### **TYPES OF APPLICATIONS**

#### REQUEST FOR DETERMINATION OF APPLICABILTY

This application is appropriate for anyone wanting to know if they must file a more comprehensive application with the Commission, or for those who are certain that all of their proposed site work is at least 50' from any wetland resource area. There is no fee associated with the RDA application with the exception of a legal notice payment. Plans may be hand-drawn by the property owner depicting the approximated locations of wetlands and locations of proposed work.

#### **NOTICE OF INTENT**

The NOI application is required whenever proposed work is within 50 feet of a wetland or within 200 feet of a brook, stream or river. Or in 100 Yr. Flood plain NOI applications require detailed site plans prepared by a certified professional engineer or land surveyor depicting wetland boundaries as flagged on the property and all proposed work. There are state and municipal filing fees associated with the NOI that increase with the scope of work (filing fee for a single family house is \$500).

#### ABBREVIATED NOTICE OF RESOURCE AREA DELINEATION

The ANRAD application is a request to the Commission to approve the location of wetland boundaries as flagged on the property and drawn on a site plan - it does not address site work. This application is appropriate for property owners wishing to certify the location of wetlands and is required for anyone that files a NOI with a site plan showing wetland flagging that exceeds 600 linear feet. Filing fees are required and calculated by the linear amount of wetland flagging.

### TYPES OF WETLANDS

**Bordering Vegetated Wetland:** BVW is the most predominant type of wetland in Rehoboth: swamp!

**Isolated Vegetated Wetland:** IVW are small pockets unconnected to larger wetland systems where stormwater or groundwater pools; applicants may demonstrate to the Commission that their volume is small enough to be considered non-jurisdictional.

**Riverfront:** A streams or river including its 400 foot wide corridor; this area is highly restricted for new building projects.

**Bordering Land Subject to Flooding:** Areas depicted on FEMA flood maps as 100-year flood zones.

Land under Water Bodies: Just like it sounds - areas of ponds, lakes, etc.

Please contact the office with any questions or concerns.

Daniel Roach, Conservation Agent

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Pamphlet last updated February 2019



# Town of Rehoboth Conservation Commission

## **Information Pamphlet**

#### **COMMISSIONERS**

Robert Materne, Chairman Dave Evans, Vice – Chairman Thomas Nicholson Krisna Prachanronarong Matt Habershaw Stephen Choquette Matthew Kershaw Scott Pennoyer, Assoc. Member Sara Huber, Assoc. Member Daniel Roach, Conservation Agent

# What is the Conservation Commission?

The Conservation Commission is a town committee charged with serving the interests of the state Wetlands and River Protection Acts. Every city and town in Massachusetts has a Conservation Commission to issue permits for projects proposed in and near wetland and riverfront areas so long as they are in compliance with the state regulations. The Conservation Commission is made up of seven



volunteers that are appointed by the Rehoboth Board of Selectmen for three year terms.

## Eight Interests of the Wetlands and River Protection Acts

The Conservation Commission does not protect wetland resource areas per se — they protect the interests that wetlands provide to our community.

- 1. Public & Private water supply protection
- 2. Protection of groundwater supply
- 3. Flood Control
- 4. Storm damage prevention
- 5. Prevention of pollution
- 6. Protection of land containing shellfish
- 7. Protection of fisheries
- 8. Protection of wildlife habitat

# Who needs to file with the Conservation Commission?

Anyone with plans to build, grade, clear, apply herbicides or do any work within 100 feet of a wetland or within 200 feet of a brook, stream or river must contact the Conservation Commission before doing so. If the Commission determines that the area of the proposed work is significant to one or more of the eight interests of the Wetlands Protection Act it will impose written conditions as will contribute to the protection of such interest and all work must be done in accordance.

# How do I know if there are wetlands near my proposed work?

There are no state or local maps that depict the specific locations of wetlands. Different criteria are used to establish the location of different types of wetland areas for each individual property in Massachusetts on an as-needed basis. The most prominent type of wetland in Rehoboth - Bordering Vegetated Wetland - is generally indicated by the evidence of wetland plants and presence of hydric soils. While it is not required, it is recommended that an applicant hire a certified wetland scientist or biologist or an engineer/surveyor who is familiar with delineating Massachusetts wetlands. Keep in mind that it is rare for a wetland area to stay wet throughout the year!



## I need to file with the Commission what do I need to do?

Depending on the amount of wetlands on your property and their proximity to your proposed workyou will file one of three types of applications. Applications are available online at the Massachusetts DEP website -www.mass.gov/dep/water/approvals/ wwforms.htm - or at the Rehoboth Town Hall. It is recommended (and for certain applications - required) that you work with a professional engineer, land surveyor, or wetland scientist to determine the location of wetlands and file a properly executed application. Once received, the Conservation Office reviews your application for completion and will advise you of the date and time of the public hearing. Members of the Commission and/or their Agent will visit your property prior to the hearing to verify the location of the wetlands and review the proposed work area.

## What can I expect at the meeting?

Meetings of the Conservation Commission are casual but professional. The Commission will expect you or your representative to present the project and will ask questions of you as necessary and open the meeting up to the public with their questions or concerns. If the Commission has sufficient information they will close the hearing and vote to issue their determination on your application. If they require additional materials or advise you to revise your project to comply with the state wetland regulations, they will allow you to continue the public hearing until a later date of your choosing.