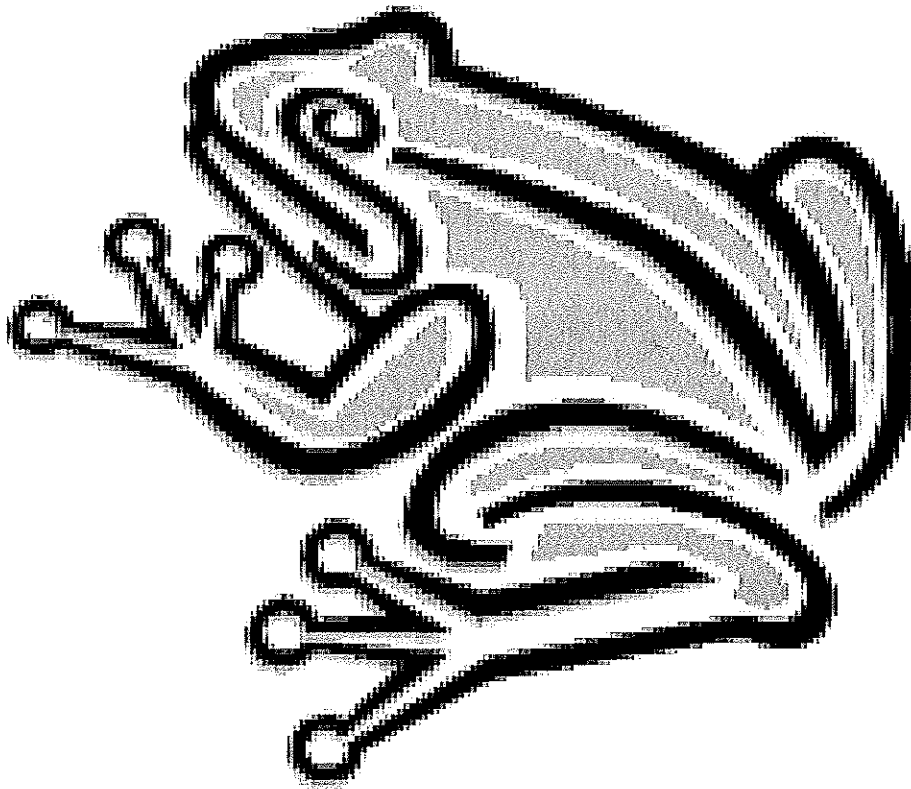
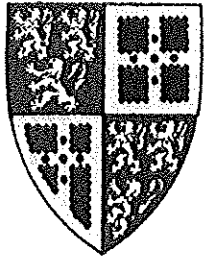


INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES REGULATIONS

of the
Town of Old Saybrook, Connecticut



Old Saybrook
Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission



TOWN OF OLD SAYBROOK
Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission

INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES REGULATIONS

ADOPTED: July 1, 1974

AMENDED: October 1, 1975
May 18, 1982
April 18, 1990
June 15, 1991
July 15, 1993
January 25, 1998
January 15, 2005

Table of Contents

SECTION 1	Title and Authority	1-1
SECTION 2	Definitions.....	2-1
SECTION 3	Inventory of Regulated Areas	3-1
SECTION 4	Uses As-of-right and Non-regulated Uses	4-1
SECTION 5	Activities Regulated by the State	5-1
SECTION 6	Regulated Activities to be Licensed	6-1
SECTION 7	Application Requirements.....	7-1
SECTION 8	Application Procedures	8-1
SECTION 9	Public Hearing.....	9-1
SECTION 10	Considerations for Decision	10-1
SECTION 11	Decision Process and Permit.....	11-1
SECTION 12	Action By Duly Authorized Agent	12-1
SECTION 13	Bond and Insurance	13-1
SECTION 14	Enforcement	14-1
SECTION 15	Amendments	15-1
SECTION 16	Appeals.....	16-1
SECTION 17	Conflict and Severance	17-1
SECTION 18	Other Permits	18-1
SECTION 19	Application Fee.....	19-1
SECTION 20	Records Retention and Disposition	20-1
SECTION 21	Effective Date of Regulations	21-1

SECTION 1

Title and Authority

- 1.1 The inland *wetlands* and *watercourses* of the state of Connecticut are an indispensable and irreplaceable but fragile natural resource with which the citizens of the state have been endowed. The *wetlands* and *watercourses* are an interrelated web of nature essential to an adequate supply of surface and underground water; to hydrological stability and control of flooding and erosion; to the recharging and purification of groundwater; and to the existence of many forms of animal, aquatic and plant life. Many inland *wetlands* and *watercourses* have been destroyed or are in danger of destruction because of unregulated use by reason of the deposition, filling or removal of *material*, the diversion or obstruction of water flow, the erection of structures and other uses, all of which have despoiled, polluted and eliminated *wetlands* and *watercourses*. Such *unregulated activity* has had, and will continue to have, a significant, adverse impact on the environment and ecology of the state of Connecticut and has and will continue to imperil the quality of the environment thus adversely affecting the ecological, scenic, historic and recreational values and benefits of the state for its citizens now and forever more. The preservation and protection of the *wetlands* and *watercourses* from random, unnecessary, undesirable and unregulated uses, disturbance or destruction is in the public interest and is essential to the health, welfare and safety of the citizens of the state. It is, therefore, the purpose of these regulations to protect the citizens of the state by making provisions for the protection, preservation, maintenance and use of the inland *wetlands* and *watercourses* by minimizing their disturbance and *pollution*; maintaining and improving water quality in accordance with the highest standards set by federal, state or local authority; preventing damage from erosion, turbidity or siltation; preventing loss of fish and other beneficial aquatic organisms, wildlife and vegetation and the destruction of the natural habitats thereof; deterring and inhibiting the danger of flood and *pollution*; protecting the quality of *wetlands* and *watercourses* for their conservation, economic, aesthetic, recreational and other public and private uses and values; and protecting the state's potable fresh water supplies from the dangers of drought, overdraft, *pollution*, misuse and mismanagement by providing an orderly process to balance the need for the economic growth of the state and the use of its land with the need to protect its environment and ecology in order to forever guarantee to the people of the state, the safety of such natural resources for their benefit and enjoyment and for the benefit and enjoyment of generations yet unborn.
- 1.2 These regulations shall be known as the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Regulations of the Town of Old Saybrook.
- 1.3 The Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission of the Town of Old Saybrook was established in accordance with an ordinance adopted September 21, 1973 and shall implement the purposes and provisions of the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Act in the Town of Old Saybrook.
- 1.4 These regulations have been adopted and may be amended, from time to time, in accordance with the provisions of the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Act and these regulations.
- 1.5 The *Commission* shall enforce all provisions of the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Act

SECTION 2

Definitions

2.1 As used in these regulations:

Act means the Inland Wetland and Watercourses Act, Sections 22a-36 through 22a-45 of the General Statutes, as amended.

Bogs are areas distinguished by evergreen trees and shrubs underlain by peat *deposits*, poor drainage, and highly acidic conditions.

Clear-cutting means the harvest of timber in a fashion which removes all trees down to a 2 diameter at breast height.

Commission means the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission of the Town of Old Saybrook.

Commission member means a member of the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission of the Town of Old Saybrook.

Commissioner of Environmental Protection means the Commissioner of the State of Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection.

Continual flow means a flow of water which persists for an extended period of time; this flow may be interrupted during periods of drought or during the low flow period of the annual hydrological cycle, June through September, but it recurs in prolonged succession.

Deposit includes, but shall not be limited to, fill, grade, dump, place, *discharge* or emit.

Designated agent means an individual designated by the *Commission* to carry out its functions and purposes.

Discharge means emission of any water, substance, or *material* into *wetlands* or *watercourses* whether or not such substance causes *pollution*.

Disturbing the natural and indigenous character of the wetland and watercourse means that the activity will significantly alter the inland *wetlands* and *watercourses* by reason of removal or deposition of *material*, clearing the land, alteration or obstruction of water flow, or will result in the *pollution* of the *wetlands* or *watercourses*.

Essential to the farming operation means that the proposed activity is necessary and indispensable to sustain farming activities on an existing farm.

Farming means use of land for the growing of crops, raising of livestock or other agricultural use.

any waters. This includes, but is not limited to, erosion and sedimentation resulting from any filling, land clearing or excavation activity.

Prudent means economically and otherwise reasonable in light of the social benefits to be derived from the proposed *regulated activity* provided cost may be considered in deciding what is prudent and further provided a mere showing of expense will not necessarily mean an alternative is prudent.

Regulated activity means any operation within or use of a wetland or watercourse involving removal or deposition of *material*, or any obstruction, construction, alteration or *pollution*, of such *wetlands* or *watercourses*, but shall not include the activities specified in Section 4 of these regulations. Furthermore, any clearing, grubbing, filling, grading, paving, excavating, constructing, depositing or removal of *material* and discharging of storm water on the land within 100 feet measured horizontally from the boundary of any wetland or watercourse is a *regulated activity*.

Regulated area means any inland wetland or watercourse as defined in these regulations.

Remove includes, but shall not be limited to, drain, excavate, mine, dig, dredge, suck, grub, clear cut timber, bulldoze, dragline or blast.

Rendering unclean or impure means any alteration of the physical, chemical or biological properties of any waters of the state, including, but not limited to, change in odor, color, turbidity or taste.

Significant impact activity means any activity, including, but not limited to, the following activities which may have a major effect or significant impact on the area for which an application has been filed or on another part of the inland wetland or watercourse system;

- A. Any activity involving a deposition or removal of *material* which will or may have a major effect or significant impact on the *regulated area* or on another part of the inland wetland or watercourse system .
- B. Any activity which substantially changes the natural channel or may inhibit the natural dynamics of a watercourse system .
- C. Any activity which substantially diminishes the natural capacity of an inland wetland or watercourse to support desirable fisheries, wildlife, or other biological life, prevent flooding, supply water, assimilate *waste*, facilitate drainage, provide recreation or open space or perform other functions.
- D. Any activity which is likely to cause or has the potential to cause substantial turbidity, siltation or sedimentation in a wetland or watercourse .
- E. Any activity which causes a substantial diminution of flow of a natural watercourse, or groundwater levels of the *regulated area*.
- F. Any activity which causes or has the potential to cause *pollution* of a wetland or watercourse.
- G. Any activity which damages or destroys unique wetland or watercourse areas or such

SECTION 3

Inventory of Regulated Areas

- 3.1 The map of *regulated areas*, entitled Inland Wetlands and *Watercourses* Map, Old Saybrook, Connecticut, delineates the general location and boundaries of inland wetlands and the general location of *watercourses*. Copies of this map are available for inspection in the office of the Town Clerk or the Inland Wetlands Commission. In all cases, the precise location of *regulated areas* shall be determined by the actual character of the land, the distribution of wetland soil types, and locations of *watercourses*. The *Commission* may use aerial photography, remote sensing imagery, resource mapping, soils maps, site inspection observations or other information in determining the location of the boundaries of wetlands and *watercourses*.
- 3.2 Any property owner who disputes the designation of any part of his or her land as a regulated area on the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Map, may petition the Commission to change the designation in accordance with Section 15 of these regulations. All petitions for a map change shall be submitted in writing and shall include all relevant facts and circumstances which support the change. The petitioner shall provide proof that the designation is inapplicable. Documentation in accordance with Section 15 f these regulations may be required of the property owner when the Commission requires an accurate delineation of *regulated areas*.
- 3.3 The Inland Wetlands Commission or its *designated agent(s)* shall maintain a current inventory of all *regulated areas* within the *town*. The Commission may amend its map from time to time as information becomes available relative to more accurate delineation of wetlands and *watercourses* within the *town*. Any *person* may petition for an amendment to the map. Petitioners shall bear the burden of proof for all requested map amendments. Such proof may include, but not be limited to, aerial photography, remote sensing imagery, resource mapping or other available information. Such map amendments are subject to the public hearing process outlined in Section 15 of these regulations.

SECTION 4

As-of-right & Non-regulated Uses

- 4.1 The following operations and uses shall be permitted in inland wetlands and watercourses, as of right:
- A. Grazing, *farming*, nurseries, gardening and harvesting of crops and farm ponds of three acres or less *essential to the farming operation*. The provisions of this section shall not be construed to include road construction or the erection of buildings not directly related to the *farming* operation, relocation of *watercourses* with *continual flow*, filling or reclamation of *wetlands* or *watercourses* with *continual flow*, clear cutting of timber except for the expansion of agricultural crop land, or the mining of top soil, peat, sand, gravel or similar *material* from *wetlands* or *watercourses* for the purposes of sale;
 - B. A residential home. (i) for which a building permit has been issued or (ii) on a subdivision lot, provided the permit has been issued or the subdivision has been approved by a municipal planning, zoning or planning and zoning commission as of the effective date of promulgation of the municipal regulations pursuant to subsection (b) of section 22a-42a, or as of July 1, 1974, which ever is earlier, and further provided no residential home shall be permitted as of right pursuant to this subsection unless the building permit was obtained on or before July 1, 1987. The individual claiming a use of wetlands permitted as a right under this subsection shall document the validity of said right by providing a certified copy of the building permit and a site plan showing proposed and existing topographic contours, house and well locations, septic system, driveway, approval dates or other necessary information to document his or her right hereunder.
 - C. Boat anchorage or mooring, not to include dredging or dock construction;
 - D. Uses incidental to the enjoyment or maintenance of residential property, such property defined as equal to or smaller than the largest minimum residential lot site permitted anywhere in the *municipality* and containing a residence. Such incidental uses shall include maintenance of existing structures and landscaping, but shall not include removal or deposition of substantial amounts of *material* from or into a wetland or *watercourse*, or diversion or alteration of a *watercourse*.
 - E. Construction and operation, by water companies as defined by Section 16-1 of the General Statutes or by municipal water supply systems as provided for in Chapter 102, of the Connecticut General Statutes, of dams, reservoirs and other facilities necessary to the impounding, storage and withdrawal of water in connection with public water supplies except as provided in Sections 22a-401 and 22a-410 of the Connecticut General Statutes.
 - F. Maintenance relating to any drainage pipe which existed before the effective date of any municipal regulations adopted pursuant to section 22a-42a of the Connecticut

SECTION 5

Activities Regulated by the State

- 5.1 In addition to any permit or approval required by the *Commission*, the *Commissioner of Environmental Protection* shall regulate activities in or affecting *wetlands* or *watercourses* subject to the following jurisdiction:
- A. Construction or modification of any dam pursuant to Sections 22a-401 through 22a-409 of the General Statutes, as amended;
 - B. Construction or placement of any obstruction within stream channel encroachment lines pursuant to Sections 22a-342 through 22a-349 of the General Statutes, as amended;
 - C. Construction or placement of any structure or obstruction within the tidal, coastal or navigable waters of the state pursuant to Sections 22a-359 through 22a-363 or in designated tidal wetlands pursuant to Sections 22a-28 through 22a-35 of the General Statutes, as amended;
 - D. Diversion of water, including withdrawals of surface or groundwater in excess of fifty thousand (50,000) gallons per day or any piping, culverting, channelization, relocation, damming or other alteration of the location of flow of any surface waters of the state where the tributary watershed area above the point of such alteration is 100 acres or larger, pursuant to sections 22a-365 through 22a-378a of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended;
 - E. *Discharges* into the waters of the state pursuant to Sections 22a-430 of the General Statutes, as amended;
 - F. *Discharge* of fill or dredged *materials* into the *wetlands* and *watercourses* of the state pursuant to Section 401 of the Federal Clean Water Act, as amended, for activities regulated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers under Section 404 of the Federal Clean Water Act.
- 5.2 The *Commissioner of Environmental Protection* shall have exclusive jurisdiction over regulated activities in or affecting *wetlands* or *watercourses*, undertaken by any department, agency or instrumentality of the state of Connecticut, except any local or regional board of education, pursuant to sections 22a-39 or 22a-45a of the Connecticut General Statutes.
- 5.3 *The Commissioner of Environmental Protection* shall have exclusive jurisdiction over tidal wetlands designated and regulated pursuant to Sections 22a-28 through 22a-35 of the General Statutes, as amended.
- 5.4 The *Commissioner of Environmental Protection* shall have exclusive jurisdiction over activities authorized under a dam repair or removal order issued by the *Commissioner of Environmental Protection* under section 22a-402 or a dam construction permit issued by the *Commissioner of Environmental Protection* under sections 22a-403 or 22a-41 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

SECTION 6

Regulated Activities to be Licensed

- 6.1 No person shall conduct or maintain a *regulated activity* without first obtaining a permit for such activity from the Inland Wetlands Commission of the Town of Old Saybrook.
- 6.2 The Commission shall regulate any operation within or use of a *wetland* or *watercourse* involving removal or deposition of *material*, or any obstruction, construction, alteration or *pollution*, of such *wetlands* or *watercourses* and any other *regulated activity*, unless such operation or use is permitted or non-regulated pursuant to Section 4 of these regulations.
- 6.3 Any person found to be conducting or maintaining a *regulated activity* without the prior authorization of the Town of Old Saybrook Inland Wetlands Commission, or violating any other provision of these regulations, shall be subject to the enforcement proceedings and penalties prescribed in Section 14 of these regulations and any other remedies as provided by law.

SECTION 7

Application Requirements

- 7.1 Any person wishing to undertake a *regulated activity* or to renew or amend a permit to conduct such activity, shall apply for a permit on a form entitled Town of Old Saybrook Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission - Application for Permit. The application shall contain the information described in this section and any other information the *Commission* may reasonably require. Application forms may be obtained in the offices of the Old Saybrook Town Clerk or the Inland Wetlands Commission.
- 7.2 If an application to the Town of Old Saybrook Planning, and/or Zoning Commission involves land containing or affecting a *wetland* or *watercourse*, the applicant shall, in accordance with Section 8-3(g), 8-3c, or 8-26, as applicable, of the Connecticut General Statutes, submit an application for a permit to the *Commission* in accordance with this section, no later than the day the application is filed with such planning, and/or zoning commission.
- 7.3 All applications shall contain such information that is necessary for a fair and informed determination of the issues.
- 7.4 The applicant may present preliminary plans for the proposed application for informal review by the *Commission*. Review of a preliminary plan is recommended to consider whether or not the proposed application involves a significant activity. Neither the preliminary plan nor the informal review by the *Commission* however, shall be deemed to constitute any portion of the official and formal procedure of submitting and approving an application for a permit to conduct *regulated activity* under the provisions of the Connecticut General Statutes or the Old Saybrook Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Regulations.
- 7.5 All applications shall include the following information in writing or on maps or drawings:
- A. The applicant's name, home and business address and telephone numbers.
 - B. The owner's name, address and telephone number and written consent if the applicant is not the owner of the property involved in the application.
 - C. Applicant's interest in the land.
 - D. The geographical location of the property which is to be affected by the proposed activity, including but not limited to a description of the land in sufficient detail to allow identification of the inland *wetlands* and *watercourses*, a computation of the area(s) (in acres or square feet) of wetland or watercourse disturbance, soil type(s) and wetland vegetation.
 - E. The purpose and a description of the proposed activity and proposed erosion and sedimentation controls and other *management practices* and mitigation measures which may be considered as a condition of issuing a permit for the proposed *regulated activity* including, but not limited to, measures to (1) prevent or minimize *pollution* or other environmental damage, (2) maintain or enhance existing environmental quality, or (3)

surveyor, professional engineer or landscape architect registered in the State of Connecticut or by such other qualified person deemed acceptable to the *Commission*.

- B. Engineering reports and analyses and additional drawings to fully describe the proposed project and any filling, excavation, drainage or hydraulic modifications to *watercourses* and the proposed erosion and sedimentation control plan.
- C. Mapping of soil types consistent with the categories established by the National Cooperative Soil Survey of the U.S. Soil Conservation Service (the *Commission* may require the applicant to have the wetlands delineated in the field by a *soil scientist* and that the field delineation be incorporated onto the site plans).
- D. Description of the ecological communities and functions of the *wetlands* or *watercourses* involved with the application and the effects of the proposed activities on these communities and *wetland* functions.
- E. Description of how the applicant will change, diminish, or enhance the ecological communities, and functions of the *wetlands* or *watercourses* involved in the application, and each alternative, and a description of why each alternative considered was deemed neither *feasible* nor *prudent*.
- F. Analysis of chemical or physical characteristics of any fill *material*.
- G. Measures which mitigate the impact of the proposed activity. Such measures include, but are not limited to, *management practices*, plans or actions which avoid destruction or diminution of *wetland* or *watercourse* functions, recreational uses and natural habitats, which prevent flooding, degradation of water quality, erosion and sedimentation and obstruction of drainage, or which otherwise safeguard water resources.

7.8 The applicant shall certify whether:

- A. Any portion of the property on which the *regulated activity* is proposed is located within five hundred feet (500') of the boundary of an adjoining *municipality*.
- B. Traffic attributable to the completed project on the site will use streets within the adjoining *municipality* to enter or exit the site.
- C. Sewer or water drainage from the project site will flow through and impact the sewage or drainage system within the adjoining *municipality*; or,
- D. Water run-off from the improved site will impact streets or other municipal or private property within the adjoining *municipality*.

7.8 A minimum of four (4) copies of all application material shall be submitted to comprise a complete application or as otherwise directed, in writing, by the Inland Wetlands Commission.

7.9 Any application to renew, extend the expiration date of a previously issued permit, or amend an existing permit, shall be filed with the *Commission* at least sixty-five (65) days prior to the

SECTION 8

Application Procedures

- 8.1 No person shall conduct or maintain a *regulated activity* without first applying for and having obtained a permit for such activity from the *Commission*. Application shall be made by the property owner of record or the duly authorized agent of such owner, such authorization to be in writing. All applications shall be filed with the Inland Wetland Field Engineer of the Town of Old Saybrook.
- 8.2 In the case of any application where any portion of the *wetland* or *watercourse* on which the *regulated activity* is proposed is located within 500 feet of the boundary of Essex, Westbrook, or Old Lyme, the applicant shall give written notice, in accordance with CGS 22a-42c, of the proposed activity, certified mail return receipt requested, to the adjacent municipal wetland agency on the same day of submitting an inland wetland permit application with the Old Saybrook Inland Wetlands and Watercourse Commission. Documentation of such notice shall be provided to the Old Saybrook Inland Wetlands Commission.
- 8.3 The *Commission* shall, in accordance with CGS 22a-42b, notify the clerk of any adjoining *municipality* of the pendency of any application to conduct a *regulated activity* when:
- A. Any portion of the property on which the *regulated activity* is proposed is located within five hundred feet (500') of the boundary of an adjoining *municipality*;
 - B. A significant portion of the traffic to the completed project on the site will use streets within the adjoining *municipality* to enter or exit the site;
 - C. A significant portion of the sewer or water drainage from the project site will flow through and significantly impact the sewage or drainage system within the adjoining *municipality*; or,
 - D. Water run-off from the improved site will impact streets or other municipal or private property within the adjoining *municipality*.
- Notice of the pendency of such application shall be made by certified mail, return receipt requested, and shall be mailed within seven (7) days of the date of receipt of the application.
- 8.4 When an application is submitted to conduct or cause to be conducted a *regulated activity* upon an inland *wetland* or *watercourse*, any portion of which is within the watershed of a water company as defined in Section 16.1 of the General Statutes, the applicant shall provide written notice of the application to the water company, providing such water company has filed a map showing the boundaries of the watershed on the land records of Old Saybrook and with the Old Saybrook Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission. Such notice shall be made by certified mail, return receipt requested, and shall be mailed within seven days of the date of the application. The water company, through a representative, may appear and be heard at any hearing on the application. Documentation of such notice shall be provided to the *Commission*.

SECTION 9

Public Hearings

- 9.1 The Inland Wetlands Commission shall not hold a public hearing for an application unless the *Commission* determines that the proposed activity may have a significant impact on *wetlands* or *watercourses* or a petition signed by at least twenty-five persons requesting a hearing is filed with the *Commission* not later than fifteen days after the date of receipt of such application or the *Commission* finds that a public hearing regarding such application would be in the public interest. Such hearing shall be held no later than sixty-five days after the receipt of such application. All application and maps and documents relating thereto shall be open for public inspection. Any person may appear and be heard at any public hearing.
- 9.2 Notice of the public hearing shall be published at least twice at intervals of not less than two days, the first not more than fifteen days and not fewer than ten days, and the last not less than two days before the date set for the hearing in a newspaper having a general circulation in each town where the affected *wetland* and *watercourse* is located.
- 9.3 Notice of the public hearing shall be mailed to the owner(s) of record of abutting land no less than fifteen days prior to the day of the hearing.
- 9.4 In the case of any application which is subject to the notification provision of subsection 8.3 of these regulations, a public hearing shall not be conducted until the clerk of the adjoining *municipality(ies)* has received notice of the pendency of the application. Proof of such notification shall be entered into the hearing record.
- 9.5 In any matter before the *Commission* requiring a public hearing, the applicant shall cause to be posted a temporary sign or signs visible from the street notifying the public of said hearing. The sign(s) shall be the responsibility of the applicant and posted subject to the following conditions.
- A. The sign shall be posted at least seven (7) days prior to the day of the hearing. It shall be firmly secured to the ground or structure to prevent vandalism. If there is more than one frontage of the parcel on a street or streets, one sign for each frontage shall be posted.
 - B. The composition of the sign(s) shall be of a durable material such as wood or metal, 40 x 40 in size painted white with black lettering having a minimum height of 4 with a letter stroke of 1.
 - C. The sign(s) shall advertise the date, time and place of the public hearing of the wetlands activity or boundary change.
 - D. Format of the sign(s) shall be obtained from the office of the *Commission*.
 - E. Any proponent who fails to display the sign shall be required to file a new application.

SECTION 10

Considerations for Decision

- 10.1 The *Commission* may consider the following in making its decision on an application.
- A. The application and its supporting documentation;
 - B. Public comments, evidence and testimony from a public hearing;
 - C. Reports from other agencies and Commissions including but not limited to the Town of Old Saybrook Conservation, Planning or Zoning Commissions; building official; or health officer.
 - D. The *Commission* may also consider comments on any application from the Middlesex County Soil and Water Conservation District, the Connecticut River Estuary Regional Planning Agency or other regional organizations; agencies in adjacent municipalities which may be affected by the proposed activity, or other technical agencies or organizations which may undertake additional studies of investigations.
 - E. Non-receipt of comments from agencies and commissions listed in 10.1.c of this Section, within the prescribed time, shall neither delay nor prejudice the decision of the *Commission*.

10.2 CRITERIA FOR DECISION

In carrying out the purposes and policies of sections 22a-36 to 22a-45, inclusive, of the Connecticut General Statutes, including matters relating to regulating, licensing and enforcing of the provisions thereof, the *Commission* shall take into consideration all relevant facts and circumstances, including but not limited to:

- A. The environmental impact of the proposed *regulated activity*, including the effects on the inland *wetlands'* and *watercourses'* capacity to support fish and wildlife, to prevent flooding, to supply and protect surface and ground waters, to control sediment, to facilitate drainage, to control *pollution*, to support recreational activities, and to promote public health and safety;
- B. The applicant's purpose for, and any *feasible* and *prudent* alternatives to, the proposed *regulated activity* which alternatives would cause less or no environmental impact to *wetlands* or *watercourses*. Such alternatives should include, but not necessarily limited to, requiring actions of different nature which would provide similar benefits with different location for the activity;
- C. The relationship between the short term and long term impacts of the proposed *regulated activity* on *wetlands* or *watercourses* and the maintenance and enhancement of long-term productivity of such *wetlands* or *watercourses*;
- D. Irreversible and irretrievable loss of *wetland* or *watercourse* resources which would be

consistent with the purposes and the policies of the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Regulations of the Town of Old Saybrook and of section 22a-36 to 22a-45, inclusive, of the Connecticut General Statutes.

SECTION 11

Decision Process and Permit

- 11.1 The Commission, or its duly authorized agent pursuant to Section 12 of these regulations, may, in accordance with Section 10 of these regulations grant the application as filed or grant it upon other terms, conditions, limitations or modifications of the *regulated activity* designed to carry out the purposes and policies of the *Act*, or deny the application. Such terms may include any reasonable measures which would mitigate the impacts of the *regulated activity* and which would (a) prevent or minimize *pollution* or other environmental damage (b) maintain or enhance existing environmental quality, or (c) in the following order of priority: restore, enhance and create productive *wetland* or *watercourse* resources.
- 11.2 No later than sixty-five (65) days after receipt of an application, the *commission* may hold a public hearing on such application. The hearing shall be completed within 35 days of its commencement and action shall be taken on such application within 35 days after completion of a public hearing. In the absence of a public hearing, action shall be taken on applications within 65 days from the date of receipt of such application. The applicant may consent to one or more extensions of the period specified in this subsection for the holding of the hearing and for action on such application, provided the total extension for any such period shall not be for longer than the original period as specified in this subsection or may withdraw such application. If the *Commission* fails to act on any application within 35 days after the completion of a public hearing, or in the absence of a public hearing, within 65 days from the date of receipt of the application, or within any extension of any such period, the applicant may file such application with the *Commissioner of Environmental Protection* who shall review and act on such application in accordance with this section. Any costs incurred by the Commissioner in reviewing such application for the *Commission* shall be paid by the Town of Old Saybrook. Any fees that would have been paid to the Town of Old Saybrook, if such application had not been filed with the Commissioner, shall be paid to the state. The failure of the *Commission* or the *Commissioner of Environmental Protection* to act within any time period specified in this subsection, or any extension thereof, shall not be deemed to constitute approval of the application. Incomplete applications shall not be accepted by the *Commission*. An application shall be deemed incomplete by the *Commission* if it does not comply with the provisions of Section 7, Application Requirements, and/or Section 8.2 and 8.4 Notice Requirements.
- 11.3 The *Commission* shall state upon its record the reasons and bases for its decision and, in the case of any public hearing, such decision shall be based fully on the record of such hearing and shall be in writing and shall, as applicable and in accordance with Section 10 of these regulations, incorporate a statement relative to the consideration of *feasible* and *prudent* alternatives.
- 11.4 The *Commission* shall notify the applicant and any named parties to the proceeding of its decision within fifteen (15) days of the date of the decision by certified mail, return receipt requested, and the *Commission* shall cause notice of its order in the issuance or denial of the *permit*, in a newspaper having general circulation in the town wherein the inland wetland or watercourse lies. In the event that the *Commission* fails to publish notice, the applicant may

special exception under sections 8.3(g), 8-3c, or 8-26 of the Connecticut General Statutes, no work pursuant to the wetland *permit* may begin until such approval is obtained.

- D. The *permittee* shall take such necessary steps consistent with the terms and conditions of the *permit*, to control storm water *discharges* and to prevent erosion and sedimentation and to otherwise prevent *pollution of wetlands and watercourses*.

SECTION 12

Action by Duly Authorized Agent

- 12.1 The *Commission* may delegate to its duly authorized agent the authority to approve or extend an activity that is not located in a wetland or watercourse when such agent finds that the conduct of such activity would result in no greater than a minimal impact on any *wetlands* or *watercourses* provided such agent has completed the comprehensive training program developed by the *Commissioner of Environmental Protection* pursuant to section 22a-39 of the CGS. Requests for such approval shall be made on a form provided by the *Commission* and shall contain the information listed under Section 7.5 of these regulations and any other information the *Commission* may reasonably require. Notwithstanding the provisions for receipt and processing applications prescribed in Sections 8, 9 and 11 of these regulations, such agent may approve or extend such an activity at any time.
- 12.2 Any person receiving such approval from such agent shall, within ten days of the date of such approval, publish, at the applicant's expense, notice of the approval in a newspaper having a general circulation in the town wherein the activity is located or will have an effect. Any person may appeal such decision of such agent to the *Commission* within fifteen days after the publication date of the notice and the *Commission* shall consider such appeal at its next regularly scheduled meeting provided such meeting is no earlier than three business days after receipt by such *Commission* or its agent of such appeal. Any person may appear and be heard at the meeting held by the *Commission* to consider the subject appeal. The *Commission* shall, at its discretion, sustain, alter, or reject the decision of its agent or require an application for a *permit* in accordance with Section 7 of these regulations.

SECTION 13

Bond and Insurance

- 13.1 Upon approval of the application and prior to issuance of a *permit*, the applicant may, at the discretion of the *Commission*, be required to file a bond with such surety in such amount and in a form approved by the *Commission*.
- 13.2 The bond or surety shall be conditioned on compliance with all provisions of these regulations and the terms, conditions and limitations established in the permit.
- 13.3 The *Commission* may require the applicant to certify that it has public liability insurance against liability which might result from the proposed operation or use of the *wetlands* or *watercourses* covering any and all damage which might occur within two (2) years of completion of such operations, in an amount to be determined by the *Commission* commensurate with the *regulated activity*.

SECTION 14

Enforcement

- 14.1 The *Commission* may appoint an agent or agents to act in its behalf with the authority to inspect property except a private residence, and issue notices of violation or cease and desist orders and carry out other actions or investigations necessary for the enforcement of these regulations. In carrying out the purposes of this section, the *Commission* or its duly authorized agent shall take into consideration the criteria for decision under section 10.2 of these regulations.
- 14.2 The *Commission* or its agent may make regular inspections, at reasonable hours, of all regulated activities for which permits have been issued under these regulations.
- 14.3 If the *Commission* or its duly authorized agent finds that any *person* is conducting or maintaining any activity, facility or condition which is in violations of the *Act* or these regulations, the *Commission* or its duly authorized agent may:
- A. Issue a written order by certified mail, return receipt requested, to such *person* conducting such activity or maintaining such facility or condition to immediately cease such activity or to correct such facility or condition. Within ten (10) calendar days of the issuance of such order the *Commission* shall hold a hearing to provide the *person* an opportunity to be heard and show cause why the order should not remain in effect. The *Commission* shall consider the facts presented at the hearing and within ten (10) days of the completion of the hearing notify the *person* by certified mail that the original order remains in effect, that a revised order is in effect, or that the order has been withdrawn. The *Commission* shall publish notice of its decision in a newspaper having general circulation in the *municipality*. The original order shall be effective upon issuance and shall remain in effect until the *Commission* affirms, revises or withdraws the order. The issuance of an order pursuant to this section shall not delay or bar an action pursuant to Section 22a-44(b) of the General Statutes, as amended;
 - B. Suspend or revoke a permit if it finds that the applicant has not complied with the terms, conditions or limitations set forth in the permit or has exceeded the scope of the work as set forth in the application including application plans. Prior to revoking any permit, the *Commission* shall issue notice to the *permittee*, personally or by certified mail, return receipt requested, setting forth the facts or conduct which warrants the intended action. At the public hearing the *permittee* shall be given an opportunity to show that it is in compliance with its permit and any and all requirements for retention of the permit. The *permittee* shall be notified of the *Commission's* decision to suspend, revoke, or maintain a permit by certified mail within fifteen (15) days of the date of its decision. The *Commission* shall publish notice of the suspension or revocation in a newspaper having general circulation in the *municipality*.
 - C. Issue a notice of violation to such *person* conducting such activity or maintaining such facility or condition, stating the nature of the violation, the jurisdiction of the

SECTION 15

Amendments

- 15.1 These regulations and the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Map for the Town of Old Saybrook may be amended, from time to time, by the *Commission* in accordance with the changes in the Connecticut General Statutes or regulations of the State Department of Environmental Protection, or as new information regarding soils and inland wetlands and *watercourses* becomes available.
- 15.2 An application filed with the *Commission* which is in conformance with the applicable inland wetlands regulations as of the date of the receipt of such application shall not be required thereafter to comply with any change in inland wetland regulations, including changes to setbacks and buffers, taking effect on or the date of such receipt and any appeal from the decision of such *Commission* with respect to such application shall not be dismissed by the Superior Court on the grounds that such a change has taken effect on or after the date of such receipt. The provision of this section shall not be construed to apply (1) to the establishment, amendment or change of boundaries of inland *wetlands* or *watercourses* or (2) to any change in regulations necessary to make such regulations consistent with the provisions of the Act as of the date of such receipt.
- 15.3 These regulations and the Town of Old Saybrook Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Map shall be amended in the manner specified in section 22'a-42a of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended. The *Commission* shall provide the *Commissioner of Environmental Protection* with a copy of any proposed regulations and notice of the public hearing to consider any proposed regulations or amendments thereto, except map amendments, at least thirty-five days before the public hearing on their adoption.
- A. A public hearing shall be held. Notice of the hearing shall be published in the form of a legal advertisement, appearing in a newspaper having a substantial circulation in Old Saybrook at least twice at intervals of not less than two days, the first not more than fifteen days nor less than ten days, and the last not less than two days, before such hearing.
- B. A copy of such regulations or Inland Wetlands and Watercourses map shall be filed in the office of the Town Clerk, for public inspection at least ten days before such hearing.
- C. The *Commission* shall provide the *Commissioner of Environmental Protection* with a copy of any proposed regulations and notice of public hearings to consider any proposed regulations or amendments thereto except determination of boundaries, at least thirty-five days before the public hearing on their adoption. Application forms and fee schedules shall be considered as part of the *commission* regulations.
- 15.4 Petitions requesting changes or amendments to the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Map, Old Saybrook, Connecticut shall contain at least the following information:

- 15.8 Within ninety (90) days after receipt of a petition for a change in the mapped boundaries of any wetland or watercourse, the *Commission* shall hold a public hearing to consider the petition. The *Commission* shall act upon the changes requested in such petition within sixty (60) days after the close of the hearing. The petitioner may consent to one or more extensions of the periods specified in this subsection for the holding of the hearing and for action on such petition, provided the total extension of any such period shall not be for longer than the original period as specified in this subsection, or may withdraw such petition. The failure of the *Commission* to act within any time period specified in this subsection, or any extension thereof, shall not be deemed to constitute approval of the petition.
- 15.9 The *Commission* shall make its decision and state, in writing, the reasons why the change in the Inland Wetland and Watercourses Map was made.

SECTION 16

Appeals

- 16.1 Appeal on actions of the *Commission* shall be made in accordance with the provisions of Section 22a-43 of the General Statutes, as amended.
- 16.2 Notice of such appeal shall be served upon the *Commission* and the *Commissioner of Environmental Protection*.

SECTION 17

Conflict and Severance

- 17.1 If there is a conflict between the provisions of these regulations, the provision which imposes the most stringent standards for the use of wetlands and *watercourses* shall govern. The invalidity of any word, clause, sentence, section, part, subsection or provision of these regulations shall not affect the validity of any other part which can be given effect without such valid part or parts.
- 17.2 If there is a conflict between any provisions of these regulations and the Connecticut General Statutes sections 22a-36 through 22a-45 as amended (The Inland Wetlands and Watercourses *Act*), the provisions of the Statutes shall govern.

SECTION 18

Other Permits

- 18.1 Nothing in these regulations shall obviate the requirements for the applicant to obtain any other assents, permits or *licenses* required by law or regulation by the Town of Old Saybrook, State of Connecticut and the Government of the United States including any approval required by the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Obtaining such assents, permits or *licenses* is the sole responsibility of the applicant.

SECTION 19

Application Fees

19.1 METHOD OF PAYMENT

All fees required by these regulations shall be submitted to the *Commission* by cash, check, or money order payable to the Town of Old Saybrook at the time the application is filed with the *Commission*.

19.2 No application shall be granted or approved by the *Commission* unless the correct application fee is paid in full or unless a waiver has been granted by the *Commission* pursuant to subsection 19.7 of these regulations.

19.3 The application fee is not refundable.

19.4 DEFINITIONS

As used in this section:

Residential Use means activities carried out on property developed for permanent housing or being developed to be occupied by permanent housing.

Commercial Use means activities carried out on property developed for industry, commerce, trade, recreation, or business or being developed to be occupied for such purposes, for profit or nonprofit.

19.5 FEE SCHEDULE

Application fees shall be based on the following schedule:

A.	Residential – single lot	\$ 65.00
	– subdivision	\$250.00
B.	Commercial/Industrial	\$250.00
C.	Significant activity fee	\$375.00
D.	Additional fee for cost of technical review	Actual
E.	Modification of wetland boundary	\$ 75.00
F.	Modification of existing permit (minor)	\$ 25.00
G.	Permit ownership transfer fee	\$ 25.00
H.	Modification of previous approval (minor)	\$ 25.00

SECTION 20

Records Retention and Disposition

- 20.1 The *Commission* and the Town Clerk for the Town of Old Saybrook shall retain complete administrative records of *Commission* actions and dispose of such records in accordance with the retention/disposition schedules set forth in subsection 20.2.
- 20.2 The public records administrator of the Connecticut State Library established the following new records retention/disposition schedules for municipal Inland Wetlands Agencies effective April 24, 1989:

RECORD TITLE	MINIMUM RETENTION REQUIRED BY	
	COMMISSION	TOWN CLERK
Applications (inc. supporting materials)	10 years	-
Decision Letters	10 years	Permanent
Approved Site Plans	10 years	-
Legal Notices	10 years	Permanent
Staff and Public Written Testimony (hearing records)	10 years	-
Minutes of Meetings & Public Hearings	15 years	Permanent
Tapes, Audio-Inland Wetland Matters	4 years	-
Notices of Violation & Orders	10 years	-
Text of Changes Adopted in Regulations	Continuous Update/Permanent	-
General Correspondence Issued or Received	5 years	-

SECTION 20

Records Retention and Disposition

- 20.1 The *Commission* and the Town Clerk for the Town of Old Saybrook shall retain complete administrative records of *Commission* actions and dispose of such records in accordance with the retention/disposition schedules set forth in subsection 20.2.
- 20.2 The public records administrator of the Connecticut State Library established the following new records retention/disposition schedules for municipal Inland Wetlands Agencies effective April 24, 1989:

RECORD TITLE	MINIMUM RETENTION REQUIRED BY	
	COMMISSION	TOWN CLERK
Applications (inc. supporting materials)	10 years	-
Decision Letters	10 years	Permanent
Approved Site Plans	10 years	-
Legal Notices	10 years	Permanent
Staff and Public Written Testimony (hearing records)	10 years	-
Minutes of Meetings & Public Hearings	15 years	Permanent
Tapes, Audio-Inland Wetland Matters	4 years	-
Notices of Violation & Orders	10 years	-
Text of Changes Adopted in Regulations	Continuous Update/Permanent	-
General Correspondence Issued or Received	5 years	-

SECTION 21

Effective Date of Regulations

- 21.1 These regulations including the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Map, application forms, fee schedule and amendments thereto, shall become effective upon filing in the Office of the Town Clerk and publication of a notice of such action in a newspaper having general circulation in the Town of Old Saybrook.

