

Living in Environmental Resource Areas

A Guide to Wetland Protection Regulations in Arlington

THE ARLINGTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Conservation Commission works to ensure that all construction and development projects (residential, municipal, and commercial) that may alter any wetlands, floodplains, rivers, streams, ponds and/or lakes are in permitted compliance with state and local wetland regulations. The Conservation Commission also protects and manages the Town's Conservation Lands.

WHAT'S AN ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE AREA?

Environmental resource areas that are regulated and protected by the Conservation Commission include:

- Wetlands
- Waterbodies
- Land within 100' of all wetlands and waterbodies
- Land within 200' of perennial streams
- Floodplains
- Floodways

Unsure if your property is within an environmental resource area? Contact the Conservation Agent:

concomm@town.arlington.ma.us

781-316-3012

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I HAVE A PROJECT IN MIND?

To determine if your project is within an environmental resource area, you can:

- Call the Conservation Agent
- Consult the Town's interactive [wetlands and floodplain map](#)
- Learn about the conservation permitting process
- Complete a permit application

WHICH PROJECTS/ACTIVITIES ARE REGULATED?

The Conservation Commission must review projects or activities that will alter environmental resource areas under both the State Wetlands Project Act and the Arlington Wetlands Protection Bylaw. These regulated activities include:

- Landscaping
- Cutting trees or shrubs
- Building an addition
- Building a deck or patio
- Expanding or changing driveways
- Grading, excavating, or filling
- Changing stormwater runoff patterns

WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP?

Help protect Arlington's environmental resource areas and treasured open spaces! To help, you can:

- Contact the Conservation Commission with questions
- Avoid fertilizers, or only use slow-release fertilizers
- Avoid herbicides
- Avoid insecticides
- Avoid salt or deicers for winter maintenance
- Plant native vegetation

