CITY OF MARLBOROUGH MEETING POSTING

Meeting Name:

Conservation Commission

Date:

September 1, 2022

Time:

7:00 PM

Location:

140 Main St. – Marlborough City Hall – 3rd Floor (Memorial Hall)

ALL MEETINGS ARE IN PERSON AT CITY HALL

Mask Advisory-Marlborough Board of Health advises all community members to wear a face-covering when indoors in crowded areas and/or if you are at high risk of severe COVID-19 disease

Public hearings

7:00 Request for Determination of Applicability (continued from August 18th)

64 Westernview Dr. - Jason Shafferman

Proposes to repair and replace a retaining wall on Ft Meadow.

7:10 Request for Determination of Applicability

41 Boivin Dr. - Mahmond & JP Eltorai

Proposes to remove dead trees and invasive plants within wetland and buffer zone.

7:20 Abbreviated Notice of Intent

21 Blaiswood Ave. - Helvecio Carvalho

Proposes to build a patio, firepit and retaining wall on the shore of Ft. Meadow

Reservoir.

7:30 Notice of Intent

846 & 850 Boston Post Rd. East - Exela Movers

Proposes to make site improvements to an existing storage facility near wetlands.

7:40 Notice of Intent (continued from August 18th)

0 Red Spring Rd. - Robert Durand - Red Spring Road Homeowners Association, Inc. Regarding the proposed sewer force main construction on Red Spring Rd. near wetlands.

Certificate of Compliance

212-1183 329-331 Boston Post Rd. -N/F Cube Smart

Discussion/Correspondence:

- 541 Pleasant St Enforcement Order continued discussion Mr. Sampaio and Atty. White
- Desert Natural Area Wildfire Update
- Letter from SVT dated August 17, 2022 RE: How Conserving Open Space Provides Economic Benefits to Mass. Communities.

Next Conservation Commission meetings: September 15th and October 6th, 2022

Adjournment





Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection

Bureau of Resource Protection - Wetlands

City/Town

WPA Form 1- Request for Determination of Applicability Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act M.G.L. c. 131, §40

	A.	General Information		
Important: When filling out forms on the computer, use only the tab key to move your cursor - do not	у	Applicant: Jason Shafferman Name 64 Western View Drive Mailing Address	jasonshafferman@gmail.com E-Mail Address	
use the return key.		Marlborough City/Town	MA	01752
		774-571-5154	State	Zip Code
tab		Phone Number	Fax Number (if appl	icable)
return	2.	Representative (if any):		,
		Firm		
		Contact Name	E-Mail Address	
		Mailing Address		
		City/Town	State	Zip Code
		Phone Number	Fax Number (if appli	cable)
	B.	 Determinations I request the Conservation Commission Conservation Commission Conservation Commission Make the following determination(s). Check any that apply conservation Commission a. whether the area depicted on plan(s) and/or map(s) referenced below is an area subject to jurisdiction of the Wetlands Protection Act. b. whether the boundaries of resource area(s) depicted on plan(s) and/or map(s) referenced below are accurately delineated. ✓ c. whether the work depicted on plan(s) referenced below is subject to the Wetlands Protection Action of the Wetlands Protection Action Conservation Conser		
		Name of Municipality e. whether the following scope of alternatives is adequate depicted on referenced plan(s).	for work in the Riv	erfront Area as



Bureau of Resource Protection - Wetlands

City/Town

WPA Form 1- Request for Determination of Applicability Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act M.G.L. c. 131, §40

C. Project Description

1.	a. Project Location (use maps and plans to id	lentify the location of the area subject to this request):				
-	64 Western View Drive	Marlborough				
	Street Address	City/Town				
	19	19-32				
	Assessors Map/Plat Number	Parcel/Lot Number				
34	b. Area Description (use additional paper, if n	necessary):				
	Steep hill on back side of house. Deck stairs a	are attached to concrete slab held up by failing retaining wall				
-						
-						
	9					
	a Dien and/or Man Pafaranaa(s):					
	c. Plan and/or Map Reference(s):					
	Markup Map	Date				
	Big Wall Repair	25.0				
	Title	Date				
	Failing Slab	Dete				
	Title	Date				
2.	a. Work Description (use additional paper and/or provide plan(s) of work, if necessary): Markup Map: Remove and replace existing slab with a wall, matching the size of the slab 18x4 across the front and then					
	Markup Map: Remove and replace existing slab with a	a wall, matching the size of the siab 18x4 across the front and then				
	8x4 from the wall to shore. This area would be backfilled with a slab poured on top and associated stairs repalaced. This section					
	ATTENDED TO THE STATE OF THE ST					
	of wall and slab are currently failing and are falling into the lake. This needs to be repaired before the tnire thing falls in.					
	Green: repair based of wall across the wall pictured in (big wall repair) The wall is undermined and causing sinking/material loss					
	Purple: install proper drainage behind wall and level grade to ensure water does not continue to uild up behind the wall (big wall repair					
	Extra/Broken concrete will be carried up the hill and disposed of in a dumpster					
	Works Scope from Contractor also attached					
87						



City/Town WPA Form 1- Request for Determination of Applicability Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act M.G.L. c. 131, §40

C. Project Description (cont.)

ne —	ecessary).
a. R	If this application is a Request for Determination of Scope of Alternatives for work in the iverfront Area, indicate the one classification below that best describes the project.
	Single family house on a lot recorded on or before 8/1/96
	Single family house on a lot recorded after 8/1/96
	Expansion of an existing structure on a lot recorded after 8/1/96
	Project, other than a single family house or public project, where the applicant owned the lot before 8/7/96
	New agriculture or aquaculture project
	Public project where funds were appropriated prior to 8/7/96
	Project on a lot shown on an approved, definitive subdivision plan where there is a recorded decrestriction limiting total alteration of the Riverfront Area for the entire subdivision
	Residential subdivision; institutional, industrial, or commercial project
	Municipal project
	District, county, state, or federal government project
	Project required to evaluate off-site alternatives in more than one municipality in an Environmental Impact Report under MEPA or in an alternatives analysis pursuant to an application for a 404 permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers or 401 Water Quality Certification from the Department of Environmental Protection.
	. Provide evidence (e.g., record of date subdivision lot was recorded) supporting the classification bove (use additional paper and/or attach appropriate documents, if necessary.)
-	
-	



Bureau of Resource Protection - Wetlands

City/Town

WPA Form 1- Request for Determination of Applicability

Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act M.G.L. c. 131, §40

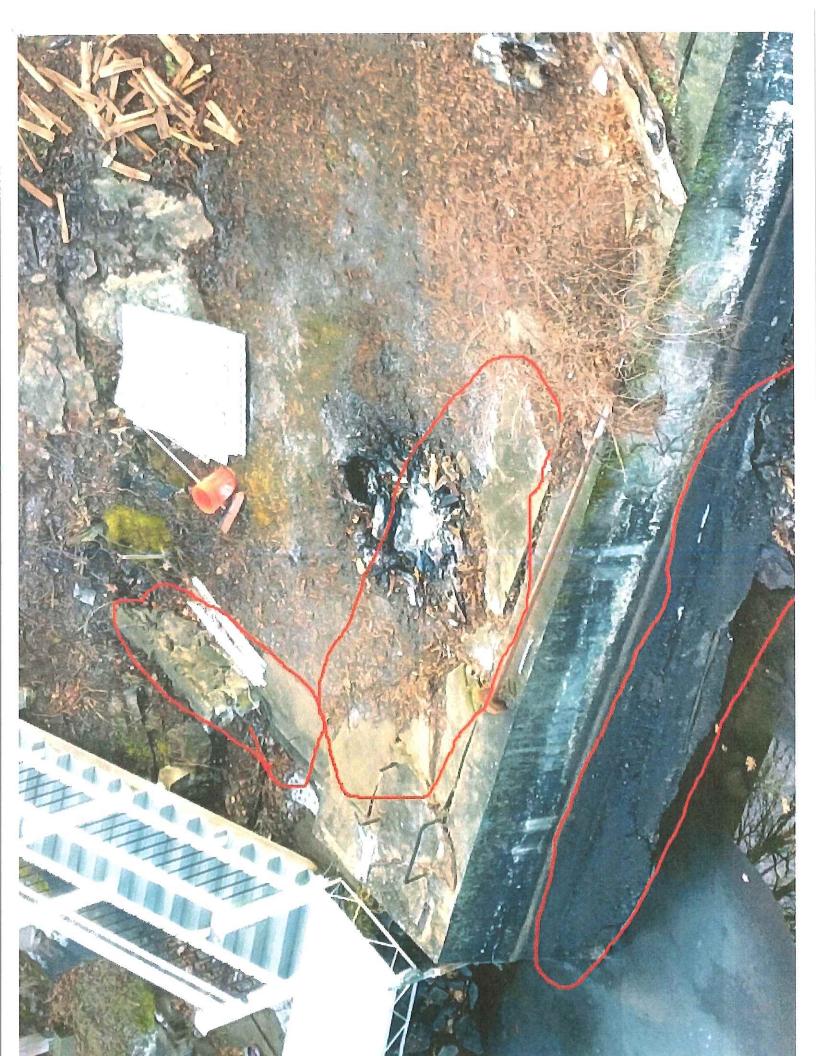
D. Signatures and Submittal Requirements

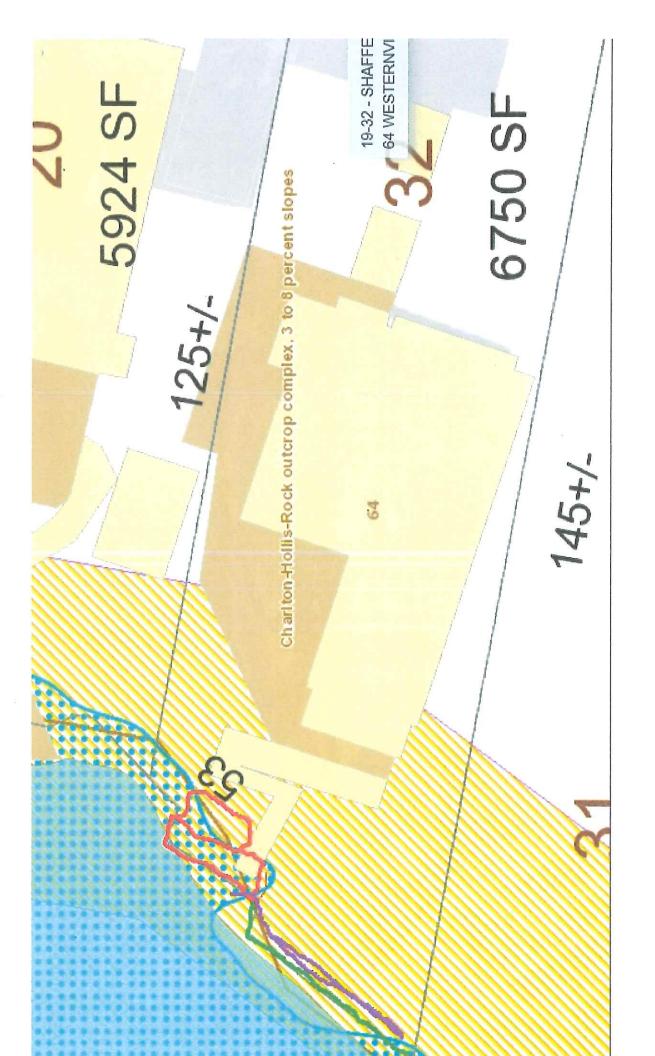
I hereby certify under the penalties of perjury that the foregoing Request for Determination of Applicability and accompanying plans, documents, and supporting data are true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

I further certify that the property owner, if different from the applicant, and the appropriate DEP Regional Office were sent a complete copy of this Request (including all appropriate documentation) simultaneously with the submittal of this Request to the Conservation Commission.

Failure by the applicant to send copies in a timely manner may result in dismissal of the Request for

Determination of Applicability.		
Name and address of the property owner:		
Jason Shafferman		
Name		
64 Western View Drive		
Mailing Address		
Marlborough		
City/Town		(2) (9)
MA	01752	8
State	Zip Code	
Signatures: I also understand that notification of this Request win accordance with Section 10.05(3)(b)(1) of the We		y expense
Jason Shaffarman Signature of Applicant	7/25/2022	
Signature of Applicant 00	Date	
Signature of Representative (if any)	Date	







Productions	Description
Concrete	 Concrete Wall Form and pour concrete wall. Wall 8'x4'x1" and 18'x4'x1".
Concrete	 Concrete Footing patch. Form and pour concrete Footing in the exist wall. Footing is approximate 26'x1'x1'.
Dráin	Provide and install drain behind the existing wall. drain it will make using 3/4 stone and pipe. approximate 26'x2'x1'.
Step	Form And Pour 4 concrete step .
Concrete Slab	Form And pour concrete slab provide and install 3/4 stone as base and pour 4" of concrete . slab approximate 6'x18'.



City/Town

WPA Form 1- Request for Determination of Applicability Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act M.G.L. c. 131, §40

General Information

	A.	General information			
mportant: When filling out forms on the computer, use only the tab key o move your	1.	Applicant: MAHMOUD + JP ELTORAI Name 41 BOLVIN DR	eltoral @ E-Mail Address	comcast, net	
cursor - do not use the return key.		Mailing Address MARL BOROUGH City/Town 916: 847.1059	M A State	01752 Zip Code	
lab		Phone Number	Fax Number (if appl	icable)	
return	2.	Representative (if any):			
£		Firm			
		Contact Name	E-Mail Address		
		Mailing Address			
		City/Town	State	Zip Code	
		Phone Number	Fax Number (if appl	icable)	
		e		, ,	
	B.	Determinations			
	1.	. I request the Marlborough make the following determination(s). Check any Conservation Commission			
		 a. whether the area depicted on plan(s) and/or map(s) referenced below is an area subjection of the Wetlands Protection Act. 			
		b. whether the boundaries of resource area(s) depicted or below are accurately delineated.	ı plan(s) and/or ma	p(s) referenced	
		c. whether the work depicted on plan(s) referenced below is	subject to the Wet	lands Protection Act	
		d. whether the area and/or work depicted on plan(s) reference of any municipal wetlands ordinance or bylaw of:	nced below is subj	ect to the jurisdiction	
		Name of Municipality		9	
		 e. whether the following scope of alternatives is adequate depicted on referenced plan(s). 	for work in the Ri	verfront Area as	



Bureau of Resource Protection - Wetlands

City/Town WPA Form 1- Request for Determination of Applicability Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act M.G.L. c. 131, §40

C.	Project Description			
1.	a. Project Location (use maps and plans to identify the 41 BOIVIN DR. Street Address Deed Book 16065, page 500, Map 94 Assessors Map/Plat Number b. Area Description (use additional paper, if necessary	MARLBOROUGH City/Town Lot 133 Parcel/Lot Number	oject to this request):	
	Please see the topographical map			
	c. Plan and/or Map Reference(s):			
	Title		Date	
	Title		Date	
2.	a. Work Description (use additional paper and/or provi The back half of the property at 41 Boo with invasive bushes and vines that a Due to the close proximity of the trees to remove five of the trees, snag two ac	ivun Dr. Manborou are strangling and to the house, we	igh is filled d killing the trees. request permission	
	Vines. Five trees are dying due to buttersineet and need removal. If these trees fall, they pose a threat to the homes and fences. Two trees in the middle would be snagged.			
	The bittersweet and grape vines would Bramble, multiplova vose, honeysuckle and native bushes would be reserved additional trees would be been added.)	& poison in war plainted in the	uld be removed ar place, trees have already	
	/		Page 2 of 4	



Bureau of Resource Protection - Wetlands

City/Town

WPA Form 1- Request for Determination of Applicability

Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act M.G.L. c. 131, §40

D. Signatures and Submittal Requirements

I hereby certify under the penalties of perjury that the foregoing Request for Determination of Applicability and accompanying plans, documents, and supporting data are true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

I further certify that the property owner, if different from the applicant, and the appropriate DEP Regional Office were sent a complete copy of this Request (including all appropriate documentation) simultaneously with the submittal of this Request to the Conservation Commission.

Failure by the applicant to send copies in a timely manner may result in dismissal of the Request for Determination of Applicability.

name and address of the property owner:	
Mahmoud and JP Elterai	
Name	
41 Bown Dr	
Mailing Address	
Marlborough	2
City/Town	
Ma	01752
State	Zip Code
Signatures:	
I also understand that notification of this Request will be placed in a in accordance with Section 10.05(3)(b)(1) of the Wetlands Protection	
I.P. Ettereri	5.20.22
Signature of Applicant	Date
Signature of Representative (if any)	Date

oltoral acompast, net

416,847.1059

MAKIL BOKENGE

4 BOIVIN DK

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WPA Form 4 — Abbreviated Notice of Intent

Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act M.G.L. c. 131, §40

DEP F	ile Number:	
Provide	ed by DEP	

Town

A. General Information

6. General Project Description:

Important: When filling out forms on the computer, use only the tab key to move your cursor do not use the return key.





Note: Before completing this form, consult your local Conservation Commission regarding any municipal bylaw or ordinance.

Applicant:				
	hellvecio@gmail.com			
E-Mail Address				
	01752			
State	Zip Code			
Fay Number /if applies	ible)			
r ax riumber (ii applica	ible			
E-Mail Address				
State	Zip Code			
Fax Number (if applica	Fax Number (if applicable)			
nt):				
State	Zip Code			
Marlborough				
City/Town				
Latitude	Longitude			
Latitude	Longitudo			
r	E-Mail Address MA State Fax Number (if application of the state) E-Mail Address State Fax Number (if application of the state) State Fax Number (if application of the state) State Marlborough			

Build Patio with Firepit and Retaining Wall in the backyard next to Ft. Meadaw Reservoir



WPA Form 4 – Abbreviated Notice of Intent

Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act M.G.L. c. 131, §40

DEP File Num	ber:
Provided by DE	D

Town

A.	General Information (cont.)	X-1	
7.	Registry of Deeds: Middleser County	75877 Book	032 ST Page
	Certificate (if Registered Land)		
В.	Site and Activities Subject to R	egulation	
Co	mplete any of the following sections that apply t	o the proposed work and project site).
1.	Complete for proposed activities located, in wh	nole or in part, in Buffer Zone.	
	a. Check all the following borders to the Buffer	Zone:	
	Inland Resource Areas	Coastal Resource Areas	
	☐ Inland Bank	Coastal Beach	☐ Barrier Beach
	Bordering Vegetated Wetland (BVW)	☐ Rocky Intertidal Shore	☐ Coastal Dune
	,	Salt Marsh	☐ Coastal Bank
	b. Check all the methods used to delineate the	Bordering Vegetated Wetland bour	ndary:
	☐ Final Order of Resource Area Delineation	issued by Conservation Commission	n or DEP (attached)
	☐ DEP BVW Field Data Form (attached)	ž	
	Final Determination of Applicability issued	by Conservation Commission (attac	ched)
	Other Method of Determining BVW bound	ary (attach documentation):	
	50% or more wetland indicator plants		
	☐ Saturated/inundated conditions exist		
	Groundwater indicators		
	☑ Direct observation		
	Hydric soil indicators		28
	Credible evidence of conditions prior t	to disturbance	



WPA Form 4 — Abbreviated Notice of Intent

Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act M.G.L. c. 131, §40

DEP	File N	umber:	
Provi	ded by	DEP	
Town	1		

B. Site and Activities Subject to Regulation (cont.)

	c. Describe, with reference to supporting plans and calculations where necessary, the size, type, and location of the proposed work and mitigating measures and designs to insure that the proposed work will not alter the resource area and Buffer Zone borders. Attach additional sheets, if necessary.								
	Add walkway from existing patio leading to the new patio - Dimensions: 23' x 4'								
	Add retaining wall where the new patio starts - Dir	mensions: 19' x 1'9" x 19'							
	Patio dimensions: 24' x 22'	Patio dimensions: 24' x 22'							
	Retaining wall at the end of the Lot - Dimensions:	87' x 1'2" x 1'9"							
2.	Complete for proposed activities located, in whole or	in part, in Land Subject to Flooding.							
	a. Resource area description:								
	Bordering Land Subject to Flooding:	Isolated Land Subject to Flooding:							
_	Volume of Flood Storage Lost (cubic feet)	Volume of Flood Storage Lost (cubic feet)							
	Volume of Flood Storage Compensation (cubic feet)	Volume of Flood Storage Compensation (cubic feet)							
b. Describe, with reference to supporting plans and calculations where necessary the siz location, and type of work, mitigating measures, and designs proposed to meet the perfor standards set forth in 310 CMR 10.57(4) and 10.60. Attach additional sheets, if necessary									
		•							
3.	Complete for proposed activities located, in whole or	in part, in the Riverfront Area.							
	a. Name of Waterway (if available):								
	,								



Bureau of Resource Protection - Wetlands

WPA Form 4 — Abbreviated Notice of IntentMassachusetts Wetlands Protection Act M.G.L. c. 131, §40

DEP File	Number:
Provided b	y DEP
Town	

B. Site and Activities Subject to Regulation (cont.)

	b. Width of Riverfront Area (check one):								
	25 ft Designated Densely Developed Areas only								
	☐ 100 ft New agricultural projects only								
10-	200 ft All other projects								
1/1	c. Describe how the Mean Ann	c. Describe how the Mean Annual High-Water Line was determined:							
0.		7.77							
	d. Distance of proposed activity	closest to the Mean Annual High-	Water Line:						
191	Feet e. Total area of Riverfront Area	on the site of the proposed projec	t:						
	Square Feet								
	f. Proposed alteration of the R	iverfront Area:							
	Total Square Feet	Square Feet within 100 ft.	Square Feet between 100 ft. and 200 ft.						
	g. Indicate project purpose:								
	☐ Single family house	☐ Commercial development	☐ Transportation						
	Residential subdivision	☐ Industrial development	Other (describe): Addition to backyard						
	h. Was the lot where the activi	ty is proposed created prior to Aug	ust 1, 1996?						
	X Yes								
	□ No								



WPA Form 4 — Abbreviated Notice of Intent

Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act M.G.L. c. 131, §40

DEP File Number:	
Provided by DEP	
Town	

B. Site and Activities Subject to Regulation (cont.)

	 Describe how the project will meet all performance standards set forth in 310 CMR 10.58(4) for the Riverfront Area, including standards requiring consideration of alternative project design or location. Attach additional sheets, if necessary. Will add plants around the retaining wall in order to provide and maintain natural habitat and 							
	food for animals and birds in the area.							
	Will raise wall	where ground surface run-off discharges happens in order to prevent it from						
	reaching the water line.							
4.	Is the project ex	cempt from the DEP Stormwater Management Policy?						
	✓ Yes	If yes, explain why the project is exempt:						
5	*	Single family home						
	□ No	If no, stormwater management measures are required. Applicants are encouraged to complete the Stormwater Management Form and submit it with this Abbreviated Notice of Intent.						
5.	recent Estimate	on of the proposed project located within estimated habitat as indicated on the most ed Habitat Map of State-Listed Rare Wetland Wildlife published by the Natural Heritage ed Species Program?						
	☐ Yes							
	-	If yes, include proof of mailing or hand delivery of Abbreviated Notice of Intent to :						
	Å No	Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program Division of Fisheries and Wildlife 1 Rabbit Hill Road Westborough, MA 01581-3336						
	Date of Map	g Oct. 1, 2008						
	b. Is any porti	ion of the proposed project in an Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC)?						
	☐ Yes	If yes, provide name of ACEC (see the Area of Critical Concern list for ACEC locations):						
	₩ No	ACEC Name						



WPA Form 4 — Abbreviated Notice of Intent
Massachusette Wetlands Protection Act M.G.L. c. 131, §40

	er:
Provided by DEP	

Provided by DEP	
Town	

Vla	ssachusetts Wetlands Protection Act W.G.L. C. 131, 940
	Town
В.	Site and Activities Subject to Regulation (cont.)
	c. Is any portion of the site subject to a Wetlands Restriction Order under the Inland Wetlands Restriction Act (M.G.L. c. 131, § 40A) or the Coastal Wetlands Restriction Act (M.G.L. c. 130, § 105)?
	☐ Yes
	⊠ No
6.	If any activity within Land Subject to Flooding, the Riverfront Area, or Buffer Zone is exempt from performance standards in accordance with any provision of the wetlands regulations, 310 CMR 10.00, identify the appropriate exemption:
	Exemption
C.	Additional Information
App	licants must include the following with this Abbreviated Notice of Intent (ANOI):
•	USGS or other map of the area (along with a narrative description, if necessary), containing sufficient information for the Conservation Commission and the Department to locate the site. Plans identifying the location of proposed activities relative to the boundaries of each affected resource area.
•	Other material identifying and explaining the determination of resource area boundaries shown on plans (e.g., a DEP BVW Field Data Form). List the titles and final revision dates for all plans and other materials submitted with this ANOI.
	Fees
The	e fees for work proposed under each Abbreviated Notice of Intent must be calculated and submitted to Conservation Commission and DEP(see Instructions and NOI Wetland Fee Transmittal Form).
fed	filing fee shall be assessed for projects of any city, town, county, or district of the Commonwealth, erally recognized Indian tribe housing authority, municipal housing authority, or the Massachusetts Bay nsportation Authority.
App Tra	olicants must submit the following information (in addition to pages 1 and 2 of the NOI Wetland Feensmittal Form) to confirm fee payment:
	Check Number Check date

Applicant name on check

Payor name on check



WPA Form 4 — Abbreviated Notice of Intent

Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act M.G.L. c. 131, §40

DEP File Number:	
Provided by DEP	
Town	

E. Signatures and Submittal Requirements

I hereby certify under the penalties of perjury that the foregoing Abbreviated Notice of Intent and accompanying plans, documents, and supporting data are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the Conservation Commission will place notification of this Notice in a local newspaper at the expense of the applicant in accordance with the wetlands regulations, 310 CMR 10.05(5)(a).

I further certify under penalties of perjury that all abutters were notified of this application, pursuant to the requirements of M.G.L. c. 131, § 40. Notice must be made in writing by hand delivery or certified mail (return receipt requested) to all abutters within 100 feet of the property line of the project location.

Helvecio Carvalho	7/8/22
Signature of Applicant	Date
Signature of Property Owner (If different)	Date
Signature of Representative (if any)	Date

For Conservation Commission:

Two copies of the completed Abbreviated Notice of Intent (Form 4), including supporting plans and documents; two copies of pages 1 and 2 of the NOI Wetland Fee Transmittal Form; and the city/town fee payment must be sent to the Conservation Commission by certified mail or hand delivery.

For DEP:

Two copies of the completed Abbreviated Notice of Intent (Form 4), including supporting plans and documents; two copies of pages 1 and 2 of the NOI Wetland Fee Transmittal Form; and a **copy** of the state fee payment must be sent to the DEP Regional Office by certified mail or hand delivery.

Other:

If the applicant has checked the "yes" box in any part of Section B, Item 5, above, refer to that section and the Instructions for additional submittal requirements.

The original and copies must be sent simultaneously. Failure by the applicant to send copies in a timely manner may result in dismissal of the Abbreviated Notice of Intent.



City of Marlborough Conservation Commission

140 Main Street

Marlborough, Massachusetts 01752 Tel. (508) 460-3768 Facsimile (508) 460-3747 Edward Clancy — Chairman Allan White Dennis Demers John Skarin David Williams Karin Paquin William Dunbar Priscilla Ryder Conservation Officer

June 29, 2022

Helvecio Carvalho 21 Blaiswood Ave. Marlborough, MA 01752

Re: Wetland Violation 21 Blaiswood Ave. \$25 fine

Dear Mr. Carvalho,

As we discussed on the phone on Tuesday June 21, 2022, the work you had done in your back yard, including retaining wall, adding fill to level the yard and adding the patio along the lake edge required a wetland permit prior to construction. This violation carries a fine of \$25 and a requirement for you to attend the next Conservation Commission meeting on July 7, 2022. This meeting is held on Thursday evening beginning at 7:00 PM.

In order to remedy this violation please take the following action:

- 1. Cease any further landscaping work in the 100' buffer zone until the conservation commission has rendered a decision.
- 2. Plan to attend the Commission's next meeting on Thursday July 7, 2022 at 7:00 PM. As I noted the Commission has two options:
 - a. Have you remove and restore the yard to meet the current 30' no disturb zone requirements, OR
 - b. Require that you file for a permit, after the fact, and provide some mitigation/restoration of the shoreline the Commission will determine if the wall can stay as is or if modifications need to be made.

It will be up to the Commission to decide what the outcome will be.

 After the commission gives you direction on July 7th, and if a permit is required, you will need to fill out the Notice of Intent permit application found here: https://www.marlborough-ma.gov/conservation-commission/files/wpa-form-4-abbreviated-notice-intent. To be submitted on or before July 21th.

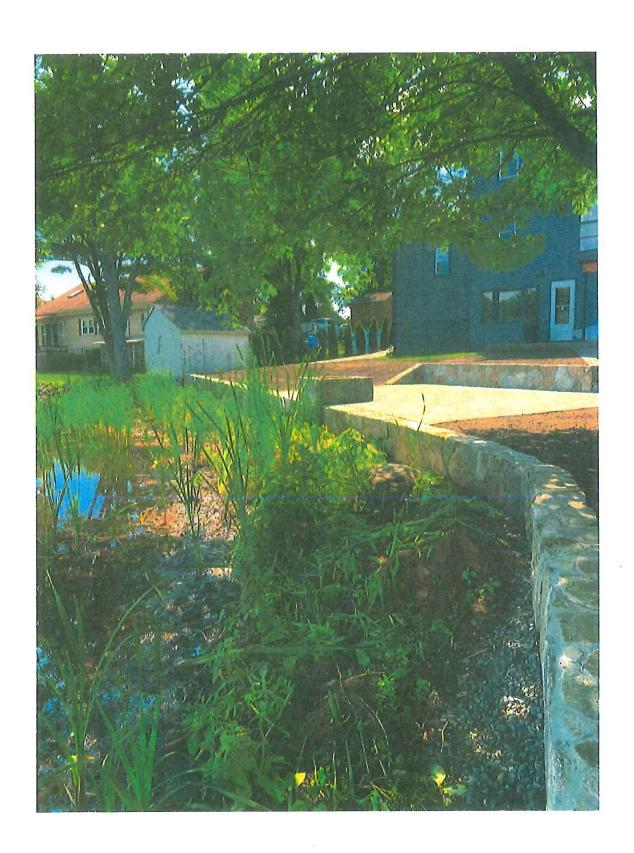
In the meantime, please do not do any more work in the back yard. You may continue to water the yard to establish the lawn, but no other work is permitted at this time until this has been reviewed with the Conservation Commission and a decision rendered. Your cooperation is required and appreciated. If you have any questions, please give me a call at 508-460-3768

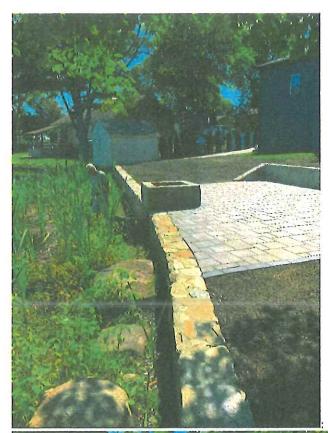
Priscilla Ryder

Conservation Officer

Encl Open Gov Ticket \$25;

30' Wetland Buffer Zone Policy;













Conservation, Collaboration, and Community since 1953

August 17, 2022

Dear Edward Clancy,

As Chair of the Marlborough Conservation Commission, I want to share some exciting new work undertaken by Sudbury Valley Trustees (SVT) and the Massachusetts Land Trust Coalition (MLTC) that highlights the economic value that land conservation brings to communities across our Commonwealth.

Enclosed you'll find a fact sheet that summarizes a suite of tools designed to communicate the economic value of nature-based services to municipalities. The full set of materials is available on the MLTC website at <u>massland.org/naturesvalue</u>. Please share this link with your fellow commissioners. In it you will find useful talking points for supporting open space and land conservation projects.

SVT has been a lead partner in the effort to develop this toolkit, which could not come at a more important time as we grapple with the changing climate. We have seen tremendous support for land conservation in recent years, particularly as the pandemic encouraged people to explore the outdoors closer to home. However, we still face pushback on open space projects from local officials who do not see the full spectrum of tangible, economic benefits that land conservation provides. This toolkit can help convince such decision makers of the compounding benefits of well-planned and managed conservation lands to their budgets and their constituents.

We hope this toolkit proves to be a valuable resource for better understanding the benefits of land conservation. MACC hosted myself and Robb Johnson (MLTC) to present these findings and how the free communications toolkit can be used. A recording of this Lunch & Learn event is available at maccweb.org/news. If you or a member of the Marlborough Conservation Commission would like more information, please contact me at ccollins@svtweb.org.

Thank you for your support in protecting the people, wildlife, and the environment of Marlborough.

Sincerely,

Carin H. Collins

Christa Collins
Director of Land Protection



How Conserving Open Space Provides Economic Benefits to Massachusetts Communities

Land conservation has the potential to provide returns to communities by generating benefits with an economic value that outweighs the direct or perceived costs of conservation.

There are many categories of value that directly benefit residents, local businesses, and the municipality.



Land conservation improves quality of life for residents by:

- Allowing for and encouraging recreational use. Local recreational access is important because most recreational activities are conducted within five miles of home.
- Providing numerous health benefits. Research indicates that people with access to the outdoors show long term health improvement.
- Improving air quality, helping to avoid the costs associated with pollution (e.g., medical expense and lost work because of asthma attacks).
- Keeping temperatures cooler in the summer and warmer in the winter, avoiding a range of health problems and reducing energy bills.
- Helping to address disparities in access to nearby open space.



Land conservation generates local jobs and bolsters businesses by:

- Supporting tourism-related businesses.
- Recruiting new residents who may be business owners, entrepreneurs, or workers, supporting growth in earnings per job across a community.
- Protecting working landscapes and improving water quality and habitat that are vital to the farming, forestry, and commercial fishing industries.

(CONTINUED, OVER)







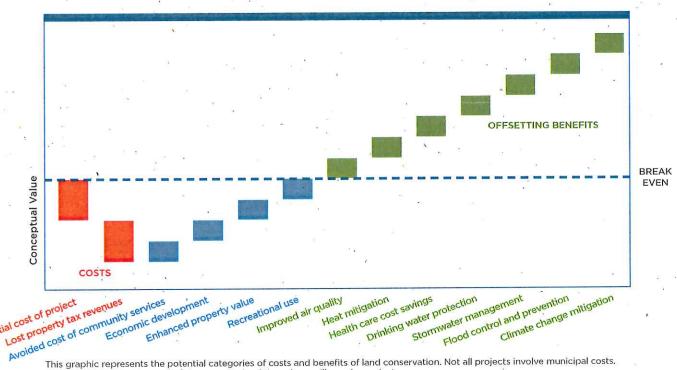
Land conservation benefits municipalities

- Avoiding increased costs of public services that would have been required if the conserved property had been developed, such as increased school, public works, and public safety services.
- Positively impacting local employment outcomes and economic growth thereby improving the commercial tax base.
- Enhancing nearby property values by creating an amenity value, increasing tax revenue collected as assessments are adjusted.
- Protecting clean drinking water from contamination, filtering and cleaning drinking

- water, and enhancing infiltration and replenishment of groundwater resources, reducing treatment costs.
- Naturally infiltrating and managing stormwater, lowering the levels of phosphorus; nitrogen, and total suspended solids that end up in waterbodies, and thereby lowering management costs.
- Storing and slowing runoff from storms, thereby reducing the frequency and magnitude of floods. Conserving land in floodplains helps avoid property damage and infrastructure losses by preventing development in flood-prone areas where property damage is most likely during flood events.

The specific benefits and costs of conserving a parcel of land will depend on characteristics of the land and community in question. A municipal investment is sometimes requested to acquire a specific parcel of conservation land. Sometimes conserving a piece of land will remove it from property tax rolls, but in the case of a conservation restriction or agricultural preservation restriction over land that remains in private hands, the property will still be subject to property taxation.

Economic impact of a land conservation project



This graphic represents the potential categories of costs and benefits of land conservation. Not all projects involve municipal costs. The benefits realized, as well as the magnitude of the values, will vary by project.