

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING
SUDBURY CONSERVATION COMMISSION**
Monday, October 30, 2023 at 7:00 PM
Virtual Meeting

The Sudbury Conservation Commission will hold a public meeting to review the Request for Determination of Applicability filing under the Wetlands Protection Act and the Sudbury Wetlands Administration Bylaw to install fencing and restore an eroded stream bank within Bank and Land Under Water Bodies at Gray Reservation, in Sudbury, MA. Sudbury Valley Trustees, Applicant. The meeting will be held on Monday, October 30, 2023 at 7:00 pm, via Zoom.

Copies of the application may be reviewed on the Conservation Department web page at:

<https://sudbury.ma.us/conservationcommission/meeting/conservation-commission-meeting-monday-october-30-2023/>

Please contact the Conservation Office with any questions at 978-440-5470.

SUDBURY CONSERVATION COMMISSION
TODAY'S DATE 10/18/2023



WPA Form 1- Request for Determination of Applicability

Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act M.G.L. c. 131, §40

A. General Information

Important:

When filling out forms on the computer, use only the tab key to move your cursor - do not use the return key.



1. Applicant:

Name _____		E-Mail Address _____	
Mailing Address _____			
City/Town _____		State _____	Zip Code _____
Phone Number _____		Fax Number (if applicable) _____	

2. Representative (if any):

Firm _____			
Contact Name _____		E-Mail Address _____	
Mailing Address _____			
City/Town _____		State _____	Zip Code _____
Phone Number _____		Fax Number (if applicable) _____	

B. Determinations

1. I request the _____ make the following determination(s). Check any that apply:
Conservation Commission

- a. whether the **area** depicted on plan(s) and/or map(s) referenced below is an area subject to jurisdiction of the Wetlands Protection Act.
- b. whether the **boundaries** of resource area(s) depicted on plan(s) and/or map(s) referenced below are accurately delineated.
- c. whether the **work** depicted on plan(s) referenced below is subject to the Wetlands Protection Act.
- d. whether the area and/or work depicted on plan(s) referenced below is subject to the jurisdiction of any **municipal wetlands ordinance** or **bylaw** of:

Name of Municipality

- e. whether the following **scope of alternatives** is adequate for work in the Riverfront Area as depicted on referenced plan(s).



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C. Project Description

1. a. Project Location (use maps and plans to identify the location of the area subject to this request):

Street Address

City/Town

Assessors Map/Plat Number

Parcel/Lot Number

- b. Area Description (use additional paper, if necessary):

- c. Plan and/or Map Reference(s):

Title

Date

Title

Date

Title

Date

2. a. Work Description (use additional paper and/or provide plan(s) of work, if necessary):



C. Project Description (cont.)

- b. Identify provisions of the Wetlands Protection Act or regulations which may exempt the applicant from having to file a Notice of Intent for all or part of the described work (use additional paper, if necessary).
3. a. If this application is a Request for Determination of Scope of Alternatives for work in the Riverfront Area, indicate the one classification below that best describes the project.
- Single family house on a lot recorded on or before 8/1/96
 - Single family house on a lot recorded after 8/1/96
 - Expansion of an existing structure on a lot recorded after 8/1/96
 - Project, other than a single-family house or public project, where the applicant owned the lot before 8/7/96
 - New agriculture or aquaculture project
 - Public project where funds were appropriated prior to 8/7/96
 - Project on a lot shown on an approved, definitive subdivision plan where there is a recorded deed restriction limiting total alteration of the Riverfront Area for the entire subdivision
 - Residential subdivision; institutional, industrial, or commercial project
 - Municipal project
 - District, county, state, or federal government project
 - Project required to evaluate off-site alternatives in more than one municipality in an Environmental Impact Report under MEPA or in an alternatives analysis pursuant to an application for a 404 permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers or 401 Water Quality Certification from the Department of Environmental Protection.
- b. Provide evidence (e.g., record of date subdivision lot was recorded) supporting the classification above (use additional paper and/or attach appropriate documents, if necessary.)



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D. Signatures and Submittal Requirements

I hereby certify under the penalties of perjury that the foregoing Request for Determination of Applicability and accompanying plans, documents, and supporting data are true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

I further certify that the property owner, if different from the applicant, and the appropriate DEP Regional Office were sent a complete copy of this Request (including all appropriate documentation) simultaneously with the submittal of this Request to the Conservation Commission.

Failure by the applicant to send copies in a timely manner may result in dismissal of the Request for Determination of Applicability.

Name and address of the property owner:

Name

Mailing Address


City/Town

State

Zip Code

Signatures:

I also understand that notification of this Request will be placed in a local newspaper at my expense in accordance with Section 10.05(3)(b)(1) of the Wetlands Protection Act regulations.



Signature of Applicant



Date

Signature of Representative (if any)

Date

October 13, 2023

C) 1b. Site description:

The work site is a stream crossing with a bridge in SVT's Gray Reservation. The streambank and streambed are eroded on both sides of the crossing, with damage extending roughly 20 feet to either side of the bridge (see Fig. 2). This damage has been primarily caused by off-leash dogs crossing directly through the stream.

Gray Reservation is roughly 55 acres in size and features popular walking trails that travel through wetlands, uplands and a variety of glacial features. This site is in the understory of a white pine forest, and it features diverse native flora. Invasive species present include glossy buckthorn and Japanese primrose.

C) 2a. Description of work:

My name is Chris Reardon, and I am an employee with the Sudbury Valley Trustees, which owns the Gray Reservation property. Prior to work, we propose placing coir logs along the affected areas of stream bank to stabilize the soil and prevent further erosion, with wooden stakes used to hold the logs in place. Next, roughly 80' of 4 ft high welded wire fencing with 2"x4" mesh size would be attached to steel t-posts to both the left and right sides of the bridge, on both banks of the stream (Fig. 4). Fencing would extend to the edge of the currently eroded areas and would serve to funnel visitors and their dogs onto the bridge. Signs asking visitors to leash their dogs at stream crossings would be attached to trees or posts along the trail leading up to both sides of the bridge.

Once barriers have been put in place, vegetation restoration would involve a combination of invasive species removal and native species planting in the crossing area. Reducing the populations of these species at the site would make way for native species plantings. Native species restoration would be achieved primarily by spreading a native seed mix (New England Wetmix from New England Wetland Plants, Inc.) as well as planting some native shrubs (sweet pepperbush, arrowwood viburnum, and red osier dogwood). Jute netting would be installed atop the planting areas to prevent seeds from being washed away. Once vegetation has been restored to the point where it serves as an impediment to crossing, the fencing could be removed.

This work would be carried out by SVT staff and volunteers over the course of multiple workdays in Fall 2023 (installing fencing, signage, and coir logs for bank stabilization), into Spring 2024 (planting shrubs, installing jute netting, and spreading native seed mix). Fencing could remain in place for up to 3 years or until vegetation has blocked the stream bank (duration of RDA).

Gray Reservation

Sudbury

November 2011



Sudbury Valley Trustees - 18 Wolbach Road - Sudbury, MA - 978-443-5588 - web@svtweb.org - www.svtweb.org
Map produced by SudburyValley Trustees. Data Provided by Office of Geographic and Environmental Information (MassGIS),
Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs.
This Map should be used for reference only. Boundary lines are approximate.

Fig. 1. Location of proposed project area within Gray Reservation.



Fig. 2. Proposed project area in Gray Reservation. Same orientation as sketch (i.e. far bank is south).

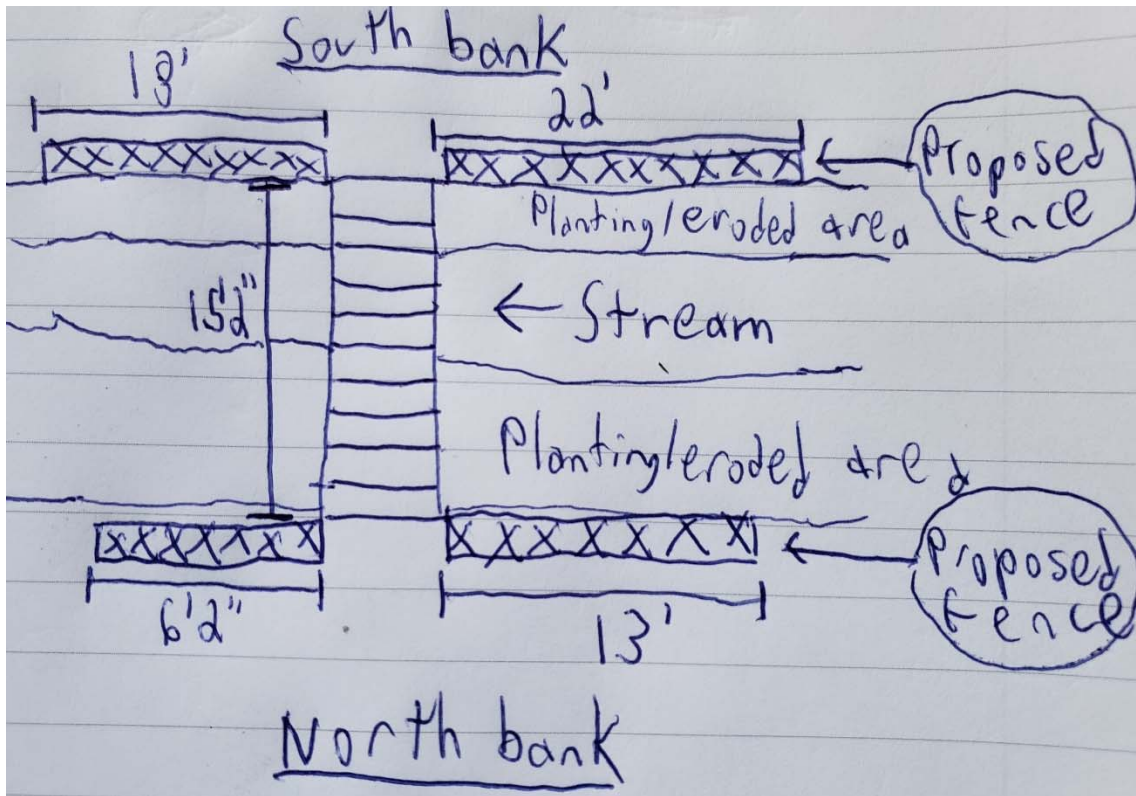


Fig. 3. Sketch showing approximate dimensions of fencing to be used, planting areas.