

# **Town of Waterford, Maine**

## **SHORELAND ZONING ORDINANCE**

Adopted: March, 7, 1992  
Amended: March 1, 2003  
Amended: March 28, 2005  
Amended: March 3, 2007  
Amended: March 6, 2010  
Amended: March 3, 2012  
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***Shoreland Zoning Ordinance***  
*Town of Waterford*

**Section 1. Purposes**

The purposes of this Ordinance are to further the maintenance of safe and healthful conditions; to prevent and control water pollution; to protect fish spawning grounds, aquatic life, bird and other wildlife habitat; to protect buildings and lands from flooding and accelerated erosion; to protect freshwater wetlands; to control building sites, placement of structures and land uses; to conserve shore cover, and visual as well as actual points of access to inland waters; to conserve natural beauty and open space; and to anticipate and respond to the impacts of development in shoreland areas.

**Section 2. Authority**

This Ordinance has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of Title 38 Sections 435-449 of the Maine Revised Statutes Annotated (M.R.S.A.).

**Section 3. Applicability**

This Ordinance applies to all land areas within 250 feet, horizontal distance, of the normal high-water line of any great pond or river; within 250 feet, horizontal distance, of the upland edge of a freshwater wetland; and within 75 feet, horizontal distance, of the normal high-water line of a stream. This ordinance also applies to any structure built on, over or abutting a dock, wharf or pier, or other structures extending below the normal high-water line of a water body or within a wetland.

All of the requirements applicable to the great ponds shall also apply to the following rivers and streams: Crooked River, Bear River, City Brook, and the outlet of McWain Pond to the Crooked River. All of the requirements applicable to stream protection district shall also apply to the northerly outlet of Little Moose Pond to its junction with Mutiny Brook. [Amended March 7, 1998]

**Section 4. Effective Date of Ordinance and Ordinance Amendments**

This Ordinance, which was amended by the municipal legislative body on March 7, 1992 and as amended through March 3, 2012 shall not be effective unless approved by the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection. A certified copy of the Ordinance or Ordinance amendment, attested and signed by the Town Clerk, shall be forwarded to the Commissioner for approval. If the Commissioner fails to act on this Ordinance or Ordinance amendment within forty-five (45) days of its receipt of the Ordinance or Ordinance amendment, it shall be automatically approved.

Any application for a permit submitted to the Town within the forty-five (45) day period shall be governed by the terms of this Ordinance or Ordinance amendment if the Ordinance or Ordinance amendment is approved by the Commissioner.

**Section 5. Availability**

A certified copy of this Ordinance shall be filed with the Town Clerk and shall be accessible to any member of the public. Copies shall be made available to the public at reasonable cost at the expense of the person making the request. Notice of availability of this Ordinance shall be posted.

**Section 6. Severability**

Should any section of provision of this Ordinance be declared by the courts to be invalid, such decision shall not invalidate any other section or provision of the Ordinance.

**Section 7. Conflicts with Other Ordinances**

Whenever a provision of this Ordinance conflicts with or is inconsistent with another provision of this Ordinance or of any other ordinance, regulation or statute administered by the municipality, the more restrictive provision shall control.

**Section 8. Amendments**

- A. This Ordinance may be amended by majority vote of the legislative body (Town Meeting). Amendments may be initiated by majority vote of the Planning Board or by request of the Board of Selectmen to the Planning Board or on petition of 10% of the votes cast in the last gubernatorial election in the Town. The Planning Board shall conduct a public hearing on any proposed amendment.
  
- B. Copies of amendments, attested and signed by the Town Clerk, shall be submitted to the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection following adoption by the town legislative body and shall not be effective unless approved by the Commissioner. If the Commissioner fails to act on any amendment within forty-five (45) days receipt of the amendment, the amendment is automatically approved. Any application for a permit submitted to the Town within the forty-five (45) day period shall be governed by the terms of the amendment, if such amendment is approved by the Commissioner.

**Section 9. Districts and Zoning Map**

A. Official Shoreland Zoning Map

The areas to which this Ordinance is applicable are hereby divided into the following districts as shown on the Official Shoreland Zoning Map(s) which are made a part of this Ordinance:

- 1. Resource Protection District
- 2. Rural Shoreland District
- 3. Stream Protection District

B. Scale of Map

The Official Shoreland Zoning Map shall be drawn at a scale of not less than: 1 inch = 2,000 feet. District boundaries shall be clearly delineated and a legend indicating the symbols for each district shall be placed on the map.

C. Certification of Official Shoreland Zoning Map

The Official Shoreland Zoning Map shall be certified by the attested signature of the Town Clerk and shall be located in the Town Office.

D. Changes to the Official Shoreland Zoning Map

If amendments, in accordance with Section 8, are made in the district boundaries or other matter portrayed on the Official Shoreland Zoning Map such changes shall be made on the Official Shoreland Zoning Map within thirty (30) days after the amendment has been approved by the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection.

**Section 10. District Boundaries**

The District Boundaries are as shown on the adopted shoreland zoning map and as defined in this Ordinance. Although wetlands are shown on the Official Shoreland Zoning Map, the actual boundaries shall be determined by field investigation. Where uncertainty exists as to the exact location of district boundary lines, they shall be determined by field verification.

**Section 11. Land Use Requirements**

Except as hereinafter specified, no building, structure or land shall hereafter be used or occupied, and no building or structure or part thereof shall hereafter be erected, constructed, expanded, moved, or altered and no new lot shall be created except in conformity with all of the regulations herein specified for the district in which it is located, unless a variance is granted.

**Section 12. Non-conformance**

A. Purpose

It is the intent of this Ordinance to promote land-use conformities, except that non-conforming conditions that existed before the effective date of this Ordinance or amendments thereto shall be allowed to continue, subject to the requirements set forth in this section. Except as otherwise provided in this Ordinance, a non-conforming condition shall not be permitted to become more non-conforming.

B. General

1. Transfer of Ownership: Non-conforming structures, lots, and uses may be transferred, and the new owner may continue the non-conforming use or continue to use the non-conforming structure or lot, subject to the provisions of this Ordinance.

2. Repair and Maintenance: This Ordinance allows, without a permit, the normal upkeep and maintenance of non-conforming uses and structures including repairs or renovations that do not involve expansion of the non-conforming use or structure, and such other changes in a non-conforming use or structure as federal, state, or local building and safety codes may require.

C. Non-conforming Structures

1. Expansions: All new principal and accessory structures, excluding functionally water-dependent uses, must meet the water body, tributary stream, or wetland setback requirements contained in Section 15.B.1. A non-conforming structure may be added to or expanded after obtaining a permit from the same permitting authority as that for a new structure if such addition or expansion does not increase the non-conforming of the structure and is in accordance with subparagraphs a and b below.

a. Expansion of any portion of a structure within 25 feet of the normal high-water line of a water body, tributary stream, or upland edge of a wetland is prohibited, even if the expansion will not increase nonconformity with the water body, tributary stream or wetland setback requirement. Expansion of an accessory structure that is located closer to the normal high-water line of a water body, tributary stream, or upland edge of a wetland than the principal structure is prohibited, even if the expansion will not increase nonconformity with the water body, tributary stream, or wetland setback requirement.

Notwithstanding paragraph a, above, if a legally existing nonconforming principal structure is entirely located less than 25 feet from the normal high-water line of a water body, tributary stream, or upland edge of a wetland, that structure may be expanded as follows, as long as all other applicable municipal land use standards are met and the expansion is not prohibited by Section 12.C.1.

(i) The maximum total footprint for the principal structure may not be expanded to a size greater than 800 square feet or 30% larger than the footprint that existed on January 1, 1989, whichever is greater. The maximum height of the principal structure may not be made greater than 15 feet or the height of the existing structure, whichever is greater.

c. All other legally existing nonconforming principal and accessory structures that do not meet the water body, tributary stream, or wetland setback requirements may be expanded or altered as follows, as long as other applicable municipal land use standards are met and the expansion is not prohibited by Section 12.C.1 or Section 12.C.1.a, above.

(i) For structures located less than 75 feet from the normal high-water line of a water body, tributary stream, or upland edge of a wetland, the maximum combined total footprint for all structures may not be expanded to a size greater than 1,000 square feet or 30% larger than the footprint that existed on January 1, 1989, whichever is greater. The maximum height of any structure may not be made greater than 20 feet or the height of the existing structure, whichever is greater.

(ii) For structures located less than 100 feet from the normal high-water line of a great pond or a river flowing to a great pond, the maximum combined total footprint for all structures may not be expanded to a size greater than 1,500 square feet or 30% larger than the footprint that existed on January 1, 1989, whichever is greater. The maximum height of any structure may not be made greater than 25 feet or the height of the existing structure, whichever is greater. Any portion of those structures located less than 75 feet from the normal high-water line of a water body, tributary stream, or

upland edge of a wetland must meet the footprint and height limits in Section 12.C.1.b.(i) and Section 12.C.1.c.(i), above.

- (iii) In addition to the limitations in subparagraphs (i) and (ii), for structures that are legally nonconforming due to their location within the Resource Protection District when located at less than 250 feet from the normal high-water line of a water body or the upland edge of a wetland, the maximum combined total footprint for all structures may not be expanded to a size greater than 1,500 square feet or 30% larger than the footprint that existed at the time the Resource Protection District was established on the lot, whichever is greater. The maximum height of any structure may not be made greater than 25 feet or the height of the existing structure, whichever is greater, except that any portion of those structures located less than 75 feet from the normal high-water line of a water body, tributary stream, or upland edge of a wetland must meet the footprint and height limits in Section 12.C.1.b.(i) and Section 12.C.1.c.(i), above.
  - d. An approved plan for expansion of a nonconforming structure must be recorded by the applicant with the registry of deeds, within 90 days of approval. The recorded plan must show the existing and proposed footprint of the non-conforming structure, the existing and proposed structure height, the footprint of any other structures on the parcel, the shoreland zone boundary and evidence of approval by the municipal review authority.
  - e. No structure which is less than the required setback from the normal high-water line of a water body, tributary stream, or upland edge of a wetland shall be expanded toward the water body, tributary stream, or wetland.
2. Foundations. Whenever a new, enlarged, or replacement foundation is constructed under a non-conforming structure, the structure and new foundation are must be placed such that the setback requirement is met to the greatest practical extent as determined by the Planning Board, basing its decision on the criteria specified in Section 12.C.3, Relocation, below.
3. Relocation: A non-conforming structure may be relocated within the boundaries of the parcel on which the structure is located provided that the site of relocation conforms to all setback requirements to the greatest practical extent as determined by the Planning Board, and provided that the applicant demonstrates that the present subsurface sewage disposal-system meets the requirements of State law and the State of Maine Subsurface Wastewater Disposal Rules (Rules), or that a new system can be installed in compliance with the law and said Rules. In no case shall a structure be relocated in a manner that causes the structure to be more non-conforming.

In determining whether the building relocation meets the setback to the greatest practical extent, the Planning Board shall consider the size of the lot, the slope of the land, the potential for soil erosion, the location of other structures on the property and on adjacent properties, the location of the septic system and other on-site soils suitable for septic systems, and the type and amount of vegetation to be removed to accomplish the relocation. When it is necessary to remove vegetation within the water or wetland setback area in order to relocate a structure, the Planning Board shall require replanting of native vegetation to compensate for the destroyed

vegetation in accordance with Section 15.S. In addition, the area from which the relocated structure was removed must be replanted with vegetation. Replanting shall be required as follows:

- a. Trees removed in order to relocate a structure must be replanted with at least one native tree, three (3) feet in height, for every tree removed. If more than five trees are planted, no one species of tree shall make up more than 50% of the number of trees planted. Replaced trees must be planted no further from the water or wetland than the trees that were removed.

Other woody and herbaceous vegetation, and ground cover, that are removed or destroyed in order to relocate a structure must be re-established. An area at least the same size as the area where vegetation and/or ground cover was disturbed, damaged, or removed must be reestablished within the setback area. The vegetation and/or ground cover must consist of similar native vegetation and/or ground cover that was disturbed, destroyed or removed.

- b. Where feasible, when a structure is relocated on a parcel the original location of the structure shall be replanted with vegetation which may consist of grasses, shrubs, trees, or a combination thereof.

4. **Reconstruction or Replacement:** Any non-conforming structure which is located less than the required setback from a water body, tributary stream, or upland edge of a wetland and which is removed, or damaged or destroyed, regardless of the cause, by more than 50% of the market value of the structure before such damage, destruction or removal, may be reconstructed or replaced provided that a permit is obtained within eighteen (18) months, of the date of said damage, destruction, or removal, and provided that such reconstruction or replacement is in compliance with the water body, tributary stream or wetland setback requirement to the greatest practical extent as determined by the Planning Board in accordance with the purposes of this Ordinance. In no case shall a structure be reconstructed or replaced so as to increase its non-conformity. If the reconstructed or replacement structure is less than the required setback it shall not be any larger than the original structure, except as allowed pursuant to Section 12.C.1 above, as determined by the non-conforming footprint of the reconstructed or replaced structure at its new location. If the total footprint of the original structure can be relocated or reconstructed beyond the required setback area, no portion of the relocated or reconstructed structure shall be replaced or constructed at less than the setback requirement for a new structure. When it is necessary to remove vegetation in order to replace or reconstruct a structure, vegetation shall be replanted in accordance with Section 12.C.3 above.

Any non-conforming structure which is located less than the required setback from a water body, tributary stream, or wetland and which is removed by 50% or less of the market value, or damaged or destroyed by 50% or less of the market value of the structure, excluding normal maintenance and repair, may be reconstructed in place if a permit is obtained, from the code enforcement officer within one year of such damage, destruction or removal.

In determining whether the building reconstruction or replacement meets the water setback to the greatest practical extent the Planning Board shall consider in addition to the criteria in Section 12.C.3 above, the physical condition and type of foundation present, if any.

5. **Change of Use of a Non-conforming Structure**

The use of a non-conforming structure may not be changed to another use unless the Planning Board, after receiving a written application, determines that the new use will have no greater adverse impact on the water body or wetland, or on the subject or adjacent properties and resources than the existing use.

In determining that no greater adverse impact will occur, the Planning Board shall require written documentation from the applicant, regarding the probable effects on public health and safety, erosion and sedimentation, water quality, fish and wildlife habitat, vegetative cover, visual and actual points of public access to waters, natural beauty, flood plain management, archaeological and historic resources, and other functionally water-dependent uses.

**D. Non-conforming Uses**

1. Expansions: Expansions of non-conforming uses are prohibited, except that non-conforming residential uses may, after obtaining a permit from the Planning Board, be expanded within existing residential structures or within expansions of such structures as permitted in section 12.C.1 above.
2. Resumption Prohibited: A lot, building or structure in or on which a non-conforming use is discontinued for a period exceeding five years, or which is superseded by a conforming use, may not again be devoted to a non-conforming use except that the Planning Board may, for good cause shown by the applicant, grant up to a one-year extension to that time period. This provision shall not apply to the resumption of use of a residential structure provided that the structure has been used or maintained for residential purposes during the preceding five (5) year period.
3. Change of Use: An existing non-conforming use may be changed to another non-conforming use provided that the proposed use has no greater adverse impact on the subject and adjacent properties and resources than the former use, as determined by the Planning Board. The determination of no greater adverse impact shall be made according to criteria listed in Section 12.C.5 above.

**E. Non-conforming Lots**

1. Non-conforming Lots: A non-conforming lot of record as of the effective date of this Ordinance or amendment thereto may be built upon, without the need for a variance, provided that such lot is in separate ownership and not contiguous with any other lot in the same ownership, and that all provisions of this Ordinance except lot area, lot width and shore frontage can be met. Variances relating to setback or other requirements not involving lot area, lot width or shore frontage shall be obtained by action of the Board of Appeals.
2. Contiguous Built Lots: If two or more contiguous lots or parcels are in a single or joint ownership of record at the time of adoption of this Ordinance, if all or part of the lots do not meet the dimensional requirements of this Ordinance, and if a principal use or structure exists on each lot, the non-conforming lots may be conveyed separately or together, provided that the State Minimum Lot Size Law and State of Maine Subsurface Wastewater Disposal Rules are complied with.

If two or more principal uses or structures existed on a single lot of record on the effective date of this Ordinance, each may be sold on a separate lot provided that the above referenced law and rules are complied with. When such lots are divided, each lot thus created must be as conforming as possible to the dimensional requirements of this Ordinance.

3. Contiguous Lots - Vacant or Partially Built: If two or more contiguous lots or parcels are in single or joint ownership of record at the time of or since adoption or amendment of this Ordinance, if any of these lots do not individually meet the dimensional requirements of this Ordinance or subsequent amendments, and if one or more of the lots are vacant or contain no principal structure the lots shall be combined to the extent necessary to meet the dimensional requirements.

### **Section 13. Establishment of Districts**

#### **A. Resource Protection District**

The Resource Protection District includes areas in which development would adversely affect water quality, productive habitat, biological ecosystems, or scenic and natural values. This district shall include the following areas when they occur within the limits of the shoreland zone, exclusive of the Stream Protection District, except those areas which are currently developed.

1. Areas within 250 feet, horizontal distance, of the upland edge of freshwater wetlands and wetlands associated with great ponds and rivers, which are rated "moderate" or "high" value waterfowl and wading bird habitat, including nesting and feeding areas, by the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (MDIF&W) that are depicted on a Geographic Information System (GIS) data layer maintained by either MDIF&W or the Department as of December 31, 2008. For the purposes of this paragraph "wetlands associated with great ponds and rivers" shall mean areas characterized by non-forested wetland vegetation and hydric soils that are contiguous with a great pond or river, and have a surface elevation at or below the water level of the great pond or river during the period of normal high water. "Wetlands associated with great ponds or rivers" are considered to be part of that great pond or river.
2. Flood plains along rivers and flood plains along artificially formed great ponds along rivers, defined by the 100-year flood plain as designated on the Federal Emergency Management Agency=s (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Maps or flood Hazard Boundary Maps.
3. Areas of two (2) or more contiguous acres within sustained slopes of 20% or greater within the shoreland zone.
4. Areas of two (2) or more contiguous acres supporting wetland vegetation and hydric soils, which are not part of a freshwater wetland as defined, and which are not surificially connected to a water body during the period of normal high water.

B. Rural Shoreland District

The Rural Shoreland includes those areas suitable for residential and recreational development and some very low intensity commercial activity. It includes areas other than those in the Resource Protection District or Stream Protection District.

C. Stream Protection District

The Stream Protection District includes all land areas within seventy-five (75) feet, horizontal distance, of the normal high-water line of a stream as defined and/or depicted on the Official Shoreland Zoning Map, exclusive of those areas within two-hundred and fifty (250) feet, horizontal distance, of the normal high-water line of a great pond, or river, or within two hundred fifty (250) feet, horizontal distance, or the upland edge of a freshwater wetland. Where a stream and its associated shoreland are located within two hundred fifty (250) feet, horizontal distance, of the above water bodies or wetlands, that land area shall be regulated under the terms of the shoreland district associated with that water body or wetland.

**Section 14. Table of Land Uses**

All land use activities, as indicated in Table 1, Land Uses in the Shoreland Zone, shall conform with all of the applicable land use standards in Section 15. The district designation for a particular site shall be determined from the Official Shoreland Zoning Map. Where uncertainty exists as to the exact location of district boundary lines, field verification of the authority or board with jurisdiction shall prevail as to the exact location of the District boundary line.

**Key to Table 1:**

- Yes - Allowed (No permit required but the use must comply with all applicable land use standards.)
- No - Prohibited
- PB - Requires permit issued by the Planning Board
- CEO - Requires permit issued by the Code Enforcement Officer
- LPI - Requires permit issued by the Local Plumbing Inspector

**Abbreviations:**

- RP - Resource Protection
- RS - Rural Shoreland District
- SP - Stream Protection District

**TABLE 1. LAND USES IN THE SHORELAND ZONE**

<u>LAND USES</u>	<u>DISTRICT</u>		
	<u>SP</u>	<u>RP</u>	<u>RS</u>
1. Non-intensive recreational uses not requiring structures such as hunting, fishing and hiking	yes	yes	yes
2. Motorized vehicular traffic on existing roads and trails	yes	yes	yes
3. Forest management activities except for timber harvesting & land management roads	yes	yes	yes
4. Timber harvesting	yes	CEO <sup>1</sup>	yes
5. Clearing or removal of vegetation for activities other than timber harvesting	CEO	CEO <sup>1</sup>	yes
6. Fire prevention activities	yes	yes	yes
7. Wildlife management practices	yes	yes	yes
8. Soil and water conservation practices	yes	yes	yes
9. Mineral exploration	no	yes <sup>2</sup>	yes <sup>2</sup>
10. Mineral extraction including sand and gravel extraction	no	no	PB
11. Surveying and resource analysis	yes	yes	yes
12. Emergency operations	yes	yes	yes
13. Agriculture	yes	PB	yes
14. Aquaculture	PB	PB	PB
15. Principal structures and uses			
A. One and two family residential, including driveways	PB <sup>3</sup>	no	PB
B. Multi-unit residential	no	no	PB
C. Commercial	no	No	no
D. Industrial	no	no	no
E. Governmental and institutional	no	no	PB
F. People Camps	no	no	PB
G. Residential Institutional	no	no	PB
H. Small non-residential facilities for educational, scientific, or nature interpretation purposes	PB	PB	PB
16. Structures accessory to allowed uses	PB <sup>3</sup>	PB	CEO
17. A. Temporary piers, docks, wharfs, bridges and other structures and uses extending over or below the normal high-water line or within a wetland	CEO <sup>7</sup>	CEO <sup>7</sup>	CEO <sup>7</sup>
B. Moored/floating swim docks 100 sq. ft. and less	yes	yes	yes
C. Moored/floating swim docks greater than 100 sq. ft.	no	no	no
18. Conversions of seasonal residences to year-round residences	LPI	no	LPI
19. Home occupations	PB	PB	PB
20. Private sewage disposal systems for allowed uses	LPI	LPI	LPI
21. Essential services	PB <sup>4</sup>	PB <sup>4</sup>	PB
A. Roadside distribution lines (34.5kV and lower)	CEO <sup>4</sup>	CEO <sup>4</sup>	Yes <sup>5</sup>
B. Non-roadside or cross-country distribution lines involving ten poles or less in the shoreland zone	PB <sup>4</sup>	PB <sup>4</sup>	CEO
C. Non-roadside or cross-country distribution lines involving eleven or more poles in the shoreland zone	PB <sup>4</sup>	PB <sup>4</sup>	PB
D. Other essential services	PB <sup>4</sup>	PB <sup>4</sup>	PB
22. Service drops, as defined, to allowed uses	yes	yes	yes
23. Public and private recreational areas involving minimal structural development	PB	PB	PB
24. Individual, private campsites	CEO	CEO	CEO
25. Campgrounds	no	No	PB
26. Road construction	PB	No <sup>6</sup>	PB
27. Land management roads	yes	PB	yes
28. Parking facilities	no	No	PB
29. Marinas	no	no	no
30. Filling and earth moving of < 10 cubic yards	CEO	CEO	yes
31. Filling and earth moving of > 10 cubic yards	PB	PB	CEO
32. Signs	yes	yes	yes
33. Uses similar to allowed uses	CEO	CEO	CEO
34. Uses similar to uses requiring a CEO permit	CEO	CEO	CEO
35. Uses similar to uses requiring a PB permit	PB	PB	PB

36. Appurtenant structure to recreational vehicle	no	no	CEO
37. Recreational Trails	CEO	CEO	CEO

<sup>1</sup>In RP not allowed within 75 feet horizontal distance, of the normal high-water line of great ponds, except to remove safety hazards.

<sup>2</sup>Requires permit from the Code Enforcement Officer if more than 100 square feet of surface area, in total, is disturbed.

<sup>3</sup> Provided that a variance from the setback requirement is obtained from the Board of Appeals.

<sup>4</sup> See further restrictions in Section 15(L)(2).

<sup>5</sup> Permit not required but must file a written "notice of intent to construct" with CEO.

<sup>6</sup> Except as provided in Section 15(H)(4).

<sup>7</sup> Excluding bridges and other crossings not involving earthwork, in which case no permit is required.

**Section 15. Land Use Standards**

All land use activities within the shoreland zone shall conform with the following provisions, if applicable.

**A. Minimum Lot Standards**

1. Standards	Minimum Lot Area (acres)	Minimum Shore Frontage (ft.)
Residential per dwelling unit	2 acres	200
Governmental, Institutional per principal structure	2 acres	300
Public and Private Recreational Facilities	2 acres	200
2. Land below the normal high-water line of a water body or upland edge of a wetland and land beneath roads serving more than two (2) lots shall not be included toward calculating minimum lot area.		
3. Lots located on opposite sides of a public or private road shall be considered each a separate tract or parcel of land unless such road was established by the owner of land on both sides thereof after September 22, 1971.		
4. The minimum width of any portion of any lot within one hundred (100) feet, horizontal distance, of the normal high-water line of a water body or upland edge of a wetland shall be equal to or greater than the shore frontage requirement for a lot with the proposed use.		
5. If more than one residential dwelling unit, principal governmental, institutional, commercial or industrial structure or use, or combination thereof, is constructed or established on a single parcel, all dimensional requirements shall be met for each additional dwelling unit, principal structure or use.		

*Note: Before March 5, 1988 lot size requirement was 2 acre  
Between March 5, 1988 and March 7, 1992 lot size requirement was 1 acre.*

**B. Principal and Accessory Structures**

1. All new principal and accessory structures shall be set back at least one hundred (100) feet, horizontal distance, from the normal high-water line of great ponds and rivers that flow to great ponds, and seventy-five (75) feet, horizontal distance, from the normal high-water line of other water bodies, tributary streams, or the upland edge of a wetland. In the Resource Protection District the setback requirement shall be 250 feet, horizontal distance, except for structures, roads, parking spaces or other regulated objects specifically allowed in that district in which case the setback requirements specified above shall apply.

The water body, tributary stream, or wetland setback provision shall neither apply to structures which require direct access to the water body or wetland as an operational necessity, such as piers, docks and retaining walls, nor to other functionally water-dependent uses.

On a non-conforming lot of record on which only a residential structure exists, and it is not possible to place an accessory structure meeting the required water body, tributary stream or wetland setbacks, the code enforcement officer may issue a permit to place a single accessory structure, with no utilities, for the storage of yard tools and similar equipment. Such accessory structure shall not exceed eighty (80) square feet in area nor eight (8) feet in height, and shall be located as far from the shoreline or tributary stream as practical and shall meet all other applicable standards, including lot coverage and vegetation clearing limitations. In no case shall the structure be located closer to the shoreline or tributary stream than the principal structure.

2. The minimum setback for all new principal and accessory structures from all property lines (except from the normal high water line or upland edge of a wetland) shall be twenty-five (25) feet.
3. Principal or accessory structures and expansions of existing structures which are permitted in the Resource Protection, Rural Shoreland and Stream Protection Districts, shall not exceed thirty-five (35) feet in height. This provision shall not apply to structures such as transmission towers, windmills, antennas, and similar structures having no floor area.
4. The lowest floor elevation or openings of all buildings and structures including basements shall be elevated at least one foot above the elevation of the 100 year flood, the flood on record, or in the absence of these, the flood as defined by soil types identified as recent floodplain soils.
5. Non-vegetated surfaces shall not exceed a total of twenty (20) percent of the portion of the lot located within the shoreland zone. This limitation does not apply to public boat launching facilities regardless of the district in which the facility is located.

For the purposes of calculating lot coverage, non-vegetated surfaces include, but are not limited to the following: structures, driveways, parking areas, and other areas from which vegetation has been removed. Naturally occurring ledge and rock outcroppings are not counted as non-vegetated surfaces when calculating lot coverage for lots of record on March 24, 1990 and in continuous existence since that date.

6. Notwithstanding the requirements stated above, stairways or similar structures may be allowed with a permit from the Code Enforcement Officer, to provide shoreline access in areas of steep slopes or unstable soils provided, that the structure is limited to a maximum of four (4) feet in width; that the structure does not extend below or over the normal high-water line of a water body or upland edge of a wetland, (unless permitted by the

Department of Environmental Protection pursuant to the Natural Resources Protection Act, Title 38, Section 480-C); and that the applicant demonstrates that no reasonable access alternative exists on the property.

7. Retaining walls that are not necessary for erosion control shall meet the structure setback requirement, except for low retaining walls and associated fill provided all of the following conditions are met:
  - a. The site has been previously altered and an effective vegetated buffer does not exist;
  - b. The wall(s) is(are) at least 25 feet, horizontal distance, from the normal high-water line of a water body, tributary stream, or upland edge of a wetland;
  - c. The site where the retaining wall will be constructed is legally existing lawn or is a site eroding from lack of naturally occurring vegetation, and which cannot be stabilized with vegetative plantings;
  - d. The total height of the wall(s), in the aggregate, are no more than 24 inches;
  - e. Retaining walls are located outside of the 100-year floodplain on rivers, streams, and tributary streams, as designated on the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Maps or Flood Hazard Boundary Maps, or the flood of record, or in the absence of these, by soil types identified as recent flood plain soils.
  - f. The area behind the wall is revegetated with grass, shrubs, trees, or a combination thereof, and no further structural development will occur within the setback area, including patios and decks; and
  - g. A vegetated buffer area is established within 25 feet, horizontal distance, of the normal high-water line of a water body, tributary stream, or upland edge of a wetland when a natural buffer area does not exist. The buffer area must meet the following characteristics:
    - (i) The buffer must include shrubs and other woody and herbaceous vegetation. Where natural ground cover is lacking the area must be supplemented with leaf or bark mulch;
    - (ii) Vegetation plantings must be in quantities sufficient to retard erosion and provide for effective infiltration of stormwater runoff;
    - (iii) Only native species may be used to establish the buffer area;
    - (iv) A minimum buffer width of 15 feet, horizontal distance, is required, measured perpendicularly to the normal high-water line or upland edge of a wetland;
    - (v) A footpath not to exceed the standards in Section 15.P.2.a, may traverse the buffer;

C. Piers, Docks, Wharfs, Bridges and Other Structures and Uses Extending Over or Below the Normal High-Water Line of a Water Body or Within a Wetland, and Shoreline Stabilization

1. A permit is required for first time dock installation or enlargement from the Code Enforcement Officer.
2. No more than one pier, dock, wharf or similar structure extending or located below the normal high-water line of a water body or within a wetland is allowed on a single lot; except that when a single lot contains at least twice the minimum shore frontage as specified in Section 15.A, a second structure may be allowed and may remain as long as the lot is not further divided.
3. Access from shore shall be developed on soils appropriate for such use and constructed so as to control erosion.
4. The location shall not interfere with existing developed or natural beach areas.
5. The facility shall be located so as to minimize adverse effects on fisheries.
6. The facility shall be no larger in dimension than necessary to carry on the activity and be consistent with the surrounding character and uses of the area. A temporary pier, dock, or wharf shall not be wider than six feet for non-commercial uses.
7. No new structures shall be built on, over or abutting a pier, wharf, dock or other structure extending beyond the normal high-water line of a water body or within a wetland unless the structure requires direct access to the water body or wetland as an operational necessity.
8. Docks and wharfs that are not permanent shall be removed not later than November 1 of each year.
9. No existing structures built on, over or abutting a pier, dock, wharf or other structure extending beyond the normal high-water line of a water body or within a wetland shall be converted to residential dwelling units in any district.
10. New permanent piers and docks shall not be permitted unless it is clearly demonstrated to the Planning Board that a temporary pier or dock is not feasible, and a permit has been obtained from the Department of Environmental Protection, pursuant to the Natural Resources Protection Act.
11. Vegetation may be removed in excess of the standards in Section 15(P) of this Ordinance in order to conduct shoreline stabilization of an eroding shoreline, provided that a permit is obtained from the Planning Board. Construction equipment must access the shoreline by barge when feasible as determined by the Planning Board.
  - a. When necessary, the removal of trees and other vegetation to allow for construction equipment access to the stabilization site via land must be limited to no more than 12 feet in width. When the stabilization project is complete the construction equipment accessway must be restored.
  - b. Revegetation must occur in accordance with Section 15(S).

D. Campground

Campgrounds shall conform to the minimum requirements imposed under State licensing procedure and the following:

1. Campgrounds shall contain a minimum of five thousand (5,000) square feet of land, not including roads and driveways, for each site. Land supporting wetland vegetation, and land below the normal high-water line of a water body shall not be included in calculating land area per site.
2. The areas intended for placement of a recreational vehicle, tent or shelter, and utility and service buildings shall be set back a minimum of one hundred (100) feet, horizontal distance, from the normal high-water line of a great pond or a river flowing to a great pond, and seventy-five (75) feet, horizontal distance, from the normal high-water line of other water bodies, tributary streams identified in Section 9, or the upland edge of a wetland.
3. Recreational vehicles that are located on any site that does not comply with Section 15.D.2 above shall be moved off the site and beyond the applicable setback between November 1 and April 1 annually.

E. Individual Private Campsites

Individual, private campsites not associated with campgrounds are allowed provided the following conditions are met:

1. One campsite per lot existing on the effective date of this Ordinance, or thirty thousand (30,000) square feet of lot area within the shoreland zone, whichever is less, may be permitted.
2. When an individual private campsite is proposed on a lot that contains another principal use and/or structure, the lot must contain the minimum lot dimensional requirements for the principal structure and/or use, and the individual private campsite separately.
3. Campsite placement on any lot, including the area intended for a recreational vehicle or tent platform, shall be set back one hundred (100) feet, horizontal distance, from the normal high-water line of a great pond or river flowing to a great pond, and seventy-five (75) feet, horizontal distance, from the normal high-water line of other water bodies, tributary streams, or the upland edge of a wetland.
4. Only one recreational vehicle shall be allowed on a campsite. The recreational vehicles shall not be located on any type of permanent foundation except for a gravel pad, and no structure except a canopy shall be attached to the recreational vehicle.
5. The clearing of vegetation for the siting of the recreational vehicle, tent or similar shelter in a Resource Protection District shall be limited to one thousand (1,000) square feet.
6. A written sewage disposal plan describing the proposed method and location of a sewage-disposal system shall be required for each campsite and shall be approved by the Local Plumbing Inspector. Where disposal is off-site, written authorization from the receiving facility or land owner is required.

7. When a recreational vehicle, tent or similar shelter is placed on-site for more than one hundred and twenty (120) days per year, all requirements for residential structures shall be met, including the installation of a subsurface sewage disposal system in compliance with the State of Maine Subsurface Wastewater Disposal Rules unless served by public sewage facilities.

F. Commercial and Industrial Uses

No new commercial and industrial uses are allowed within any shoreland zone except as may be permitted in Section 14.

G. Parking Areas

1. Parking areas shall meet the shoreline and tributary stream setback requirements for structures for the district in which such areas are located.
2. Parking areas shall be adequately sized for the proposed use and shall be designed to prevent stormwater runoff from flowing directly into a water body, and where feasible, to retain all runoff on-site.
3. In determining the appropriate size of proposed parking facilities, the following shall apply:
  - a. Typical parking space: Approximately ten (10) feet wide and twenty (20) feet long, except that parking spaces for a vehicle and boat trailer shall be forty (40) feet long.
  - b. Internal travel aisles: Approximately twenty (20) feet wide.

H. Roads and Driveways

The following standards shall apply to the construction of roads and/or driveways and drainage systems, culverts and other related features.

1. Roads and driveways shall be set back at least one hundred (100) feet, horizontal distance, from the normal high-water line of a great pond, or a river that flows to a great pond, and seventy-five (75) feet, horizontal distance, from the normal high-water line of other water bodies, tributary streams, or the upland edge or a wetland unless no reasonable alternative exists as determined by the Planning Board. If no other reasonable alternative exists, the road and/or driveway setback requirement shall be no less than fifty (50) feet, horizontal distance, upon clear showing of the applicant that appropriate techniques will be used to prevent sedimentation of the water body tributary stream or wetland. Such techniques may include, but are not limited to, the installation of settling basins, and/or the effective use of additional ditch relief culverts and turnouts placed so as to avoid sedimentation of the water body, tributary stream, or wetland.

On slopes of greater than twenty (20) percent, the road and/or driveway setback shall be increased by ten (10), horizontal distance, feet for each five (5) percent increase in slope above twenty (20) percent.

Section 15.H.1 does not apply to approaches to water crossings nor to roads or driveways that provide access to permitted structures and facilities located nearer to the shoreline or tributary stream due to an operational necessity, excluding temporary docks for recreational uses. Roads and driveways providing access to permitted structures within the

setback area shall comply fully with the requirements of Section 15.H.1 except for that portion of the driveway necessary for the direct access to the structure.

2. Existing public roads may be expanded within the legal road right-of-way regardless of their setback from a water body tributary stream or wetland.
3. New roads and driveways are prohibited in a Resource Protection District except, that the planning board may grant a permit to construct a road or driveway to provide access to permitted uses within the district. A road or driveway may also be or as approved by the Planning Board in a Resource Protection District, upon a finding that no reasonable alternative route or location is available outside the district. When a road or driveway is permitted in a Resource Protection District the road and/or driveway shall be set back as far as practicable from the normal high-water line of a water body, tributary stream, or upland edge of a wetland.
4. Road and driveway banks shall be no steeper than a slope of two (2) horizontal to one (1) vertical, and shall be graded and stabilized in accordance with the provisions for erosion and sedimentation control contained in Section 15.Q.
5. Road and driveway grades shall be no greater than ten (10) percent except for short segments of less than two hundred (200) feet.
6. In order to prevent road and driveway surface drainage from directly entering water bodies, tributary streams or wetlands roads and driveways shall be designed, constructed and maintained to empty onto an unscarified buffer strip at least fifty (50) feet plus two (2) times the average slope, in width between the outflow point of the ditch or culvert and the normal high-water line of a water body, tributary stream, or upland edge of a wetland. Surface drainage which is directed to an unscarified buffer strip shall be diffused or spread out to promote infiltration of the runoff and to minimize channelized flow of the buffer strip.
7. Ditch relief (cross drainage) culverts, drainage dips and water turnouts shall be installed in a manner effective in directing drainage to unscarified buffer strips before the flow gains sufficient volume or head to erode the road, driveway or ditch. To accomplish this, the following shall apply:

- a. Ditch relief culverts, drainage dips and associated water turnouts shall be spaced along the road or driveway at intervals no greater than indicated in the following table:

Grade (Percent)	Spacing (Feet)
0-2	250
3-5	200-135
6-10	100-80
11-15	80-60
16-20	60-45
21+	40

- b. Drainage dips may be used in place of ditch relief culverts only where the grade is ten (10) percent or less.
- c. On sections having slopes greater than ten (10) percent, ditch relief culverts shall be placed at approximately a thirty (30) degree angle down slope from a line perpendicular to the centerline of the road or driveway.
- d. Ditch relief culverts shall be sufficiently sized and properly installed in order to allow for effective functioning and their inlet and outlet ends shall be stabilized with appropriate materials.
8. Ditches, culverts, bridges, dips, water turnouts and other storm water runoff control installations associated with roads and driveways shall be maintained on a regular basis to assure effective functioning.
9. A permit is not required for the placement of an existing road culvert as long as the replacement culvert is:
- a. not more than one standard culvert size wider in diameter than the culvert being replaced;
  - b. not more than twenty-five percent (25%) longer than the culvert being replaced;
  - c. not longer than seventy-five (75) feet; and
  - d. provided that adequate erosion control measures are taken to prevent sedimentation of the water and that the crossing does not block fish passage in the water course.

I. Signs

The following provisions shall govern the use of signs in the Resource Protection, Stream Protection, and Rural Shoreland Districts.

1. Signs relating to goods and services sold on the premises shall be permitted, provided that such signs shall not exceed six (6) square feet in area and shall not exceed two (2) signs per premises. Signs relating to goods or services not sold or rendered on the premises shall be prohibited.
2. Name signs shall be permitted, provided such signs shall not exceed two (2) signs per premises and not exceed twelve (12) square feet in aggregate.
3. Residential users may display a single sign not over three (3) square feet in area relating to the sale, rental, or lease of the premises.
4. Signs relating to trespassing and hunting shall be permitted without restriction as to number provided that no such sign shall exceed two (2) square feet in area.
5. Signs relating to public safety shall be permitted without restriction.
6. No sign shall extend higher than twenty (20) feet above the ground.
7. Signs may be illuminated only by shielded, non-flashing lights.

J. Storm Water Runoff

1. All new construction and development shall be designed to minimize storm water runoff from the site in excess of the natural predevelopment conditions. Where possible, existing natural runoff control features, such as berms, swales, terraces and wooded areas shall be retained in order to reduce runoff and encourage infiltration of storm waters.
2. Storm water runoff control systems shall be maintained as necessary to ensure proper functioning.

K. Septic Waste Disposal

1. All subsurface sewage-disposal systems shall be installed in conformance with the State of Maine Subsurface Wastewater Disposal Rules and the following:
  - a. Clearing or removal of woody vegetation necessary to site a new system and any associated fill extensions, shall not extend closer than seventy-five (75) feet, horizontal distance, from the normal high-water line of a water body or the upland edge of a wetland; and
  - b. A holding tank is not allowed for a first time residential use in the shoreland zone.

L. Essential Services

1. Where feasible, the installation of essential services shall be limited to existing public ways and existing service corridors.

2. The installation of essential services, other than road-side distribution lines, is not permitted in a Resource Protection or Stream Protection District, except to provide services to a permitted use within said district, or except where the applicant demonstrates that no reasonable alternative exists. Where permitted, such structures and facilities shall be located so as to minimize any adverse impacts on surrounding uses and resources, including visual impacts.
3. Damaged or destroyed public utilities transmission lines, towers and related equipment may be replaced or reconstructed without a permit.

M. Mineral Exploration and Extraction

Mineral exploration to determine the nature or extent of mineral resources shall be accomplished by hand sampling, test boring, or other methods which create minimal disturbance of less than one hundred (100) square feet of ground surface. A permit from the Code Enforcement Officer shall be required for mineral exploration which exceeds the above limitation. All excavations, including test pits and holes shall be immediately capped, filled or secured by other equally effective measures to restore disturbed areas and to protect the public health and safety.

Mineral extraction may be permitted under the following conditions:

1. A reclamation plan shall be filed with, and approved by, the Planning Board before a permit is granted. Such plan shall describe in detail procedures to be undertaken to fulfill the requirements of Section 15.M.4 below.
2. No part of any extraction operation, including drainage and runoff control features shall be permitted within one hundred (100) feet, horizontal distance, of the normal high-water line of a great pond, a river or the upland edge of a wetland and within seventy-five (75) feet, horizontal distance, of the normal high-water line of any other water body, stream, or tributary stream. Extraction operations shall not be permitted within one hundred (100) feet of any property line, without written permission of the owner of such adjacent property.
3. Within twelve (12) months following the completion of extraction operations at any extraction site, which operations shall be deemed complete when less than one hundred (100) cubic yards of materials are removed in any consecutive twelve (12) month period, ground levels and grades shall be established in accordance with the following:
  - a. All debris, stumps, and similar material shall be removed for disposal in an approved location, or shall be buried on-site. Only materials generated on-site may be buried or covered on-site.
  - b. The final graded slope shall be two and one-half to one (2 1/2:1) slope or flatter.
  - c. Top soil or loam shall be retained to cover all disturbed land areas, which shall be reseeded and stabilized with vegetation native to the area. Additional top soil or loam shall be obtained from off-site sources if necessary to complete the stabilization project.

4. In keeping with the purposes of this Ordinance, the Planning Board may impose such conditions as are necessary to minimize the adverse impacts associated with mineral-extraction operations on surrounding uses and resources.

N. Agriculture

1. All spreading of manure shall be accomplished in conformance with the Manure Utilization Guidelines published by the former Maine Department of Agriculture on November 1, 2001, and the Nutrient Management Law (7 M.R.S.A. sections 4201-4209).
2. Manure shall not be stored or stockpiled within one hundred (100) feet, horizontal distance, or a great pond or a river flowing to a great pond, or within seventy-five (75) feet horizontal distance, of other water bodies, tributary streams, or wetlands. All manure storage areas within the shoreland zone must be constructed or modified such that the facility produces no discharge of effluent or contaminated storm water.
3. Agricultural activities involving tillage of soil greater than forty thousand (40,000) square feet in surface areas, within the shoreland zone shall require a Conservation Plan to be filed with the Planning Board. Non-conformance with the provisions of said plan shall be considered to be a violation of this Ordinance.
4. There shall be no new tilling of soil within one hundred (100) feet, horizontal distance, of the normal high-water line of a great pond and within seventy-five (75) feet, horizontal distance, from other water bodies, tributary streams, streams, and wetlands. Operations in existence on the effective date of this ordinance and not in conformance with this provision may be maintained.
5. Newly established livestock grazing areas shall not be permitted within one hundred (100) feet, horizontal distance, of the normal high-water line of a great pond; within seventy-five (75) feet, horizontal distance of other water bodies, nor; within twenty-five (25) feet, horizontal distance, of tributary streams, and wetlands.

Livestock grazing associated within on-going farm activities, and which are not in conformance with the above setback provisions may continue, provided that such grazing is conducted in accordance with a Conservation Plan that has been filed with the Planning Board.

O. Reserved

O-1. Timber Harvesting – Statewide Standards

1. Shoreline integrity and sedimentation. Persons conducting timber harvesting and related activities must take reasonable measures to avoid the disruption of shoreline integrity, the occurrence of sedimentation of water, and the disturbance of water body and tributary stream banks, water body and tributary stream channels, shorelines, and soil lying within water bodies, tributary streams and wetlands. If, despite such precautions, the disruption of shoreline integrity, sedimentation of water, or the disturbance of water body and tributary stream banks, water body and tributary stream channels, shorelines, and soil lying within water bodies, tributary streams and wetlands occurs, such conditions must be corrected.
2. Slash treatment. Timber harvesting and related activities shall be conducted such that slash or debris is not left below the normal high-water line of any water body or tributary stream, or the upland edge of a wetland. Section 15.O-1.2 does not apply to minor,

incidental amounts of slash that result from timber harvesting and related activities otherwise conducted in compliance with this section.

- a. Slash actively used to protect soil from disturbance by equipment or to stabilize exposed soil, may be left in place, provided that no part thereof extends more than 4 feet above the ground.
  - b. Adjacent to great ponds, rivers and wetlands:
    - 1) No accumulation of slash shall be left within 50 feet, horizontal distance, of the normal high-water line or upland edge of a wetland; and
    - 2) Between 50 feet and 250 feet, horizontal distance, of the normal high-water line or upland edge of a wetland, all slash larger than 3 inches in diameter must be disposed of in such a manner that no part thereof extends more than 4 feet above the ground.
3. Timber harvesting and related activities must leave adequate tree cover and shall be conducted so that a well-distributed stand of trees is retained. This requirement may be satisfied by following one of the following three options:
- a. Option 1 (40% volume removal), as follows:
    - 1) Harvesting of no more than 40 percent of the total volume on each acre of trees 4.5 inches DBH or greater in any 10 year period is allowed. Volume may be considered to be equivalent to basal area;
    - 2) A well-distributed stand of trees which is windfirm, and other vegetation including existing ground cover, must be maintained; and,
    - 3) Within 75 feet, horizontal distance, of the normal high-water line of rivers, streams, and great ponds, and within 75 feet, horizontal distance, of the upland edge of a freshwater wetland, there must be no cleared openings. At distances greater than 75 feet, horizontal distance, of the normal high-water line of a river or great pond or upland edge of a wetland, timber harvesting and related activities must not create single cleared openings greater than 14,000 square feet in the forest canopy. Where such openings exceed 10,000 square feet, they must be at least 100 feet, horizontal distance, apart. Such cleared openings will be included in the calculation of total volume removal. Volume may be considered equivalent to basal area.
  - b. Option 2 (60 square foot basal area retention), as follows:
    - 1) The residual stand must contain an average basal area of at least 60 square feet per acre of woody vegetation greater than or equal to 1.0 inch DBH, of which 40 square feet per acre must be greater than or equal to 4.5 inches DBH;
    - 2) A well-distributed stand of trees which is windfirm, and other vegetation including existing ground cover, must be maintained; and,

- 3) Within 75 feet, horizontal distance, of the normal high-water line of water bodies and within 75 feet, horizontal distance, of the upland edge of wetlands, there must be no cleared openings. At distances greater than 75 feet, horizontal distance, of the normal high-water line of a river or great pond, or upland edge of a wetland, timber harvesting and related activities must not create single cleared openings greater than 14,000 square feet in the forest canopy. Where such openings exceed 10,000 square feet, they must be at least 100 feet, horizontal distance, apart. Such cleared openings will be included in the calculation of the average basal area. Volume may be considered equivalent to basal area.
- c. Option 3 (Outcome based), which requires: An alternative method proposed in an application, signed by a Licensed Forester or certified wildlife professional, submitted by the landowner or designated agent to the State of Maine Department of Conservation's Bureau of Forestry (Bureau) for review and approval, which provides equal or better protection of the shoreland area than this rule.

Landowners must designate on the Forest Operations Notification form required by 12 M.R.S.A. chapter 805, subchapter 5 which option they choose to use. If landowners choose Option 1 or Option 2, compliance will be determined solely on the criteria for the option chosen. If landowners choose Option 3, timber harvesting and related activities may not begin until the Bureau has approved the alternative method.

The Bureau may verify that adequate tree cover and a well-distributed stand of trees is retained through a field procedure that uses sample plots that are located randomly or systematically to provide a fair representation of the harvest area.

4. Skid trails, yards, and equipment operation. This requirement applies to the construction, maintenance and use of skid trails and yards in shoreland areas.
  - a. Equipment used in timber harvesting and related activities shall not use river, stream or tributary stream channels as travel routes except when surface waters are frozen and snow covered, and the activity will not result in any ground disturbance.
  - b. Skid trails and yards must be designed and constructed to prevent sediment and concentrated water runoff from entering a water body, tributary stream, or wetland. Upon termination of their use, skid trails and yards must be stabilized.
  - c. Setbacks:
    - 1) Equipment must be operated to avoid the exposure of mineral soil within 25 feet, horizontal distance, of any water body, tributary stream, or wetland. On slopes of 10 percent or greater, the setback for equipment operation must be increased by 20 feet, horizontal distance, plus an additional 10 feet, horizontal distance, for each 5 percent increase in slope above 10 percent. Where slopes fall away from the resource, no increase in the 25-foot setback is required.
    - 2) Where such setbacks are impracticable, appropriate techniques shall be used to avoid sedimentation of the water body, tributary stream or

wetland. Such techniques may include the installation of sump holes or settling basins, and/or the effective use of additional ditch relief culverts and ditch water turnouts placed to avoid sedimentation of the water body, tributary stream, or wetland. If, despite such precautions, sedimentation or the disruption of shoreline integrity occurs, such conditions must be corrected.

5. Land Management Roads. Land management roads, including approaches to crossings of water bodies, tributary stream channels, and freshwater wetlands, ditches and other related structures, must be designed, constructed, and maintained to prevent sediment and concentrated water runoff from directly entering the water body, tributary stream or wetland. Surface water on or adjacent to water crossing approaches must be diverted through vegetative filter strips to avoid sedimentation of the watercourse or wetland. Because roadside ditches may not extend to the resource being crossed, vegetative filter strips must be established in accordance with the setback requirements in Section 15.O-1.7.
  - a. Land management roads and associated ditches, excavation, and fill must be set back at least:
    - 1) 100 feet, horizontal distance, from the normal high-water line of a great pond, river or freshwater wetland;
    - 2) 50 feet, horizontal distance, from the normal high-water line of streams; and
    - 3) 25 feet, horizontal distance, from the normal high-water line of tributary streams
  - b. The minimum 100 foot setback specified in Section 15.O-1. 5.a.1 above may be reduced to no less than 50 feet, horizontal distance, and the 50 foot setback specified in Section 15.O-1. 5.a.2 above may be reduced to no less than 25 feet, horizontal distance, if, prior to construction, the landowner or the landowner's designated agent demonstrates to the Planning Board's satisfaction that no reasonable alternative exists and that appropriate techniques will be used to prevent sedimentation of the water body, tributary stream, or wetland. Such techniques may include, but are not limited to, the installation of settling basins, and/or the effective use of additional ditch relief culverts and turnouts placed to avoid sedimentation of the water body, tributary stream or wetland. If, despite such precautions, sedimentation or the disruption of shoreline integrity occurs, such conditions must be corrected.
  - c. On slopes of 10 percent or greater, the land management road setback must be increased by at least 20 feet, horizontal distance, plus an additional 10 feet, horizontal distance, for each 5 percent increase in slope above 10 percent.
  - d. New land management roads are not allowed within the shoreland area in a Resource Protection District, unless, prior to construction, the landowner or the landowner's designated agent makes a clear demonstration to the Planning Board's satisfaction that no reasonable alternative route exists outside the shoreland zone, and that the new road must be set back as far as practicable from the normal high-water line and screened from the river by existing vegetation.
  - e. Ditches, culverts, bridges, dips, water turnouts and other water control installations associated with roads must be maintained on a regular basis to assure effective functioning. Drainage structures shall deliver a dispersed flow of water into an

- unscarified filter strip no less than the width indicated in the setback requirements in Section 15.O-1.7. Where such a filter strip is impracticable, appropriate techniques shall be used to avoid sedimentation of the water body, tributary stream, or wetland. Such techniques may include the installation of sump holes or settling basins, and/or the effective use of additional ditch relief culverts and ditch water turnouts placed to avoid sedimentation of the water body, tributary stream, or wetland. If, despite such precautions, sedimentation or the disruption of shoreline integrity occurs, such conditions must be corrected.
- f. Road closeout and discontinuance. Maintenance of the water control installations required in Section 15.O-1.5.e must continue until use of the road is discontinued and the road is put to bed by effective installation of water bars or other adequate road drainage structures at appropriate intervals, constructed to avoid surface water flowing over or under the water bar, and extending a sufficient distance beyond the traveled way so that water does not reenter the road surface.
  - g. Upgrading existing roads. Extension or enlargement of presently existing roads must conform to the provisions of Section 15.O-1. Any nonconforming existing road may continue to exist and to be maintained, as long as the nonconforming conditions are not made more nonconforming.
  - h. Exception. Extension or enlargement of presently existing roads need not conform to the setback requirements of Section 15.O-1.5.a if, prior to extension or enlargement, the landowner or the landowner's designated agent demonstrates to the Planning Board's satisfaction that no reasonable alternative exists and that appropriate techniques will be used to prevent sedimentation of the water body, tributary stream, or wetland. Such techniques may include, but are not limited to, the installation of settling basins, and/or the effective use of additional ditch relief culverts and turnouts placed to avoid sedimentation of the water body, tributary stream, or wetland. If, despite such precautions, sedimentation or the disruption of shoreline integrity occurs, such conditions must be corrected.
  - i. Additional measures. In addition to the foregoing minimum requirements, persons undertaking construction and maintenance of roads and river, stream and tributary stream crossings must take reasonable measures to avoid sedimentation of surface waters.
6. Crossings of waterbodies. Crossings of rivers, streams, and tributary streams must allow for fish passage at all times of the year, must not impound water, and must allow for the maintenance of normal flows.
- a. Determination of flow. Provided they are properly applied and used for the circumstances for which they are designed, methods including but not limited to the following are acceptable as a means of calculating the 10 year and 25 year frequency water flows and thereby determining water crossing sizes as required in Section 15.O-1: The United States Geological Survey (USGS) Methods; specifically: Hodgkins, G. 1999. Estimating the Magnitude of Peak Flows for Streams in Maine for Selected Recurrence Intervals. U.S. Geological Survey. Water Resources Investigations Report 99-4008. 45 pp.
  - b. Upgrading existing water crossings. Extension or enlargement of presently existing water crossings must conform to the provisions of Section 15.O-1. Any

nonconforming existing water crossing may continue to exist and be maintained, as long as the nonconforming conditions are not made more nonconforming; however, any maintenance or repair work done below the normal high-water line must conform to the provisions of Section 15.O-1.

- c. Other Agency Permits. Any timber harvesting and related activities involving the design, construction, and maintenance of crossings on waterbodies other than a river, stream or tributary stream may require a permit from the Land Use Regulation Commission, the Department of Environmental Protection, or the US Army Corps of Engineers.
- d. Any timber harvesting and related activities involving the design, construction, and maintenance of crossings of freshwater wetlands identified by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife as essential wildlife habitat require prior consultation with the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.
- e. Notice to Bureau of Forestry. Written notice of all water crossing construction maintenance, alteration and replacement activities in shoreland areas must be given to the Bureau prior to the commencement of such activities. Such notice must contain all information required by the Bureau, including:
  - 1) a map showing the location of all proposed permanent crossings;
  - 2) the GPS location of all proposed permanent crossings;
  - 3) for any temporary or permanent crossing that requires a permit from state or federal agencies, a copy of the approved permit or permits; and
  - 4) a statement signed by the responsible party that all temporary and permanent crossings will be constructed, maintained, and closed out in accordance with the requirements of this Section.
- f. Water crossing standards. All crossings of rivers require a bridge or culvert sized according to the requirements of Section 15.O-1. 6.g below. Streams and tributary streams may be crossed using temporary structures that are not bridges or culverts provided:
  - 1) concentrated water runoff does not enter the stream or tributary stream;
  - 2) sedimentation of surface waters is reasonably avoided;
  - 3) there is no substantial disturbance of the bank, or stream or tributary stream channel;
  - 4) fish passage is not impeded; and,
  - 5) water flow is not unreasonably impeded.

Subject to Section 15.O-1. 6.f. 1.5) above, skid trail crossings of streams and tributary streams when channels of such streams and tributary streams are frozen

and snow-covered or are composed of a hard surface which will not be eroded or otherwise damaged are not required to use permanent or temporary structures.

- g. Bridge and Culvert Sizing. For crossings of river, stream and tributary stream channels with a bridge or culvert, the following requirements apply:
- 1) Bridges and culverts must be installed and maintained to provide an opening sufficient in size and structure to accommodate 25 year frequency water flows or with a cross-sectional area at least equal 3 times the cross-sectional area of the river, stream, or tributary stream channel.
  - 2) Temporary bridge and culvert sizes may be smaller than provided in Section 15.O-1. 6.g.1 if techniques are effectively employed such that in the event of culvert or bridge failure, the natural course of water flow is maintained and sedimentation of the water body or tributary stream is avoided. Such crossing structures must be at least as wide as the channel and placed above the normal high-water line. Techniques may include, but are not limited to, the effective use of any, a combination of, or all of the following:
    - a) use of temporary skidder bridges;
    - b) removing culverts prior to the onset of frozen ground conditions;
    - c) using water bars in conjunction with culverts;
    - d) using road dips in conjunction with culverts.
  - 3) Culverts utilized in river, stream and tributary stream crossings must:
    - a) be installed at or below river, stream or tributary stream bed elevation;
    - b) be seated on firm ground;
    - c) have soil compacted at least halfway up the side of the culvert;
    - d) be covered by soil to a minimum depth of 1 foot or according to the culvert manufacturer's specifications, whichever is greater; and
    - e) have a headwall at the inlet end which is adequately stabilized by riprap or other suitable means to reasonably avoid erosion of material around the culvert.
  - 4) River, stream and tributary stream crossings allowed under Section 15.O-1, but located in flood hazard areas (i.e. A zones) as identified on a community's Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) or Flood Hazard Boundary Maps (FHBM), must be designed and constructed under the stricter standards contained in that community's National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). For example, a water crossing may be required to pass a 100-year flood event.
  - 5) Exception. Skid trail crossings of tributary streams within shoreland areas and wetlands adjacent to such streams may be undertaken in a manner not in conformity with the requirements of the foregoing subsections provided persons conducting such activities take reasonable measures to avoid the disruption of shoreline integrity, the occurrence of sedimentation of water, and the disturbance of stream banks, stream channels, shorelines, and soil lying within ponds and wetlands. If, despite such precautions, the disruption of shoreline integrity, sedimentation of water, or the disturbance of stream

banks, stream channels, shorelines, and soil lying within ponds and wetlands occurs, such conditions must be corrected.

- h. Skid trail closeout. Upon completion of timber harvesting and related activities, or upon the expiration of a Forest Operations Notification, whichever is earlier, the following requirements apply:
  - 1) Bridges and culverts installed for river, stream and tributary stream crossings by skid trails must either be removed and areas of exposed soil stabilized, or upgraded to comply with the closeout standards for land management roads in Section 15.O-1. 6.i below.
  - 2) Water crossing structures that are not bridges or culverts must either be removed immediately following timber harvesting and related activities, or, if frozen into the river, stream or tributary stream bed or bank, as soon as practical after snowmelt.
  - 3) River, stream and tributary stream channels, banks and approaches to crossings of water bodies and tributary streams must be immediately stabilized on completion of harvest, or if the ground is frozen and/or snow-covered, as soon as practical after snowmelt. If, despite such precautions, sedimentation or the disruption of shoreline integrity occurs, such conditions must be corrected.
  
- i. Land management road closeout. Maintenance of the water control features must continue until use of the road is discontinued and the road is put to bed by taking the following actions:
  - 1) Effective installation of water bars or other adequate road drainage structures at appropriate intervals, constructed to reasonably avoid surface water flowing over or under the water bar, and extending sufficient distance beyond the traveled way so that water does not reenter the road surface.
  - 2) Water crossing structures must be appropriately sized or dismantled and removed in a manner that reasonably avoids sedimentation of the water body or tributary stream.
  - 3) Any bridge or water crossing culvert in roads to be discontinued shall satisfy one of the following requirements:
    - a) it shall be designed to provide an opening sufficient in size and structure to accommodate 25 year frequency water flows;
    - b) it shall be designed to provide an opening with a cross-sectional area at least 3 1/2 times the cross-sectional area of the river, stream or tributary stream channel; or
    - c) it shall be dismantled and removed in a fashion to reasonably avoid sedimentation of the river, stream or tributary stream.

If, despite such precautions, sedimentation or the disruption of shoreline integrity occurs, such conditions must be corrected.

## 7. Slope Table

Filter strips, skid trail setbacks, and land management road setbacks must be maintained as specified in Section 15.O-1, but in no case shall be less than shown in the following table.

Average slope of land between exposed mineral soil and the shoreline (percent)	Width of strip between exposed mineral soil and shoreline (feet along surface of the ground)
0	25
10	45
20	65
30	85
40	105
50	125
60	145
70	165

P. Clearing or Removal of Vegetation for Activities Other Than Timber Harvesting

1. In a Resource Protection District abutting a great pond, there shall be no cutting of vegetation within the strip of land extending 75 feet, horizontal distance, inland from the normal high-water line, except to remove hazard trees as described in section Q.

Elsewhere, in any Resource Protection District the cutting or removal of vegetation shall be limited to that which is necessary for uses expressly authorized in that district.

2. Except in areas as described in Section P.1, above, within a strip of land extending one-hundred (100) feet, horizontal distance, inland from the normal high-water line of a great pond or a river flowing to a great pond, or within a strip extending seventy-five (75) feet, horizontal distance, from any other water body, tributary stream, or the upland edge of a wetland, a buffer strip of vegetation shall be preserved as follows:

- a. There shall be no cleared opening greater than 250 square feet in the forest canopy (or other existing woody vegetation if a forested canopy is not present) as measured from the outer limits of the tree or shrub crown. However, a single footpath not to exceed six (6) feet in width as measured between tree trunks and/or shrub stems is allowed for accessing the shoreline provided that a cleared line of sight to the water through the buffer strip is not created.
- b. Selective cutting of trees within the buffer strip is allowed provided that a well distributed stand of trees and other natural vegetation is maintained. For the purposes of Section 15.P.2.b a "well-distributed stand of trees" adjacent to a great pond or a river or stream flowing to a great pond, shall be defined as maintaining a rating score of 24 or more in each 25-foot by 50-foot rectangular (1250 square feet) area as determined by the following rating system.

Diameter of Tree at 4-1/2 feet Above Ground Level (inches)	Points
2 - < 4 in.	1
4 - < 8 in.	2
8 - < 12 in.	4
12 in. or greater	8

Adjacent to other water bodies, tributary streams, and wetlands, a "well-distributed stand of trees" is defined as maintaining a minimum rating score of 16 per 25-foot by 50-foot rectangular area.

The following shall govern in applying this point system:

- 1) The 25-foot by 50-foot rectangular plots must be established where the landowner or lessee proposes clearing within the required buffer;
- 2) Each successive plot must be adjacent to, but not overlap a previous plot;
- 3) Any plot not containing the required points must have no vegetation removed except as otherwise allowed by this Ordinance;
- 4) Any plot containing the required points may have vegetation removed down to the minimum points required or as otherwise allowed by is Ordinance;
- 5) Where conditions permit, no more than 50% of the points on any 25-foot by 50-foot rectangular area may consist of trees greater than 12 inches in diameter.

For the purposes of Section 15.P.2.b "other natural vegetation" is defined as retaining existing vegetation under three (3) feet in height and other ground cover and retaining at least five (5) saplings less than two (2) inches in diameter at four and one half (4 ½) feet above ground level for each 25-foot by 50-foot rectangle area. If five saplings do not exist, no woody stems less than two (2) inches in diameter can be removed until 5 saplings have been recruited into the plot.

Notwithstanding the above provisions, no more than 40% of the total volume of trees four (4) inches or more in diameter, measured at 4 1/2 feet above ground level may be removed in any ten (10) year period.

- c. In order to protect water quality and wildlife habitat, existing vegetation under three (3) feet in height and other ground cover, including leaf litter and the forest duff layer, shall not be cut, covered, or removed, except to provide for a footpath or other permitted uses as described in Section 15. P paragraphs 2 and 2.a above.
- d. Pruning of tree branches, on the bottom 1/3 of the tree is allowed.
- e. In order to maintain a buffer strip of vegetation, when the removal of storm-damaged, dead or hazard trees results in the creation of cleared openings, these openings shall be replanted with native tree species unless existing new tree growth is present.

Section 15.P.2 does not apply to those portions of public recreational facilities adjacent to public swimming areas as long as cleared areas are limited to the minimum area necessary.

- f. In order to maintain the vegetation in the shoreline buffer, clearing or removal of vegetation for allowed activities, including associated construction and related equipment operation, within or outside the shoreline buffer, must comply with the requirements of Section 15.P.2. In order to maintain the vegetation in the shoreline buffer, clearing or removal of vegetation for allowed activities, including associated

construction and related equipment operation, within or outside the shoreline buffer, must comply with the requirements of Section 15.P.2.

3. At distances greater than one hundred (100) feet, horizontal distance, from a great pond or a river flowing to a great pond, and seventy-five (75) feet, horizontal distance, from the normal high-water line of any other water body, tributary stream, or the upland edge of a wetland, there shall be allowed on any lot, in any ten (10) year period, selective cutting of not more than forty (40) percent of the volume of trees four (4) inches or more in diameter, measured 4 1/2 feet above ground level. Tree removal in conjunction with the development of permitted uses shall be included in the forty (40) percent calculation. For the purposes of these standards volume may be considered to be equivalent to basal area.

In no event shall cleared openings for any purpose, including but not limited to, principal and accessory structures, driveways, lawns and sewage disposal areas, exceed in the aggregate, 25% of the lot area within the shoreland zone or ten thousand (10,000) square feet, whichever is greater, including land previously cleared. This provision applies to the portion of a lot within the shoreland zone, including the buffer area.

4. Legally existing nonconforming cleared openings may be maintained, but shall not be enlarged, except as allowed by this Ordinance.
5. Fields and other cleared openings which have reverted to primarily shrubs, trees, or other woody vegetation shall be regulated under the provisions of Section 15.P.

Q. Hazard Trees, Storm-Damaged Trees, and Dead Tree Removal.

1. Hazard trees in the shoreland zone may be removed without a permit after consultation with the Code Enforcement Officer if the following requirements are met:
  - a. Within the shoreline buffer, if the removal of a hazard tree results in a cleared opening in the tree canopy greater than two hundred and fifty (250) square feet, replacement with native tree species is required, unless there is new tree growth already present. New tree growth must be as near as practicable to where the hazard tree was removed and be at least two (2) inches in diameter, measured at four and one half (4.5) feet above the ground level. If new growth is not present, then replacement trees shall consist of native species and be at least four (4) feet in height, and be no less than two (2) inches in diameter. Stumps may not be removed.
  - b. Outside of the shoreline buffer, when the removal of hazard trees exceeds forty (40) percent of the volume of trees four (4) inches or more in diameter, measured at four and one half (4.5) feet above ground level in any ten (10) year period, and/or results in cleared openings exceeding twenty-five (25) percent of the lot area within the shoreland zone, or ten thousand (10,000) square feet, whichever is greater, replacement with native tree species is required, unless there is new tree growth already present. New tree growth must be as near as practicable to where the hazard tree was removed and be at least two (2) inches in diameter, measured at four and one half (4.5) feet above the ground level. If new growth is not present, then replacement trees shall consist of native species and be at least two (2) inches in diameter, measured at four and one half (4.5) feet above the ground level.
  - c. The removal of standing dead trees, resulting from natural causes, is permissible without the need for replanting or a permit, as long as the removal does not result in

the creation of new lawn areas, or other permanently cleared areas, and stumps are not removed. For the purposes of this provision dead trees are those trees that contain no foliage during the growing season.

- d. The Code Enforcement Officer may require the property owner to submit an evaluation from a licensed forester or arborist before any hazard tree can be removed within the shoreland zone.
  - e. The Code Enforcement Officer may require more than a one-for-one replacement for hazard trees removed that exceed eight (8) inches in diameter measured at four and one half (4.5) feet above the ground level.
2. Storm-damaged trees in the shoreland zone may be removed without a permit after consultation with the Code Enforcement Officer if the following requirements are met:
- a. Within the shoreline buffer, when the removal of storm-damaged trees results in a cleared opening in the tree canopy greater than two hundred and fifty (250) square feet, replanting is not required, but the area shall be required to naturally revegetate, and the following requirements must be met:
    - (i) The area from which a storm-damaged tree is removed does not result in new lawn areas, or other permanently cleared areas;
    - (ii) Stumps from the storm-damaged trees may not be removed;
    - (iii) Limbs damaged from a storm event may be pruned even if they extend beyond the bottom one-third (1/3) of the tree; and
    - (iv) If after one growing season, no natural regeneration or regrowth is present, replanting of native tree seedlings or saplings is required at a density of one seedling per every eighty (80) square feet of lost canopy.
  - b. Outside of the shoreline buffer, if the removal of storm damaged trees exceeds 40% of the volume of trees four (4) inches or more in diameter, measured at four and one half (4.5) feet above the ground level in any ten (10) year period, or results, in the aggregate, in cleared openings exceeding 25% of the lot area within the shoreland zone or ten thousand (10,000) square feet, whichever is greater, and no natural regeneration occurs within one growing season, then native tree seedlings or saplings shall be replanted on a one-for-one basis.

R. Exemptions to Clearing and Vegetation Removal Requirements

The following activities are exempt from the clearing and vegetation removal standards set forth in Section 15.P, provided that all other applicable requirements of this Ordinance are complied with, and the removal of vegetation is limited to that which is necessary:

- 1. The removal of vegetation that occurs at least once every two (2) years for the maintenance of legally existing areas that do not comply with the vegetation standards in this chapter, such as but not limited to cleared openings in the canopy or fields. Such areas shall not be enlarged, except as allowed by this section. If any of these areas, due to lack of removal of vegetation every two (2) years, reverts back to primarily woody vegetation, the requirements of Section 15.P apply;

2. The removal of vegetation from the location of allowed structures or allowed uses, when the shoreline setback requirements of section 15.B are not applicable;
  3. The removal of vegetation from the location of public swimming areas associated with an allowed public recreational facility;
  4. The removal of vegetation associated with allowed agricultural uses, provided best management practices are utilized, and provided all requirements of section 15.N are complied with;
  5. The removal of non-native invasive vegetation species, provided the following minimum requirements are met:
    - a. If removal of vegetation occurs via wheeled or tracked motorized equipment, the wheeled or tracked motorized equipment is operated and stored at least twenty-five (25) feet, horizontal distance, from the shoreline, except that wheeled or tracked equipment may be operated or stored on existing structural surfaces, such as pavement or gravel;
    - b. Removal of vegetation within twenty-five (25) feet, horizontal distance, from the shoreline occurs via hand tools; and
    - c. If applicable clearing and vegetation removal standards are exceeded due to the removal of non-native invasive species vegetation, the area shall be revegetated with native species to achieve compliance.
  6. The removal of vegetation associated with emergency response activities conducted by the Department, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and their agents.
- S.      Revegetation Requirements.

When revegetation is required in response to violations of the vegetation standards set forth in Section 15.P, to address the removal of non- native invasive species of vegetation, or as a mechanism to allow for development that may otherwise not be permissible due to the vegetation standards, including removal of vegetation in conjunction with a shoreline stabilization project, the revelation must comply with the following requirements.

1. The property owner must submit a revegetation plan, prepared with and signed by a qualified professional, that describes revegetation activities and maintenance. The plan must include a scaled site plan, depicting where vegetation was, or is to be removed, where existing vegetation is to remain, and where vegetation is to be planted, including a list of all vegetation to be planted.
2. Revegetation must occur along the same segment of shoreline and in the same area where vegetation was removed and at a density comparable to the pre-existing vegetation, except where a shoreline stabilization activity does not allow revegetation to occur in the same area and at a density comparable to the pre-existing vegetation, in which case revegetation must occur along the same segment of shoreline and as close as possible to the area where vegetation was removed:
3. If part of a permitted activity, revegetation shall occur before the expiration of the permit. If the activity or revegetation is not completed before the expiration of the permit, a new revegetation plan shall be submitted with any renewal or new permit application.

4. Revegetation activities must meet the following requirements for trees and saplings:
  - a. All trees and saplings removed must be replaced with native noninvasive species;
  - b. Replacement vegetation must at a minimum consist of saplings;
  - c. If more than three (3) trees or saplings are planted, then at least three (3) different species shall be used;
  - d. No one species shall make up 50% or more of the number of trees and saplings planted;
  - e. If revegetation is required for a shoreline stabilization project, and it is not possible to plant trees and saplings in the same area where trees or saplings were removed, then trees or sapling must be planted in a location that effectively reestablishes the screening between the shoreline and structures; and
  - f. A survival rate of at least eighty (80) percent of planted trees or saplings is required for a minimum five (5) years period.
5. Revegetation activities must meet the following requirements for woody vegetation and other vegetation under three (3) feet in height:
  - a. All woody vegetation and vegetation under three (3) feet in height must be replaced with native noninvasive species of woody vegetation and vegetation under three (3) feet in height as applicable;
  - b. Woody vegetation and vegetation under three (3) feet in height shall be planted in quantities and variety sufficient to prevent erosion and provide for effective infiltration of stormwater;
  - c. If more than three (3) woody vegetation plants are to be planted, then at least three (3) different species shall be planted;
  - d. No one species shall make up 50% or more of the number of planted woody vegetation plants; and
  - e. Survival of planted woody vegetation and vegetation under three feet in height must be sufficient to remain in compliance with the standards contained within this Ordinance for minimum of five (5) years
6. Revegetation activities must meet the following requirements for ground vegetation and ground cover:
  - a. All ground vegetation and ground cover removed must be replaced with native herbaceous vegetation, in quantities and variety sufficient to prevent erosion and provide for effective infiltration of stormwater;
  - b. Where necessary due to a lack of sufficient ground cover, an area must be supplemented with a minimum four (4) inch depth of leaf mulch and/or bark mulch to prevent erosion and provide for effective infiltration of stormwater; and

- c. Survival and functionality of ground vegetation and ground cover must be sufficient to remain in compliance with the standards contained within this chapter for minimum of five (5) years.
- T. Erosion and Sedimentation Control
- 1. All activities which involve filling, grading, excavation or other similar activities which result in unstabilized soil conditions and which require a permit shall require a written soil erosion and sedimentation control plan. The plan shall be submitted to the permitting authority for approval and shall include, where applicable, provisions for:
    - a. Mulching and revegetation of disturbed soil.
    - b. Temporary runoff control features such as hay bales, silt fencing or diversion ditches.
    - c. Permanent stabilization structures such as retaining walls or rip-rap.
  - 2. In order to create the least potential for erosion, development shall be designed to fit with the topography and soils of the site. Areas of steep slopes where high cuts and fills may be required shall be avoided wherever possible, and natural contours shall be followed as closely as possible.
  - 3. Erosion and sedimentation control measures shall apply to all aspects of proposed project involving land disturbance, and shall be in operation during all stages of the activity. The amount of exposed soil at every phase of construction shall be minimized to reduce the potential for erosion.
  - 4. Any exposed ground area shall be temporarily or permanently stabilized within one (1) week from the time it was last actively worked, by use of rip-rap, sod, seed, and mulch, or other effective measures. In all cases permanent stabilization shall occur within nine (9) months of the initial date of exposure. In addition:
    - a. Where mulch is used, it shall be applied at a rate of at least one (1) bale per five hundred (500) square feet and shall be maintained until a catch of vegetation is established.
    - b. Anchoring the mulch with netting, peg and twine or other suitable method may be required to maintain the mulch cover.
    - c. Additional measures shall be taken where necessary in order to avoid siltation into the water. Such measures may include the use of staked hay bales and/or silt fences.
  - 5. Natural and man-made drainage ways and drainage outlets shall be protected from erosion from water flowing through them. Drainageways shall be designed and constructed in order to carry water from a twenty-five (25) year storm or greater, and shall be stabilized with vegetation or lined with rip-rap.
- U. Soils

All land uses shall be located on soils in or upon which the proposed uses or structures can be established or maintained without causing adverse environmental impacts, including severe

erosion, mass soil movement, improper drainage, and water pollution, whether during or after construction. Proposed uses requiring subsurface waste disposal, and commercial or industrial development and other similar intensive land uses, shall require a soils report based on an on-site investigation and be prepared by state-certified professionals. Certified persons may include Maine Certified Soil Scientists, Maine Registered Professional Engineers, Maine State Certified Geologists and other persons who have training and experience in the recognition and evaluation of soil properties. The report shall be based upon the analysis of the characteristics of the soil and surrounding land and water areas, maximum ground water elevation, presence of ledge, drainage conditions, and other pertinent data which the evaluator deems appropriate. The soils report shall include recommendations for a proposed use of counteract soil limitations where they exist.

V. Water Quality

1. No activity shall deposit on or into the ground or discharge to the waters of the State any pollutant that, by itself or in combination with other activities or substances will impair designated uses or the water classification of the water body tributary stream or wetland. The washing, bathing, or cleaning of humans, animals, or objects with soaps, detergents, or cleaning agents shall be prohibited in water bodies or in areas adjacent to water bodies if wash water can enter the surface water without absorption into the soils.
2. One of the following methods of phosphorus mitigation must be employed if the footprint of any structure is enlarged within the setback area adjacent to a Great Pond.
  - a. The existing undisturbed natural wooded buffer strip between the structure and the water body shall be at least 50 feet in depth; or
  - b. A 50 foot natural wooded buffer strip shall be created by allowing a 50-foot strip to revert to natural vegetation. Woody vegetation shall be planted if lacking; or
  - c. An infiltration system designed to accommodate the runoff from the entire structure that would be generated by a 24-hour two-inch rainfall and approved by the Code Enforcement Officer shall be constructed.
3. Wells may be located within the setback area if all of the following provisions are met:
  - a. The access corridor for equipment does not exceed 20 feet in width and must follow any existing or proposed footpath. The Code Enforcement Officer may expand this 20-foot limit to the minimum extent needed where access is difficult.
  - b. All slag shall be removed from the ground, and no sedimentation from erosion shall enter any adjacent water body.
  - c. All areas not covered by the footpath shall be stabilized immediately and fully revegetated within nine months.
4. No provisions of this Ordinance shall prohibit the revegetation or stabilization of a disturbed area if a stabilization plan is filed with and approved by the Code Enforcement Officer. The use of fertilizer containing phosphorus within the buffer area is prohibited, except as part of an approved stabilization plan.

W. Phosphorous Loading Rates

All land uses requiring Planning Board approval within the Shoreland Zone adjacent to a Great Pond or river or stream flowing to a Great Pond, shall limit phosphorus export from the site based on approval of one of the following methods of phosphorus control:

1. Point System

The Planning Board may issue a permit if the applicant meets or exceeds thirty (30) points based on the following schedule:

- a. 10 points for correcting an existing erosion problem on the site
- b. 10 points for a clearing limitation of 15,000 square feet and less
- c. 15 points for a clearing limitation of 10,000 square feet and less
- d. 15 points for the installment of rock-lined drip edges or other infiltration systems to serve the new construction
- e. 20 points for a 50-foot wide buffer located downslope of the developed area
- f. 25 points for a 75-foot wide buffer located downslope of the developed area
- g. 30 points for a 100-foot wide buffer located downslope of the developed area

Special Exemptions: Additions to non-conforming structures must meet or exceed a total of twenty-five (25) points and conform with Section S, of this ordinance (Water Quality), Subsection 2.

2. Technical Analysis

The applicant does not exceed the allotted phosphorus export to the water body based on the phosphorus loading schedules established in Table 1, Section 5 of Waterford's Site Plan Review and in calculated in accordance with *Stormwater Management for Maine* (Maine Department of Environmental Protection et al., January 2006 with revisions as amended).

X. Archaeological Sites

Any proposed land use activity involving structural development or soil disturbance on or adjacent to sites listed on, or eligible to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places, as determined by the permitting authority shall be submitted by the applicant to the Maine Historic Preservation Commission for review and comment, at least twenty (20) days prior to action being taken by the permitting authority. The permitting authority shall consider comments received from the Commission prior to rendering a decision on the application.

Y. Recreational Trails

Recreational trails constructed for or created by the repeated passage of motorized vehicles shall meet the Roads and Driveways standards, including ATV trails.

Recreational trails must be designed and constructed to shed water, avoid erosion, and minimize channelized flow to the water body, tributary stream or wetland.

Recreational trails shall be designed and constructed such that soil erosion will be prevented; such prevention measures may include steps, water bars, drainage dips, and minor side-sloping of trails, in addition to any necessary lining of the trail with erosion control mulch.

Recreational trails must meet the structure setback; except for primitive trails and trail spurs as provided below; and except for structural water crossings that are no more than four (4) feet in width, which are necessary in wet, rocky or unstable areas.

Primitive trails must meet the structure setback to the greatest practical extent, except for portions constructed over existing structural development such as pavement, concrete, and non-vegetated gravel areas.

Primitive trails and trail spurs shall be constructed using hand tools only, including power hand tools.

Trail spurs shall be limited to one per lot of record where a water access footpath allowed under the Clearing of Vegetation standards (Section 15.P.2.a) does not exist.

**Section 16. Administration**

A. Administering Bodies and Agent

1. Code Enforcement Officer
2. Board of Appeals
3. Planning Board

B. Permit Required

1. After the effective date of this Ordinance no person shall, without first obtaining a permit, engage in any activity or use of land or structure requiring a permit in the district in which such activity or use would occur; or expand, change, or replace an existing use or structure; or renew a discontinued nonconforming use. A person who is issued a permit pursuant to this Ordinance shall have a copy of the permit on site while the work authorized by the permit is preformed.
2. A permit is not required for an archaeological excavation as long as the excavation is conducted by an archaeologist listed on the State Historic Preservation Officer's level 1 or level 2 approved list, and unreasonable erosion and sedimentation is prevented by means of adequate and timely temporary and permanent stabilization measures.
3. Any permit required by this Ordinance shall be in addition to any other permit required by other law or ordinance.

C. Permit Application

1. Every applicant for a permit shall submit a written application, including a scaled site plan, on a form provided by the municipality, to the appropriate official (as indicated in Section 14). An application for a permit shall be accompanied by a non-refundable fee, of \$25.00 plus \$1.00 per \$1,000.00 of the estimated cost including materials and labor over \$2,000.00. This application fee shall be made by cash or check, payable to the Town. The

selectmen shall have the authority to revise this fee from time to time after conducting a public hearing

2. All applications shall be signed by the owner or owners of the property or other person authorizing the work, certifying that the information in the application is complete and correct. If the person signing the application is not the owner or lessee of the property then that person shall submit a letter of authorization from the owner or lessee.
3. All applications shall be dated, and the Code Enforcement Officer or Planning Board, as appropriate, shall note upon each application the date and time of its receipt.
4. A valid plumbing permit or a completed application for the plumbing permit, including the site evaluation approved by the Plumbing Inspector, shall be submitted whenever the nature of the proposed structure would require the installation of a subsurface sewage disposal system.
5. Any application for an after the fact permit shall be accompanied by a non-refundable fee double that required in Section C.1. above.
6. When an excavation contractor will perform an activity that requires or results in more than one (1) cubic yard of soil disturbance, the person responsible for management of erosion and sedimentation control practices at the site must be certified in erosion control practices by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection. This person must be present at the site each day earthmoving activity occurs for a duration that is sufficient to ensure that proper erosion and sedimentation control practices are followed. This is required until erosion and sedimentation control measures have been installed, which will either stay in place permanently or stay in place until the area is sufficiently covered with vegetation necessary to prevent soil erosion. The name and certification number of the person who will oversee the activity causing or resulting in soil disturbance shall be included on the permit application. This requirement does not apply to a person or firm engaged in agriculture or timber harvesting if best management practices for erosion and sedimentation control are used; and municipal, state and federal employees engaged in projects associated with that employment.

D. Procedure for Administering Permits

Within thirty-five (35) days of the date of receiving a written application, the Planning Board or Code Enforcement Officer, as indicated in Section 14, shall notify the applicant in writing either that the application is a complete application, or if the application is incomplete, that specified additional material is needed to make the application complete. The Planning Board or Code Enforcement Officer, as appropriate, shall approve, approve with conditions, or deny all permit applications in writing within thirty-five (35) days of receiving a completed application. However, if the Planning Board has a waiting list of applications, a decision on the application shall occur within thirty-five (35) days of the public hearing, if one is held. Permits shall be approved if the proposed use or structure is found to be in conformance with the purposes and provisions of this Ordinance.

The applicant shall have the burden of proving that the proposed land use activity is in conformity with the purposes and provisions of this Ordinance.

After the submission of a complete application to the Planning Board, the Board shall approve an application or approve it with conditions if it makes a positive finding based on the information presented that the proposed use:

1. Will maintain safe and healthful conditions;
2. Will not result in water pollution, erosion, or sedimentation to surface waters;
3. Will adequately provide for the disposal of all wastewater;
4. Will not have an adverse impact on spawning grounds, fish, aquatic life, bird or other wildlife habitat;
5. Will conserve shore cover and visual, as well as actual, points of access to inland waters;
6. Will protect archaeological and historic resources as designated in the comprehensive plan;
7. Will avoid problems associated with flood plain development and use; and
8. Is in conformance with the provisions of Section 15, Land Use Standards.

If a permit is either denied or approved with conditions, the reasons as well as conditions shall be stated in writing. No approval shall be granted for an application involving a structure if the structure would be located in an unapproved subdivision or would violate any other local ordinance or regulation of any State law which the municipality is responsible for enforcing.

E. Independent Review and Advice

1. Professional Services. The Planning Board may require that an appropriate professional or consultant review one or more aspects of an application for compliance or noncompliance, with this Ordinance and to advise the Board.

The professional or consultant shall first estimate the cost of such review and the applicant shall deposit, with the Town, the full estimated cost, which the Town shall place in an escrow account. The Town shall pay the professional or consultant from the escrow account and reimburse the applicant if funds remain after payment.

2. Additional Studies. The Planning Board may require the applicant to undertake any study which it deems reasonable and necessary to demonstrate and ensure that the requirements of the Ordinance are met. The costs of such studies shall be borne by the applicant.

F. Expiration of Permit

Following the issuance of a permit, if no substantial start is made in construction or in the use of the property within one year of the date of the permit, the permit shall lapse and become void.

G. Financial Guarantee

Prior to final approval of any plan, the Planning Board may require the applicant to post a bond, letter of credit, escrow agreement, or other financial guarantee acceptable to the Board, in such amount as is reasonably necessary, to ensure completion of all improvements and in such form as is approved by the Board and the Town Selectmen.

The Town and its agents shall have access to the site at all times to review the progress of the work and shall have the authority to review all records and documents related to the project.

H. Installation of Public Utility Service

No public utility, water district, sanitary district or any utility company of any kind may install services to any new structure located in the Shoreland Zone, unless written authorization attesting to the validity and currency of all local permits required under this or any previous ordinance, has been issued by the appropriate Town officials or other written arrangements have been made between the Town officials and the utility. Following installation services, the company or district shall forward written authorization to the Town officials, indicating that installation has been completed.

I. Special Exceptions

In addition to the criteria specified in Section 16.D above, excepting structure setback requirements, the Planning Board may approve a permit for a single family residential structure in a Resource Protection District provided that the applicant demonstrates that all of the following conditions are met:

1. There is no location on the property, other than a location within the Resource Protection District, where the structure can be built.
2. The lot on which the structure is proposed is undeveloped and was established and recorded in the registry of deeds of the county in which the lot is located before the adoption of the Resource Protection District.
3. All proposed buildings, sewage disposal systems and other improvements are:
  - a. Located on natural ground slopes of less than 20%; and
  - b. Located outside the floodway of the 100-year flood-plain along rivers and artificially formed great ponds along rivers and outside the velocity zone in areas subject to tides, based on detailed flood insurance studies and as delineated on the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Flood Boundary and Floodway Maps and Flood Insurance Rate Maps; all buildings, including basements, are elevated at least one foot above the 100-year flood-plain elevation; and the development is otherwise in compliance with any applicable municipal flood-plain ordinance.

If the floodway is not shown on the Federal Emergency Management Agency Maps, it is deemed to be 1/2 the width of the 100-year flood-plain.

4. The total footprint, including cantilevered or similar overhanging extensions, of all principal and accessory structures is limited to a maximum of 1,500 square feet. This limitation shall not be altered by variance.

5. All structures, except functionally water-dependent structures, are set back from the normal high-water line of a water body, tributary stream or upland edge of a wetland to the greatest practical extent, but not less than 100 feet, horizontal distance. In determining the greatest practical extent, the Planning Board shall consider the depth of the lot, the slope of the land, the potential for soil erosion, the type and amount of vegetation to be removed, the proposed building site's elevation in regard to the flood-plain, and its proximity to moderate-value and high-value wetlands.

J. Appeals

1. Powers and Duties of the Board of Appeals. The Board of Appeals shall have the following powers:
  - a. Administrative Appeals: To hear and decide administrative appeals, on an appellate basis, where it is alleged by an aggrieved party that there is an error in any order, requirement, decision, or determination made by, or failure to act by, the Planning Board in the administration of this Ordinance; and to hear and decide administrative appeals on a de novo basis where it is alleged by an aggrieved party that there is an error in any order, requirement, decision or determination made by, or failure to act by, the Code Enforcement Officer in his or her review of and action on a permit application under this Ordinance. Any order, requirement, decision or determination made, or failure to act, in the enforcement of this ordinance is not appealable to the Board of Appeals.
  - b. Variance Appeals: To authorize variances upon appeal, within the limitations set forth in this Ordinance.
2. Variance Appeals. Variances may be granted only under the following conditions:
  - a. Variances may be granted only from dimensional requirements including, but not limited to, lot width, structure height, percent of lot coverage, and setback requirements.
  - b. Variances shall not be granted for establishment of any uses otherwise prohibited by this Ordinance.
  - c. The Board shall not grant a variance unless it finds that:
    - 1) The proposed structure or use would meet the provisions of Section 15 except for the specific provision which has created the non-conformity and from which relief is sought; and
    - 2) The strict application of the terms of this Ordinance would result in undue hardship. The term "undue hardship" shall mean:
      - a) That the land in question cannot yield a reasonable return unless a variance is granted;
      - b) That the need for a variance is due to the unique circumstances of the property and not to the general conditions in the neighborhood;

- c) That the granting of a variance will not alter the essential character of the locality; and
  - d) That the hardship is not the result of action taken by the applicant or a prior owner.
- d. Notwithstanding Section 16.K.c.2) above, the Board of Appeals or the codes enforcement officer if authorized in accordance with 30-A MRSA section 4353-A may grant a variance to an owner of a residential dwelling for the purpose of making that dwelling accessible to a person with a disability who resides in or regularly uses the dwelling. The board shall restrict any variance granted under this subsection solely to the installation of equipment or the construction of structures necessary for access to or egress from the dwelling by the person with the disability. The board may impose conditions on the variance, including limiting the variance to the duration of the disability or to the time that the person with the disability lives in the dwelling. The term “structures necessary for access to or egress from the dwelling” shall include railing, wall or roof systems necessary for the safety or effectiveness of the structure. Any permit issued pursuant to this subsection is subject to Sections 16.J.2.f and 16.J.4.b.4 below.)
- e. The Board of Appeals shall limit any variances granted as strictly as possible in order to ensure conformance with the purposes and provisions of this Ordinance to the greatest extent possible, and in doing so may impose such conditions to a variance as it deems necessary. The party receiving the variance shall comply with any conditions imposed.
  - f. A copy of each variance request, including the application and all supporting information supplied by the applicant, shall be forwarded by the municipal officials to the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection at least twenty (20) days prior to action by the Board of Appeals. Any comments received from the Commissioner prior to the action by the Board of Appeals shall be made part of the record and shall be taken into consideration by the Board of Appeals.
3. Administrative Appeals

When the Board of Appeals reviews a decision of the Code Enforcement Officer the Board of Appeals shall hold a “de novo” hearing. At this time the Board may receive and consider new evidence and testimony, be it oral or written. When acting in a “de novo” capacity the Board of Appeals shall hear and decide the matter afresh, undertaking its own independent analysis of evidence and the law, and reaching its own decision.

When the Board of Appeals hears a decision of the Planning Board, it shall hold an appellate hearing, and may reverse the decision of the Planning Board only upon finding that the decision was contrary to specific provisions of the Ordinance or contrary to the facts presented to the Planning Board. The Board of Appeals may only review the record of the proceedings before the Planning Board. The Board Appeals shall not receive or consider any evidence which was not presented to the Planning Board, but the Board of Appeals may receive and consider written or oral arguments. If the Board of Appeals determines that the record of the Planning Board proceedings are inadequate, the Board of Appeals may remand the matter to the Planning Board for additional fact finding.

4. Appeal Procedure

a. Making an Appeal

- 1) An administrative or variance appeal may be taken to the Board of Appeals by an aggrieved party from any decision of the Code Enforcement Officer or the Planning Board, except for enforcement-related matters as described in Section 16.K1.a above. Such an appeal shall be taken within thirty (30) days of the date of the official, written decision appealed from, and not otherwise, except that the Board, upon a showing of good cause, may waive the thirty (30) day requirement.
- 2) Applications for appeals shall be made by filing with the Board of Appeals a written notice of appeal which includes:
  - a) A concise written statement indicating what relief is requested and why the appeal or variance should be granted.
  - b) A sketch drawn to scale showing lot lines, location of existing buildings and structures and other physical features of the lot pertinent to the relief sought.
- 3) Upon receiving an application for an administrative appeal or a variance, the Code Enforcement Officer or Planning Board, as appropriate, shall transmit to the Board of Appeals all of the papers constituting the record of the decision appealed from.
- 4) The Board of Appeals shall hold a public hearing on an administrative appeal or a request for a variance within thirty-five (35) days of its receipt of a complete written application, unless this time period is extended by the parties.

b. Decision by Board of Appeals

- 1) A majority of the full voting membership of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of deciding an appeal.
- 2) The person filing the appeal shall have the burden of proof.
- 3) The Board shall decide all administrative appeals and variance appeals within thirty five (35) days after the close of the hearing, and shall issue a written decision on all appeals.
- 4) The Board of Appeals shall state the reasons and basis for its decision, including a statement of the facts found and conclusions reached by the Board. The Board shall cause written notice of its decision to be mailed or hand-delivered to the applicant and to the Department of Environmental Protection within seven (7) days of the Board's decision. Copies of written decisions of the Board of Appeals shall be given to the Planning Board, Code Enforcement Officer, and the municipal officers.

- 5) Appeal to Superior Court. Except as provided by 30-A M.R.S.A. section 2691(3)(F), any aggrieved party who participated as a party during the proceedings before the Board of Appeals may take an appeal to Superior Court in accordance with State laws within forty-five (45) days from the date of any decision of the Board of Appeals.
- 6) Reconsideration. In accordance with 30-A M.R.S.A. section 2691(3)(F), the Board of Appeals may reconsider any decision within forty-five (45) days of its prior decision. A request to the Board to reconsider a decision must be filed within ten (10) days of the decision that is being reconsidered. A vote to reconsider and the action taken on that reconsideration must occur and be completed within forty-five (45) days of the date of the vote on the original decision. Reconsideration of a decision shall require a positive vote of the majority of the Board members originally voting on the decision, and proper notification to the landowner, petitioner, planning board, code enforcement officer, and other parties of interest, including abutters and those who testified at the original hearing(s). The Board may conduct additional hearings and receive additional evidence and testimony.

Appeal of a reconsidered decision to Superior Court must be made within fifteen (15) days after the decision on reconsideration.

K. Enforcement

1. Nuisances

Any violation of this Ordinance shall be deemed to be a nuisance.

2. Code Enforcement Officer

- a. It shall be the duty of the Code Enforcement Officer to enforce the provisions of this Ordinance. If the Code Enforcement Officer shall find that any provision of this Ordinance is being violated, he or she shall notify in writing the person responsible for such violation, indicating the nature of the violation and ordering the action necessary to correct it, including discontinuance of illegal use of land building or structures, or work being done, removal of illegal buildings or structures, and abatement of nuisance conditions. A copy of such notices shall be submitted to the municipal officers and be maintained as a permanent record.
- b. The Code Enforcement Officer shall conduct on-site inspections to insure compliance with all applicable laws and conditions attached to permit approvals. The Code Enforcement Officer shall also investigate all complaints of alleged violations of this Ordinance.
- c. The Code Enforcement Officer shall keep a complete record of all essential transactions of the office, including applications submitted, permits granted or denied, variances granted or denied, revocation actions, revocation of permits, appeals, court actions, violations investigated, violations found, and fees collected.

3. Legal Actions

- a. When the above action does not result in the correction or abatement of the violation or nuisance condition, the Municipal Officers, upon notice from the Code Enforcement Officer, are hereby directed to institute any and all actions and proceedings, either legal or inequitable, including seeking injunctions of violations and the imposition of fines, that may be appropriate or necessary to enforce the provisions of this Ordinance in the name of the municipality.
- b. The Town Officers, or their authorized agent, are hereby authorized to enter into administrative consent agreements for the purpose of eliminating violations of this Ordinance and recovering fines without Court Action. Such agreements shall not allow an illegal structure or use to continue unless there is clear and convincing evidence that the illegal structure or use was constructed or conducted as a direct result of erroneous advice given by an authorized municipal official and there is no evidence that the owner acted in bad faith, or unless the removal of the structure or use will result in a threat or hazard to public health and safety or will result in substantial environmental damage.

Any approved administrative consent agreement shall be recorded in the Oxford County Registry of Deeds within thirty (30) days of its signing by the violator. In addition a one copy shall be attached to the assessment records and one copy forwarded to the Chair of the Planning Board.

4. Fines

Any person, including but not limited to a landowner, a landowner=s agent or a contractor, who violates any provision or requirement of this Ordinance shall, be penalized in accordance with Title 30-A, Maine Revised Statutes Annotated, Section 4452.

**Section 17. Definitions**

**Accessory structure or use** - a use or structure which is incidental and subordinate to the principal use or structure. Accessory uses, when aggregated shall not subordinate the principal use of the lot. A deck or similar extension of the principal structure or a garage attached to the principal structure by a roof or a common wall is considered part of the principal structure.

**Acre** - 43,560 square feet.

**Agriculture** - the production, keeping or maintenance for sale or lease, of plants and/or animals, including but not limited to: forages and sod crops; grains and seed crops; dairy animals and dairy products; poultry and poultry products; livestock; fruits and vegetables; and ornamental and green house products. Agriculture does not include forest management and timber harvesting activities.

**Aggrieved party** - an owner of land whose property is directly or indirectly affected by the granting or denial of a permit or variance under this Ordinance; a person whose land abuts land for which a permit or variance has been granted; or any other person or group of persons who have suffered particularized injury as a result of the granting or denial of such permit variance.

**Appurtenant Structure to Recreation Vehicle** - A factory-manufactured rigid metal or vinyl enclosure, with the dimensions not exceeding eight feet in width nor the length of the recreational vehicle, and designed for use with the recreational vehicle.

**Aquaculture** - the growing or propagation of harvestable freshwater, plant or animal species.

**Basal area**- the area of cross-section of a tree stem at 4 ½ feet above ground level and inclusive of bark.

**Basement** - any portion of a structure with a floor-to-ceiling height of 6 feet or having more than 50% of its volume below the existing ground level.

**Bed and Breakfast** - A private home in which one or rooms are rented and breakfast is provided to those renting a room.

**Boat-Launching Facility** - a facility designed primarily for the launching and landing of watercraft, and which may include an access ramp, docking area, and parking spaces for vehicles and trailers.

**Bureau of Forestry** – State of Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry, Bureau of Forestry.

**Campground** - any area or tract of land to accommodate two (2) or more parties in temporary living quarters, including, but not limited to tents, recreational vehicles or other shelters.

**Canopy**- the more or less continuous cover formed by tree crowns in wooded areas.

**Commercial use** - the use of lands, buildings, or structures, other than a Ahome occupation,@ defined below, the intent and result of which activity is the production of income from the buying or selling of goods and/or services, exclusive of rental of residential buildings and/or dwelling units. Commercial use does not include timber harvesting or the commercial recreational use dependent upon and associated with the waterbody.

**Cross-sectional area** – the cross-sectional area of a stream or tributary stream channel is determined by multiplying the stream or tributary stream channel width by the average stream or tributary stream channel depth. The stream or tributary stream channel width is the straight line distance from the normal high-water line on one side of the channel to the normal high-water line on the opposite side of the channel. The average stream or tributary stream channel depth is the average of the vertical distances from a straight line between the normal high-water lines of the stream or tributary stream channel to the bottom of the channel.

**Development**- a change in land use involving alteration of land, water or vegetation, or the addition or alteration of structures or other construction not naturally occurring.

**DBH**- the diameter of a standing tree measured 4.5 feet from ground level.

**Dimensional requirements** - numerical standards relating to spatial relationships including but not limited to setback, lot area, shore frontage and height.

**Disability** - Any disability, infirmity, malformation, disfigurement, congenital defect or mental condition caused by bodily injury, accident, disease, birth defect, environmental conditions or illness; and also includes the physical or mental condition of a person which constitutes a substantial handicap as determined by a psychologist as well as any other health or sensory impairment which requires special education, vocational rehabilitation or related services.

**Disruption of shoreline integrity** - the alteration of the physical shape, properties, or condition of a shoreline at any location by timber harvesting and related activities. A shoreline where shoreline integrity has been disrupted is recognized by compacted, scarified and/or rutted soil, an abnormal channel or shoreline cross-section, and in the case of flowing waters, a profile and character altered from natural conditions.

**Discontinued Use** - The cessation or the stopping of an activity.

**Driveway** - a vehicular access-way less than five-hundred (500) feet in length serving two single-family dwellings or one two-family dwelling, or less.

**Emergency operations** - operations conducted for the public health, safety or general welfare, such as protection of resources from immediate destruction or loss, law enforcement, and operations to rescue human beings, property and livestock from the threat of destruction or injury.

**Essential services** - gas, electrical or communication facilities; steam, fuel, electric power or water transmission or distribution lines, towers and related equipment; telephone cables or lines, poles and related equipment; gas, oil, water, slurry or other similar pipelines; municipal sewage lines, collection or supply systems; and associated storage tanks. Such systems may include towers, poles, wires, mains, drains, pipes, conduits, cables, fire alarms and police call boxes, traffic signals, hydrants and similar accessories, but shall not include service drops or buildings which are necessary for the furnishing of such services.

**Expansion of a structure** - an increase in the footprint of a structure, including all extensions such as, but not limited to: attached decks, garages, porches and greenhouses.

**Expansion of use** - the addition of one or more months to a use's operating season; or the use of more footprint of a structure or ground area devoted to a particular use.

**Family** - one or more persons occupying a premises and living as a single housekeeping unit.

**Floor area** - the sum of the horizontal areas of the floor(s) of a structure enclosed by exterior walls.

**Footprint**- the entire area of ground covered by the structure(s) on a lot, including but not limited to cantilevered or similar overhanging extensions, as well as unenclosed structures, such as patios and decks.

**Forest management activities** - timber cruising and other forest resource evaluation activities, pesticide or fertilizer application, management planning activities, timber-stand improvement, pruning, regeneration of forest stands, and other similar or associated activities, exclusive of timber harvesting and the construction, creation or maintenance of roads.

**Forested wetlands** - a freshwater wetland dominated by woody vegetation that is six (6) meters tall (approximately twenty (20) feet) or taller.

**Forest Stand** - a contiguous group of trees sufficiently uniform in age class distribution, composition, and structure, and growing on a site of sufficiently uniform quality, to be a distinguishable unit.

**Foundation** - the supporting substructure of a building or other structure, excluding wood sills and post supports, but including basements, slabs, frostwalls or other base consisting of concrete, block, brick or similar material.

**Freshwater wetland** - freshwater swamps, marshes, bogs and similar areas, other than forested wetlands, which are:

1. of ten (10) or more contiguous acres; or of less than ten (10) contiguous acres and adjacent to a surface water body, excluding any river, stream or brook such that in a natural state, the combined surface areas is in excess of ten (10) acres; and
2. inundated or saturated by surface or groundwater at a frequency and for a duration sufficient to support, and which under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of wetland vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soils.

Freshwater wetlands may contain small stream channels or inclusions of land that do not conform to the criteria of this definition.

For the purposes of this Ordinance, the upland edge (the shoreline) of a freshwater wetland is defined as the boundary line at which the hydrological and biological characteristics in item 2 above no longer occur, or where the wetland becomes a forested wetland.

**Functionally water-dependent uses** - those uses that require, for their primary purpose, location on submerged lands or that require direct access to, or location in, inland waters and which cannot be located away from these waters. The uses include, but are not limited to commercial and recreational fishing and boating facilities, fish storage and retail and wholesale fish marketing facilities, waterfront dock facilities and boat building facilities, navigation aides, basins and channels, shoreland structures necessary for erosion control, industrial uses dependent upon water-borne transportation or requiring large volumes of cooling or processing water and which cannot reasonably be located or operated at an inland site and uses that provide general public access to inland waters. Recreational boat storage buildings are not considered to be a functionally water-dependent use.

**Great pond** - any inland body of water which in a natural state has a surface area in excess of ten (10) acres, and any inland body of water artificially formed or increased which has a surface area in excess of thirty (30) acres except for the purposes of this Ordinance, where the artificially formed or increased inland body of water is completely surrounded by land held by a single owner.

**Ground cover**- small plants, fallen leaves, needles and twigs, and partially decayed organic matter of the forest floor.

**Harvest Area** - the area where timber harvesting and related activities, including the cutting of trees, skidding, yarding, and associated road construction take place. The area affected by a harvest encompasses the area within the outer boundaries of these activities, excepting unharvested areas greater than 10 acres within the area affected by a harvest.

**Hazard tree** - a tree with a structural defect, combination of defects, or disease resulting in a structural defect that under the normal range of environmental conditions at the site exhibits a high probability of failure and loss of a major structural component of the tree in a manner that will strike a target. A normal range of environmental conditions does not include meteorological anomalies, such as, but not limited to: hurricanes; hurricane-force winds; tornados; microbursts; or significant ice storm events.

Hazard trees also include those trees that pose a serious and imminent risk to bank stability. A target is the area where personal injury or property damage could occur if the tree or a portion of the tree fails. Targets include roads, driveways, parking areas, structures, campsites, and any other developed area where people frequently gather and linger.

**Height of a structure** - the vertical distance between the mean original grade at the downhill side of the structure and the highest point of the structure, excluding chimneys, steeples, antennas and similar appurtenances that have no floor area.

**Home occupation** - An occupation or profession which is carried on in no more than 1,000 square feet of a dwelling unit or accessory structure or thirty-three percent (33%) of the floor area of a detached, single-family dwelling unit and which does not change the character thereof (by way of illustration and not of limitation, the term Home occupation@ shall include such items as breads, cookies, or preserves, rugs, birdhouses, fishing flies, and quilts). The term Home occupation@ shall include both professional and personal services.

A retail sales outlet does not qualify as a Home occupation@ unless the item sold is a product of the owner=s labor (e.g., manufactured, produced, created, or grown).

**Increase in the non-conformity of a structure** - any change in a structure or property which causes further deviation from the dimensional standard(s) creating the non-conformity such as, but not limited to, reduction in water body, tributary stream or wetland setback distance, increase in lot coverage, or increase in height of a structure.

Property changes or structure expansions which either meet the dimensional standard or which cause no further increase in the linear extent of the non-conformance of the existing structure shall not be considered to increase the non-conformity. For example, there is no increase in non-conformity with the setback requirement for water bodies, wetlands, or tributary streams if the expansion extends no further into the required setback area than does any portion of the existing non-conforming structure. Hence, a structure may be expanded laterally provided that the expansion extends no closer to the water body, tributary stream or wetland than the closest portion of the existing structure from that water body, tributary stream or wetland. Included in this allowance are expansions which in-fill irregularly shaped structures.

**Individual private campsite** - an area of land which is not associated with a campground, but which is developed for repeated camping by only one group not to exceed ten (10) individuals and which involves site

improvements which may include but not be limited to gravel pads, parking areas, fire places, or ten platforms.

**Industrial** - the assembling, fabrication, finishing, manufacturing, packaging or processing of goods, or the extraction of minerals.

**Institutional** - A building devoted to some public, governmental, educational, charitable, medical or similar purpose.

**Land Management Road** - a route or track consisting of a bed of exposed mineral soil, gravel, or other surfacing materials constructed for, or created by, the passage of motorized vehicles and used primarily for timber harvesting and related activities, including associated log yards, but not including skid trails or skid roads.

**Licensed Forester** - a forester licensed under 32 M.R.S.A. Chapter 76.

**Lot** - an area of land in one ownership, or one leasehold, with ascertainable boundaries established by deed or instrument of record, or a segment of land ownership defined by lot boundary lines on a land subdivision plan duly approved by the Planning Board and recorded in the County Registry of Deeds.

**Lot area** - the area of land enclosed within the boundary lines of a lot, minus land below the normal high-water line of a water body or upland edge of a wetland and areas beneath roads serving more than two (2) lots.

**Marina** - a business establishment having frontage on navigable water and, as its principal use, providing for hire offshore moorings or docking facilities for boats, and which may also provide accessory services such as boat and related sales, boat repair and construction, indoor and outdoor storage of boats and marine equipment, boat and tackle shops and marine fuel service facilities.

**Market value** - the estimated price a property will bring in the open market and under prevailing market conditions in a sale between a willing seller and a willing buyer, both conversant with the property and with prevailing general price levels.

**Minimum lot width** - the closest distance between the side lot lines of a lot. When only two lot lines extend into the shoreland zone, both lot lines shall be considered to be side lot lines.

**Mineral exploration** - hand sampling, test boring, or other methods of determining the nature or extent of mineral resources which create minimal disturbance to the land and which include reasonable measures to restore the land to its original condition.

**Mineral extraction** - any operation within any twelve (12) month period which removes more than one hundred (100) cubic yards of soil, topsoil, loam, sand, gravel, clay, rock, peat, or other like material from its natural location and transports the product removed from the extraction site.

**Multi-unit residential** - a residential structure containing three (3) or more residential dwelling units.

**Native**- indigenous to local forests.

**Non-conforming condition**- non-conforming lot, structure, or use which is allowed solely because it was in lawful existence at the time this Ordinance or subsequent amendment took effect.

**Non-conforming lot** - a single lot of record which, at the effective date of adoption or amendment of this Ordinance, does not meet the area, frontage, or width requirements of the district in which it is located.

**Non-conforming structure** - a structure which does not meet any one or more of the following dimensional requirements; setback, height, lot coverage, or footprint, but which is allowed solely because it was in lawful existence at the time this Ordinance or subsequent amendments took effect.

**Non-conforming use** - use of buildings, structures, premises, land or parts thereof which is not permitted in the district in which it is situated, but which is allowed to remain solely because it was in lawful existence at the time this Ordinance or subsequent amendments took effect.

**Non-native invasive species of vegetation** - species of vegetation listed by the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry as being invasive in Maine ecosystems and not native to Maine ecosystems.

**Normal high-water line** - that line which is apparent from visible markings, changes in the character of soils due to prolonged action of the water or changes in vegetation, and which distinguishes between predominantly aquatic and predominantly terrestrial land. Areas contiguous with rivers that support non-forested wetland vegetation and hydric soils and that are at the same or lower elevation as the water level of the river during the period of normal high-water are considered part of the river.

**Outlet stream** - any perennial or intermittent stream, as shown on the most recent highest resolution version of the national hydrography dataset available from the United States Geological Survey on the website of the United States Geological Survey or the national map, that flows from a freshwater wetland.

**Outstanding river segments** - includes the Crooked River, as listed in Title 38, Section 480-P.

**People Camps** - A combination of program and facilities established for the primary purpose of providing an outdoor group living experience for children and/or adults with social, recreational, spiritual, and educational objectives and operated and used for five or more consecutive days during one or more seasons of the year. People camps include day camps, residential camps and trip and travel camps.

**Person** - an individual, corporation, governmental agency, municipality, trust, estate, partnership, association, two or more individuals having a joint or common interest, or other legal entity.

**Piers, docks, wharfs, bridges and other structures and uses extending over or beyond the normal high-water line or within a wetland** -

Temporary: Structures which remain in or over the water for less than seven (7) months in any period of twelve (12) consecutive months and are removed by November 1 of each year.

Permanent: Structures which remain in or over the water for seven (7) months or more in any period of twelve (12) consecutive months and remain in or over the water after November 1 of each year.

**Primitive trail** - a public or private path or trail, with a tread path no more than three (3) feet in width and an overall clearance of four (4) feet in width, established for walking, hiking, non-motorized biking purposes, snow-shoeing, or cross-country skiing. Primitive trails are not structures if there is no base material used such as, but not limited to, pavement, concrete, gravel or similar material.

**Principal structure** - the structure in which the primary use of the lot is conducted.

**Principal use** - the primary use to which the premises are devoted.

**Public facility** - any facility, including, but not limited to, buildings, property, recreation areas, and roads, which are owned, leased, or otherwise operated, or funded by a governmental body or public entity.

**Recent flood plain soils** - the following soil series as described and identified by the National Cooperative Soil Survey:

Alluvial	Cornish	Charles
Fryeburg	Hadley	Limerick
Lovewell	Medomak	Ondawa
Podunk	Rumney	Saco
Suncook	Sunday	Winooski

**Recreational facility** - a place designed and equipped for the conduct of sports, leisure time activities, and other customary and usual recreational activities, excluding boat launching facilities.

**Recreational trail** - a way across land, used primarily for recreational purposes including, but not limited to, such uses as: bicycling, Nordic (cross-country) skiing, day hiking, equestrian activities, jogging or similar fitness activities, trail biking, overnight or long distance backpacking, roller skating, in-line skating, dog sledding, running, snowmobiling, canoe and kayak portaging; and vehicular travel by motorcycle, four-wheel drive or all terrain, off-road vehicles. Recreational trail use may be limited to foot, horse or other non-motorized means of transportation, or combination of any of them. Recreational trail includes the terms primitive trail and trail spur.

**Recreational vehicle** - a vehicle or an attachment to a vehicle designed to be towed, and designed for temporary sleeping or living quarters for one or more persons, and which may include a pick-up camper, travel trailer, tent trailer, camp trailer, and motor home. In order to be considered as a vehicle and not as a structure, the unit must remain with its tires on the ground, be attached to the site only by quick disconnect type utilities and security devices, have no permanently attached additions, and must be registered with the State Division of Motor Vehicles and be consistent with the applicable definitions promulgated by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection and the Maine Department of Health and Human Services.

**Replacement system** - a system intended to replace: 1) an existing system which is either malfunctioning or being upgraded with no significant change of design flow or use of the structure, or 2) any existing overboard wastewater discharge.

**Residential dwelling unit** - a room or group of rooms designed and equipped exclusively for use as permanent, seasonal, or temporary living quarters for only one family. The term shall include mobile homes, but not recreational vehicles.

**Residential Institutional** - A use providing recreation, counseling, education and/or other rehabilitative services where the individuals commonly reside at the facility.

**Residual basal area**- the average of the basal area of trees remaining on the harvest site.

**Residual Stand** - a stand of trees remaining in the forest following timber harvesting and related activities

**Riprap** - rocks, irregularly shaped, and at least six (6) inches in diameter, used for erosion control and soil stabilization, typically used on ground slopes of two (2) units horizontal to one (1) unit vertical or less.

**River** - a free-flowing body of water including its associated flood plain wetlands from that point at which it provides drainage for a watershed of twenty-five (25) square miles to its mouth.

**Road** - a route or track consisting of a bed of exposed mineral soil, gravel, asphalt, or other surfacing material constructed for or created by the repeated passage of motorized vehicles, excluding driveways as defined.

**Sapling** - a tree species that is less than two (2) inches in diameter at four and one half (4.5) feet above ground level.

**Seedling** - a young tree species that is less than four and one half (4.5) feet in height above ground level.

**Service drop** - any utility line extension which does not cross or run beneath any portion of a water body provided that:

1. in the case of electric service
  - a. the placement of wires and/or the installation of utility poles is located entirely upon the premises of the customer requesting service or upon a roadway right-of-way; and
  - b. the total length of the extension is less than one-thousand (1,000) feet.
2. in the case of telephone service
  - a. the extension, regardless of length, will be made by the installation of the telephone wires to existing utility poles, or
  - b. the extension requiring the installation of new utility poles or placement underground is less than one-thousand (1,000) feet in length.

**Setback** - the nearest horizontal distance from the normal high-water line of a water body or tributary stream, or upland edge of a wetland, to the nearest part of a structure, road, parking space or other regulated object or area.

**Shore frontage** - the length of a lot bordering on a water body or wetland measured in a straight line between the intersections of the lot lines with the shoreline.

**Shoreland zone** - the land area located within two hundred and fifty (250) feet, horizontal distance, of the normal high-water line of any great pond, or river; within 250, horizontal distance, feet of the upland edge of a freshwater wetland; or within seventy-five (75) feet, horizontal distance, of the normal high-water line of a stream.

**Shoreline**- the normal high-water line or upland edge of a freshwater wetland.

**Skid Road or trail**- a route repeatedly used by forwarding machinery or animal to haul or drag forest products from the stump to the yard or landing, the construction of which requires minimal excavation.

**Slash**- the residue, e.g., treetops and branches, left on the ground after a timber harvest.

**Storm-damaged tree** - a tree that has been uprooted, blown down, is lying on the ground, or that remains standing and is damaged beyond the point of recovery as the result of a storm event.

**Stream** - a free-flowing body of water from the outlet of a great pond or the confluence of two (2) perennial streams as depicted on the most recent, highest resolution version of the national hydrography dataset available from the United States Geological Survey on the website of the United States Geological Survey or the national map to the point where the stream becomes a river or where the stream meets the shoreland zone of another water body or wetland and as may be depicted on the Official Shoreland Zoning Map. When a stream meets the shoreland zone of a water body or wetland and a channel forms downstream of the water body or wetland as an outlet, that channel is also a stream.

**Structure** - anything temporarily or permanently located, built, constructed or erected for the support, shelter or enclosure of persons, animals, goods or property of any kind, or anything constructed or erected on or in the ground. The term includes structures temporarily or permanently located, such as decks, patios, and satellite dishes. Structure does not include fences; poles and wiring and other aerial equipment normally associated with service drops, including guy wires and guy anchors; subsurface waste water disposal systems as defined in Title 30-A, section 4201, subsection 5; geothermal heat exchange wells as defined in Title 32, section 4700-E, subsection 3-C; or wells or water wells as defined in Title 32, section 4700-E, subsection 8.

**Substantial start** - completion of thirty (30) percent of a permitted structure or use measured as a percentage of estimated total cost.

**Subsurface sewage-disposal system** - any system designed to dispose of waste or waste water on or beneath the surface of the earth; includes, but is not limited to: septic tanks; disposal fields; grandfathered cesspools; holding tanks; pretreatment filter, piping, or any other fixture, mechanism, or apparatus used for those purposes; does not include any discharge system licensed under 38 M.R.S.A. section 414, any surface waste water disposal system, or any municipal or quasi-municipal sewer or waste water treatment system..

**Sustained slope** - a change in elevation where the referenced percent grade is substantially maintained or exceeded throughout the measured area.

**Swim dock** - floating docks/platforms not attached to the shore.

**Timber harvesting** - the cutting and removal of timber for the primary purpose of selling or processing forest products. "Timber harvesting" does not include the cutting or removal of vegetation within the shoreland zone when associated with any other land use activities. The cutting or removal of trees in the shoreland zone on a lot that is less than two (2) acres within the shoreland zone shall not be considered timber harvesting. Such cutting or removal of trees shall be regulated pursuant to Section 15.P, *Clearing or Removal of Vegetation for Activities Other than Timber Harvesting*.

Timber harvesting and related activities - timber harvesting, the construction and maintenance of roads used primarily for timber harvesting and other activities conducted to facilitate timber harvesting.

**Trail spur** - a primitive trail with no base material that extends toward the shoreline from a recreational trail.

**Tree** - a woody perennial plant with a well-defined trunk(s) at least two (2) inches in diameter at four and one half (4.5) feet above the ground, with a more or less definite crown, and reaching a height of at least ten (10) feet at maturity.

**Tributary stream** - means a channel between defined banks created by the action of surface water, which is characterized by the lack of terrestrial vegetation or by the presence of a bed, devoid of topsoil, containing waterborne deposits or exposed soil, parent material or bedrock; and which is connected hydrologically with other water bodies. "Tributary stream" does not include rills or gullies forming because of accelerated erosion in disturbed soils where the natural vegetation cover has been removed by human activity.

This definition does not include the term "stream" as defined elsewhere in this Ordinance, and only applies to that portion of the tributary stream located within the shoreland zone of the receiving water body or wetland.

**Upland edge of a wetland** - the boundary between upland and wetland. For the purposes of a freshwater wetland, the upland edge is formed where the soils are not saturated for a duration sufficient to support

wetland vegetation; or where the soils support the growth of wetland vegetation, but such vegetation is dominated by woody stems that are six (6) meters (approximately twenty (20) feet or taller.

**Vegetation** - all live trees, shrubs, and other plants including without limitation, trees both over and under four (4) inches in diameter, measured at 4 2 feet above ground level.

**Volume of a structure** - the volume of all portions of a structure enclosed by roof and fixed exterior walls as measured from the exterior faces of these walls and roof.

**Water body** - any great pond, river or stream.

**Water crossing** - any project extending from one bank to the opposite bank or a river, stream, tributary stream, or wetland whether under, through, or over the water course. Such projects include but may not be limited to roads, fords, bridges, culverts, water lines, sewer lines, and cables as well as maintenance work on these crossings. This definition includes crossings for timber harvesting equipment.

**Wetland** - a freshwater wetland.

**Windfirm** - the ability of a forest stand to withstand strong winds and resist windthrow, wind rocking, and major breakage.

**Wood vegetation**- live trees or wood, non-herbaceous shrubs.

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