

“Allowed” Activities Not Requiring a Permit

It is the public policy of the State of Connecticut to require municipal regulation of activities affecting inland wetlands and watercourses. The Salisbury Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission (IWWC) is the local agency tasked with this responsibility. It is through a combination of regulation by the Town and good stewardship of wetland resources and the associated Upland Review Areas (URA) on behalf of landowners, that we will be able to protect our 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.”

The Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Act designates the specific power to hear, consider and decide upon applications for regulated activities involving inland wetlands and watercourses (including activities in the URA) and to determine whether proposed activities are exempt from, or otherwise not subject to, the regulations.

To that end, the IWWC has developed a list of routine activities that are permissible within the URA and do not require prior approval by the IWWC. However, if the scope of work in the URA exceeds the items listed below, it will require a review by the IWWC or its agent to ensure that wetland resources are properly protected. If you have any uncertainties, kindly consult the Land Use Office for the Town of Salisbury at landuse@salisburyct.us or (860)435-5190

Protecting the precious wetlands is a joint responsibility of all within our community. We thank you for your cooperation.

On an established residential property, the following routine activities occurring in the Upland Review Area (not a wetland or watercourse) do not require application to the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses or its Agent.

- a. **Mowing an existing lawn.** *Note: Best practices for wetland management include a buffer area of at least 35 feet between the wetland resource and any lawn area. Property owners are encouraged to establish, maintain, or expand native vegetative buffer areas.*
- b. **Weeding, planting, fertilizing, or mulching of already existing gardens.** *Note: Use of fertilizers within the URA should be minimized as it contributes to nutrient loading within wetland ecosystems.*
- c. **Care and maintenance of existing shrubs and trees including pruning or removal of dead limbs or targeted application of pesticides. Pesticides shall be used in accordance with specifications in the corresponding product label. Use of pesticides in the URA should be minimized. Use of pesticides in a wetland**

requires a permit by IWWC. Use of pesticides in the waterbody requires a permit by DEEP Pesticides Division. Use of pesticides in the waterbody requires a permit by the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Pesticides Division.

- d. Hand removal or Spot Treatment of invasive (ex; Japanese barberry) or nuisance plants (ex. poison ivy). Herbicides shall be used in accordance with specifications in the corresponding product label.** Generally, the IWWC is in support of invasive management. *Use of herbicides in the URA should be minimized. Use of herbicides in a wetland requires a permit by IWWC. Use of herbicides in the waterbody requires a permit by DEEP Pesticides Division.*

Example verbiage from DEEP Department of Public Health

Procellacor may only be used in the control of aquatic plants in accordance with specifications provided in the corresponding product label, which is required pursuant to 40 CFR Part 156.

- e.**
- f. Yard cleaning, including clearing away fallen leaves and branches in an existing lawn or landscaped area so long as yard debris, leaves, or mulch are not blown or deposited on a wetland or watercourse.**
- g. Removal of dead, dying, or fallen trees that threaten structures or access ways. If in a situation where more than X trees are involved, please contact the Land Use Office for consultation. Stump grinding or grubbing within 20 ft of the shoreline requires a permit by IWWC**
- h. Planting of a flower/herb garden, native (or native cultivar) shrubs and trees that are less than 500 sq ft disturbance. A disturbance greater than 500 sq ft requires a permit by the IWWC or its agent.**

Where is this from? Would it preclude people from planting a vegetative buffer?

- i. Maintenance and repair of existing structures including cleaning, painting, roofing, and septic pump-out.**
- j. Storage of water-dependent structures and equipment including docks and boats.**

Activities which require earth moving or disturbance such as driveway and septic repairs require application to the Commission or its Agent. When in doubt, please check with the Land Use Office