVATION COMMISSION	EASTFORD	CONSERVATION COMM.
WOODBURY	INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY.	HAMPTON	INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES
DEEP RIVER	IWC / CC	PLAINFIELD	CONSERVATION COMMISSION
EAST HADDAM	E. HADDAM IWWC	PLAINFIELD	IWWC
EAST HADDAM	CONSERVATION COMMISSION	POMFRET	IWWC
EAST HAMPTON	IWWA	STERLING	STERLING IWWC
EAST HAMPTON	CONSERVATION-LAKE COMMISSION	THOMPSON	THOMPSON IWC
HADDAM	CONSERVATION COMMISSION	THOMPSON	CONSERVATION COMM.
HADDAM	INLAND WETLANDS COMM.	WOODSTOCK	CONSERVATION COMMISSION
KILLINGWORTH	CONSERVATION COMM.	WOODSTOCK	WOODSTOCK IWWC
KILLINGWORTH	IWWC		



US Army Corps
of Engineers
New England District
696 Virginia Road
Concord, MA 01742-2751

PUBLIC NOTICE

Comment Period Begins: October 16, 2012
Comment Period Ends: November 16, 2012
File Number: NAE-2008-1671
In Reply Refer To: Susan Lee
Phone: (978) 318-8494
E-mail: susan.k.lee@usace.army.mil

The District Engineer has received a permit application from the applicant below to conduct work in waters of the United States as described below.

APPLICANT: Joint application by The Connecticut Light and Power Company (CL&P), 107 Selden Street, Berlin, CT 06037 and The Narragansett Electric Company (TNEC) and the New England Power Company (NEP) (collectively, "National Grid"), 40 Sylvan Road, Waltham, MA 02451.

ACTIVITY: CL&P and National Grid (collectively, "the Companies") propose to fill (temporary and permanent) inland wetlands/waters in association with the construction, operation, and maintenance of the Interstate Reliability Project ("the Project"). The Project consists of approximately 75 miles of new overhead 345-kilovolt (kV) electric transmission lines, and related modifications and improvements to existing 345-kV and 115-kV transmission lines and substation and switching facilities in northeast Connecticut, northwest Rhode Island, and south-central Massachusetts. The new 345-kV transmission lines will be aligned adjacent to existing overhead 345-kV and other transmission lines and, for 98% of the 75-mile route, will be located within the Companies' existing utility rights-of-way (ROWs). The Project is designed to address various electric reliability issues in southern New England.

Of the 75 miles of new 345-kV transmission lines, approximately 36.8 miles will be located in Connecticut; 22.5 miles will be located in Rhode Island; and 15.4 miles will be located in Massachusetts. The new transmission lines will extend across portions of 11 Connecticut towns (Lebanon, Columbia, Coventry, Mansfield, Chaplin, Hampton, Brooklyn, Pomfret, Killingly, Putnam, and Thompson); two Rhode Island towns (Burrillville and North Smithfield); and five Massachusetts towns (Millville, Uxbridge, Northbridge, Sutton, and Millbury). In Rhode Island, National Grid also will reconstruct and reconductor a 9.2-mile segment of existing 345-kV transmission line. In Rhode Island and Massachusetts, National Grid will remove existing steel lattice towers along an approximately 19-mile segment of ROW; these activities will occur primarily within the same ROWs as the new 345-kV transmission line.

As part of the Project, CL&P will modify the existing Card Street Substation (in the Town of Lebanon) and the Lake Road Switching Station (in the Town of Killingly); these modifications will be located within the existing station fence lines and no water resources will be affected. In Rhode Island, National Grid will reconstruct the Sherman Road Switching Station (in the Town of Burrillville) on company property adjacent to the existing switching station site and will modify the West Farnum Substation (in the Town of North Smithfield). The new Sherman Road Switching Station will involve dredge and fill activities in wetlands. In Massachusetts, National Grid will perform modifications to the existing Millbury No. 3 Switching Station (in the Town of Millbury), all within or adjacent to the existing station fence line; no water resources will be affected.

The Project will be located entirely in inland areas: no coastal waters or navigable waterways will be traversed or otherwise affected. A detailed description and plans of the activity are attached.

WATERWAY AND LOCATION OF THE PROPOSED WORK:

The Project begins at Latitude 41.70226 N and Longitude -72.23544 W on the Willimantic, Connecticut 7.5 minute United States Geological Survey (USGS) topographic quadrangle sheet and extends generally north-northeast to Latitude 42.18793 N and Longitude -71.73747 W on the Worcester South, Massachusetts USGS quadrangle sheet.

AUTHORITY

Permits are required pursuant to:

- Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899
- Section 404 of the Clean Water Act
- Section 103 of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act)

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which may reasonably accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered, including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are: conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain value, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food production and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The New England District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

Because the activity involves the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States, the evaluation of the impact of the activity in the public interest will also include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, U.S Environmental Protection Agency, under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act.

NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT

Based on his initial review of information provided by the Companies, the District Engineer has determined that the proposed work may impact properties potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and has initiated consultation with the State and Tribal Historic Preservation Officers in Connecticut, Rhode Island and Massachusetts under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. Those consultations, including final identification of potentially eligible properties, completion of ongoing investigations of potential effects and timely development of avoidance and protection measures to prevent adverse effects on potentially eligible properties will continue as part of the permit review process.

ENDANGERED SPECIES CONSULTATION

The Corps has reviewed the list of species protected under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, which might occur in the vicinity of the Project. No federally-listed species are reported to occur in the Project area. It is the Corps' preliminary determination that the proposed Project activity for which authorization is being sought is designed, situated, or will be operated / used in such a manner that it is not likely to adversely affect any federally-listed endangered or threatened species or their critical habitat. By this Public Notice, we are requesting that the appropriate Federal Agency concur with our determination.

COASTAL ZONE CONSISTENCY

The States of Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Massachusetts have approved Coastal Zone Management Programs. The Companies state that no Project activities will be located in the designated coastal boundaries and that no coastal resources will be affected by Project activities. By this Public Notice, we are requesting that each State provide its concurrence or objection to the applicant's consistency statement.

The following authorizations have been applied for, or have been, or will be obtained by the Companies:

- (X) Permit, License or Assent from States.
- (X) Permit from Local Wetland Agency or Conservation Commissions (Massachusetts)
- (X) Water Quality Certifications in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act.

In order to properly evaluate the proposal, we are seeking public comment. Anyone wishing to comment is encouraged to do so. Comments should be submitted in writing by the date specified above. If you have any questions, please contact Susan Lee at (978) 318-8494 or (800) 343-4789, ((800) 362-4367, if calling from within Massachusetts).

Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider the application. Requests for a public hearing shall specifically state the reasons for holding a public hearing. The Corps holds public hearings for the purpose of obtaining public comments when that is the best means for understanding a wide variety of concerns from a diverse segment of the public.

The initial determinations made herein will be reviewed in light of facts submitted in response to this notice. All comments will be considered a matter of public record. Copies of letters of objection will be forwarded to the applicant who will normally be requested to contact objectors directly in an effort to reach an understanding.

In accordance with 33 CFR 325.2(a)(8), we publish monthly a list of permits issued or denied during the previous month at www.nae.usace.army.mil/reg, under the heading "Monthly General and Individual Permit Authorizations." Relevant environmental documents and the SOFs or RODs are available upon written request and, where applicable, upon the payment of administrative fees. Also visit www.nae.usace.army.mil for more information on the New England District Corps of Engineers programs.

THIS NOTICE IS NOT AN AUTHORIZATION TO DO ANY WORK.



Robert J. DeSista
Chief, Permits and Enforcement Branch
Regulatory Division

If you would prefer not to continue receiving Public Notices, please contact Ms. Tina Chaisson at (978) 318-8058 or e-mail her at bettina.m.chaisson@usace.army.mil. You may also check here () and return this portion of the Public Notice to: Bettina Chaisson, Regulatory Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 696 Virginia Road, Concord, MA 01742-2751.

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____

PAGE
BREAK

NOTIFICATION OF TIMBER HARVEST

Town: Mansfield Date: 9/5/12
Property Location: Wormwood Hill Road

List all parcels:
Assessor's Info:

Map	Block	Lot
18	76	12

OR:

Unique ID

Total acreage of property(s): 76.5

Total acreage of harvest area: 64

Landowner(s) of Record: Leo Giocca
Mailing Address: 70 Townsend Ave
Town: East Haven CT Zip 06512
Phone (203) 773-3486
E-mail: _____

Primary Contact: Brennan Sheahan
Mailing Address: 101 Hampton Rd
Town: Pomfret Center Zip 06259
Phone (860) 974-6127
E-mail: sheahan@hullforest.com

Note: Timber harvesting is a *Permitted as of Right Activity* pursuant to the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Act, except for those practices regulated under Section 22a-36 through 22a-45 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

Is there a current forest management/stewardship plan for this property? Yes No

This timber harvest has been prepared by a State of Connecticut certified:
 (Check one): Forester OR Supervising Forest Products Harvester
 Forest Practitioner Certificate #: F00690
 Name: _____
 Address: SAME
 E-mail: _____
 Phone #: (Business) _____ (Cell) 860-377-0115

Property Boundaries:
Bounds are marked: Yes No

Timber Harvest Boundaries:
Have been marked or flagged: Yes No

Have owners of all lands within 100 feet of the harvest area been notified via first-class mail prior to filing this "Notification of Timber Harvest"? Yes No
Estimated starting date of timber harvesting operations: 10/1/12

Description of Timber Harvest:
Objective: Generate Revenue & Open Canopy
Treatment: Selective harvest of mature sawtimber

Amount of forest products to be harvested:
196,600 Board feet 100 Cords _____ Cubic feet _____ Tons

How have the trees to be harvested been designated?
 They have been marked with paint at eye level and at ground level. Paint color(s): Blue
 They have not been marked

This is not an official CT DEP form but it has been endorsed for town usage by: CT Farm Bureau Assoc., CT Forest & Park Assoc., CT Professional Timber Producers, Society of American Foresters - CT Chapter, and others.

SOIL, WATER AND INLAND WETLANDS RESOURCES

Actions Being Performed On This Land

(Check all that apply and locate on attached Timber Harvest Area map -- see information below on maps.)

<p align="center"><u>Crossings / Clearing</u></p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Temporary stream/drainage crossing <input type="checkbox"/> Temporary wetlands crossing <input type="checkbox"/> Removal of trees in wetlands <input type="checkbox"/> Removal of trees in upland review area	<p align="center"><u>Erosion and Sedimentation Control Measures:</u></p> <input type="checkbox"/> Installation of water bars <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grading <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Seeding <input type="checkbox"/> Other (describe below)
<p align="center"><u>Log landing area:</u></p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anti-tracking pad <input type="checkbox"/> curb cut	<p align="center"><u>Roads</u></p> <p>Are new roads, other than skid trails, to be constructed for transport of logs or other activities associated with this harvest?</p> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

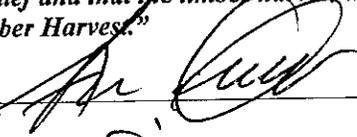
Describe in further detail as necessary:

Use existing woods road for landing site.

The following maps are attached to this "Notification" (Check all that apply)

- Copy of USGS topographic map with property outlined
- Copy of Assessor's map with property outlined
- Timber Harvest Area map showing outline of harvest area, main skid road locations, log landing area, truck access roads, inland wetlands, watercourses and any crossings

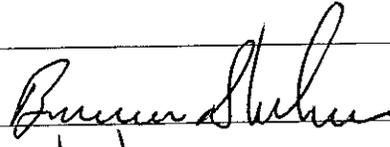
The undersigned hereby swear that the information contained in this application is true, accurate and complete to the best of my (our) knowledge and belief and that the timber harvest will be conducted in accordance with the specifications outlined in this "Notification of Timber Harvest."

Signature of Landowner(s):  Date: 9-10-12

Print/Type Name: Leo Ciocca

Signature of Landowner(s): _____ Date: _____

Print/Type Name: _____

Signature of Certified Forest Practitioner:  Date: 9/5/12

Print Name: Brennan Sheahan

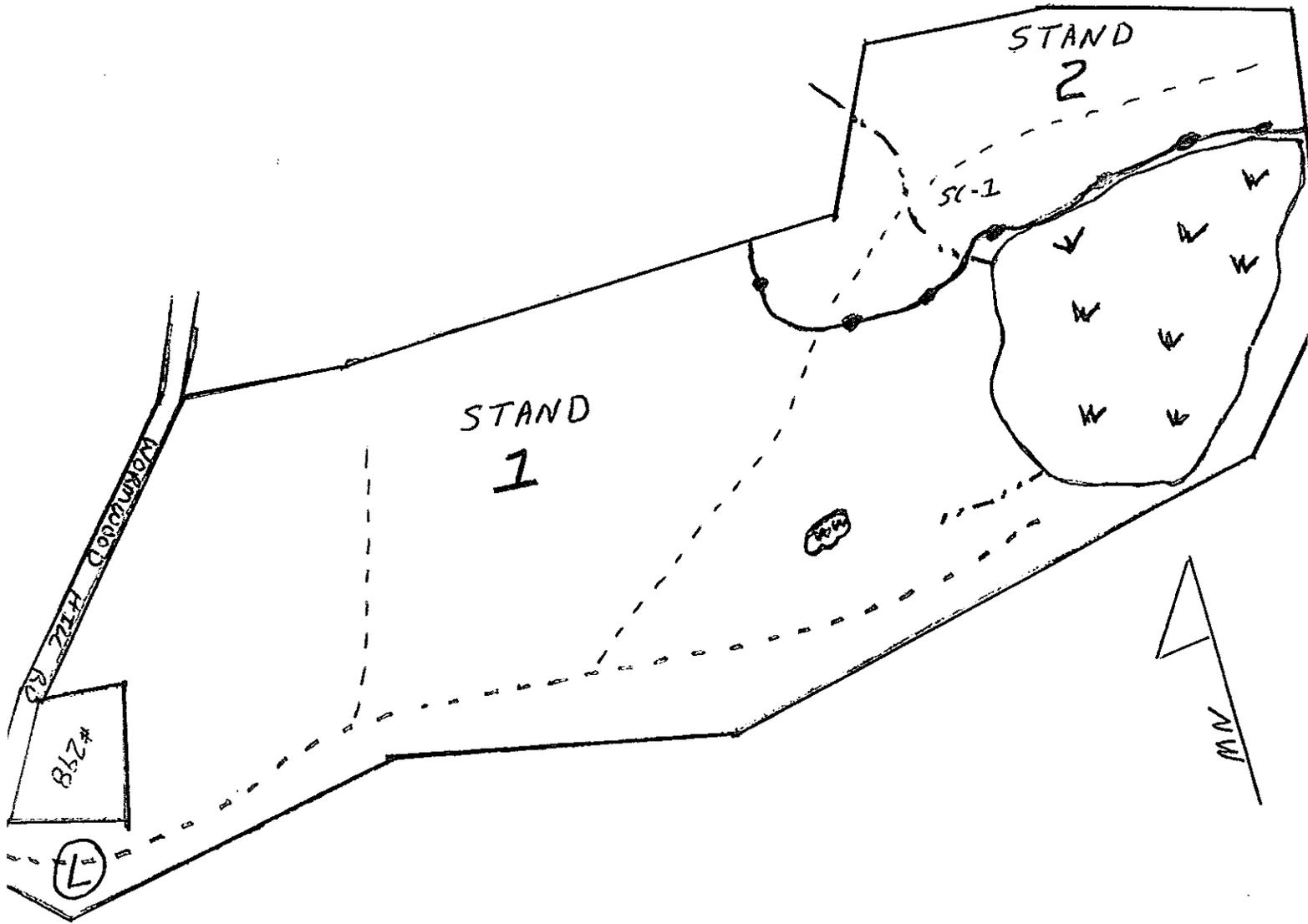
Certificate #: F00690 Expiration Date: 11/12/2012

Complete and Submit to:

- The Municipal Inland Wetlands Agency/ies in which the property is located, and
- A courtesy copy of this Notification Form should also be sent to The Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Forestry
79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT, Tel: (860) 424-3630

This is not an official CT DEP form but it has been endorsed for town usage by: CT Farm Bureau Assoc., CT Forest & Park Assoc., CT Professional Timber Producers, Society of American Foresters - CT Chapter, and others.

Ciocca Family LLC
Approx. #300 Wormwood Hill Road
Mansfield, CT



LEGEND

- - - Seasonal Stream
- Stand Boundary
- w w Wetlands
- - - Old Woods Road/skid Trail
- (L) Landing Site

Prepared By: Brennan Sheahan
9/4/12

