



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
WESTERN REGIONAL OFFICE
436 DWIGHT STREET, SPRINGFIELD, MA 01103 413-784-1100

MAURA T. HEALEY
Governor

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Secretary

KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL
Lieutenant Governor

BONNIE HEIPLE
Commissioner

DATE: December 5, 2024

Municipality PITTSFIELD
(city/town)

RE: NOTIFICATION OF WETLANDS PROTECTION ACT FILE NUMBER

The Department of Environmental Protection has received a Notice of Intent filed in accordance with the Wetlands Protection Act (M.G.L. c. 131, §40):

Applicant: CITY OF PITTSFIELD
Address: 70 ALLEN STREET
PITTSFIELD, MA 01201

Owner:
Address:

LOCUS: RICHMOND POND

This project has been assigned the following file # : WE 263-1241

A FILE NUMBER ONLY INDICATES THAT THE APPLICATION CONTAINS THE MINIMAL SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS AND IS ADMINISTRATIVELY COMPLETE - NOT THAT THE INFORMATION IN THE APPLICATION IS ADEQUATE FOR ISSUANCE OF AN ORDER OF CONDITIONS.

Although a file # is being issued, please note the following:

[1] The commission needs to wait to close the public hearing until NHESP has issued its decision.

[2] This project has been submitted as an Ecological Restoration Limited Project. The commission needs to review 310 CMR 10.11, 310 CMR 10.12 and 310 CMR 10.53(4)(e)5. as well as the included Appendix A. However, in order to qualify as an Ecological Restoration Limited Project, which means a project whose primary purpose is to restore or otherwise improve the natural capacity of a Resource Area(s) to protect and sustain the interests identified in M.G.L. c. 131, § 40, when such interests have been degraded or destroyed by anthropogenic influences, the applicant must clearly explain to the commission what those anthropogenic influences are. Failure to do so means the work does not qualify as an ER Limited Project and therefore full compliance with the performance standards is required

[3] A permanent lake elevation gauge needs to be installed at a location easily visible to the commission and it shall be maintained. Does the NOI note the normal pond summer elevation as well as the elevation for the two foot drawdown?

[4] Nuisance vegetation removal has been an ongoing process here for many years. The Commission should note

This information is available in alternate format. Call Donald M. Gomes, ADA Coordinator at 617-556-1057. TDD# 1-866-539-7622 or 1-617-574-6868.

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CITY OF PITTSFIELD
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PITTSFIELD, MA 01201

that the application of herbicides is typically only a short term management solution. Herbicide treatment should only be approved as part of a comprehensive lake management plan that includes not only short term but also long term management methods. A Lake Management Plan should include water quality data, information on the history and sources of water quality degradation and other information to identify existing pollution inputs to the water body. It is essential to review past and current watershed management practices, assess the effect of these practices on water quality, and evaluate alternative watershed management practices to improve water quality through source control.

[5] This reviewer recommends that the Pittsfield and Richmond conservation commissions work together on any special conditions so there is no conflict between the two Orders.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact: MARK STINSON @ (413)-961-9583

Cc: Pittsfield Conservation Commission, CITY HALL, 70 ALLEN STREET, Pittsfield, MA, 01201
Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program, Div of Fisheries & Wildlife Route 135, North Drive,
Westborough, MA, 01581
Representative: Richmond Pond Association, PO Box 447, LENOX, MA, 01240

