

Inland Wetlands and Watercourse Commission Essex Town Hall 29 West Avenue Essex, CT 06426

4/5/2021

Re: 16 Meadow Woods Road

Dear Commission Members,

Pursuant to the concerns expressed by the Commission during the acceptance of John Bogaert's application for the installation of the shed, addition of fill and grading of his lawn at 16 Meadow Woods Road I have modified the plan and offer the following comments.

The area adjacent to the east side of the house has been a yard area and there were two large trees cut adjacent to the driveway and on the existing embankment. One tree was a large dead Oak or Maple and the second tree was a large live Maple which had to be removed to accommodate the removal of the larger dead tree. The power company had removed a large tree on the embankment of Meadow Woods Road several years ago. These were the only large trees cut in the lawn area. It appears there were other trees cut but those are sections of tree trunk that were cut from the aforementioned trees.

There is a significant area of downed trees caused by Hurricane Isaias which occurred in early August of 2020. The hurricane uprooted several large trees in the wetlands both on Mr. Bogaert's property and his neighbor's property to the north. Mr. Bogaert is in the process of cutting the trees for firewood. He is hand splitting the wood and removing the wood from the wetlands with a wheel barrow. Once he gets the wood out of the wetland area he may use a small tractor with a front end loader to bring the wood to the area of his existing wood pile. One of the large tree stumps from the uprooted trees fell back into place once the rest of the tree was removed. Mr. Bogaert is going to try using a chain pull to bring other large uprooted stumps back into the upright position if possible.

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Richard Snarski has reviewed the site and proposed a planting for the embankment. The proposed plantings on the lower side of the embankment are closer to the wetland area and can tolerate saturated soils and the shady area. The plants on the upper edge of the embankment are also shade tolerant but prefer unsaturated soils. All plantings proposed are flowering trees and will do well in the proposed location. No prepared planting bed is required.

I trust the above comments and plan revisions address the concerns expressed at your March meeting.

Should you have any additional questions please do not hesitate to contact me,

Very truly yours,

DOANE ENGINEERING

Robert L. Doane, Jr., P.E., L.S.

RLD/rg

Cc. John Bogaert