

INLAND WETLANDS and WATERCOURSES COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT, FY 2007-2008

The Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission (IWWC) was established by the Town of Old Saybrook in 1973, and is celebrating 35 years of service to the community. The IWWC is responsible for regulating activities located within inland wetlands and watercourses as well as the adjacent one hundred feet buffer area to these natural features. In addition, the Commission may consider activities in areas beyond the one hundred foot regulated buffer area when such activity could impact existing inland wetlands or watercourses. This authority is provided in the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Regulations of Old Saybrook pursuant to the applicable portions of Section 22a of the Connecticut General Statutes. The IWWC does not regulate activities within or adjacent to tidal wetlands, the Connecticut River or Long Island Sound.

IWWC meetings are held on the third Thursday of every month at 7:30 P.M. at Saybrook Point Pavilion. The Commission is comprised of seven regular members and three alternate members. Three regular members and the three alternate members are appointed to two year terms on the Commission by the Town's Board of Selectmen. The remaining four Commissioners consist of one representative appointed from each of four other Town commissions. The current makeup of the IWWC is as follows:

- Paul Smith, Chairman, Regular Member
- Charles Sohl, Vice Chairman, Zoning Commission Representative
- William Pollock, Secretary, Regular Member
- Robert McIntyre, Planning Commission Representative
- Robert MacDonald, Economic Development Commission Representative
- Kim Gallagher, Conservation Commission Representative
- Brendan McKeown, Regular Member
- Charles Wehrly, Alternate Member
- 2 Vacant Positions, Alternate Member

During the twelve regularly scheduled meetings for the 2007-2008 fiscal year, fifteen applications were processed, including two applications that were deemed significant and required a public hearing. The Commission also conducted a number of formal and informal site walks, two informal discussions with property owners, reviewed a project referral from an adjacent community, acted on two requests for permit extensions, and administered four significant violations of the Town's wetland regulations.

A number of the Commissioners have attended state and regionally sponsored workshops, seminars, DEP training, and presentations that focused on the technical, regulatory and administrative aspects of the Commission's work. Their interest and commitment to serve the Town by active participation on this Commission is exemplary, and is appreciated.

Paul Smith
IWWC Chairman