



RHODE ISLAND
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

235 Promenade Street, Providence, RI 02908-5767

TDD 401-222-4462

CERTIFIED MAIL

91 7108 2133 3934 8847 7727

July 9, 2008

Aquidneck Land Trust
c/o Edward S. Clement, Jr., Executive Director
790 Aquidneck Avenue
Middletown, RI 02842

PERMIT TO ALTER FRESHWATER WETLANDS

Re: Application No. 07-0247 in reference to the location below:

Sakonnet Greenway Trail (Phase 1B) extending from approximately 1,100 feet southeast of Sandy Point Avenue, opposite the Pennfield School southwest for approximately 3,700 feet to Braman's Lane and south of Braman's Lane for approximately 1,000 feet to the Newport National Golf Course, Assessor's Plat 64, Lots 28 & 71-A, Plat 65, Lot 15, Plat 66, Lot 4, Portsmouth, RI.

Dear Mr. Clement:

The Department of Environmental Management's ("DEM") Freshwater Wetlands Program ("Program") has completed its review of your **Application to Alter a Freshwater Wetland** regarding the proposed construction of Phase 1B of the Sakonnet Greenway Trail as described and detailed in the material and information submitted in support of your application and on site plans received by the DEM on March 10, 2008. These site plans describing the project were made available for public comment as part of the forty-five (45) day public notice period required in accordance with the Freshwater Wetlands Act (R.I. General Laws (R.I.G.L.) Section 2-1-18 et seq.) and the procedures set forth in Rule 9.05 of the Rules and Regulations Governing the Administration and Enforcement of the Freshwater Wetlands Act that were in effect prior to June 1, 2007 (Rules).

The Program did not receive any written comments relating to this application during the public notice period

Pursuant to the Program's review and evaluation of your application including all supporting information and material, as well as the record to date, the Program has determined that this project does not represent a random, unnecessary or undesirable alteration of freshwater wetlands. Therefore, this Program hereby issues this permit to alter freshwater wetlands **subject to all controlling Rules and the Terms and Conditions set forth herein.**

Permit Terms and Conditions for Application No. 07-0247:

1. This letter is the DEM's permit for this project under the R.I. Fresh Water Wetlands Act, Rhode Island General Laws (RIGL) Section 2-1-18 et seq.
2. This permit is specifically limited to the project, site alterations and limits of disturbance as detailed on the site plans submitted with your application and received by the DEM on March 10, 2008. A copy of the site plans stamped approved by the DEM is enclosed. Changes or revisions to the project which would alter freshwater wetlands are not authorized without a permit from the DEM.
3. Where the terms and conditions of the permit conflict with the approved site plans, these terms and conditions shall be deemed to supersede the site plans.
4. You must notify this Program in writing immediately prior to the commencement of site alterations and upon completion of the project.
5. A copy of the stamped approved site plans and a copy of this permit must be kept at the site at all times during site preparation, construction, and final stabilization. Copies of this permit and the stamped approved plans must be made available for review by any DEM representative upon request.
6. Within ten (10) days of the receipt of this permit, you must record this permit in the land evidence records of the Town of Portsmouth and supply this Program with written documentation obtained from the Town showing this permit was recorded.
7. The effective date of this permit is the date this letter was issued. This permit expires one (1) year from the effective date unless renewed pursuant to Rule 11.02.
8. Any material utilized in this project must be clean and free of matter that could pollute any freshwater wetland.
9. Prior to commencement of site alterations, you shall erect or post a sign resistant to the weather and at least twelve (12) inches wide and eighteen (18) inches long, which boldly identifies the initials "DEM" and the application number of this permit. This sign must be maintained at the site in a conspicuous location until such time that the project is complete or the DEM issues a Notice of Completion of Work for the project.
10. Temporary erosion and sediment controls detailed or described on the approved site plans shall be properly installed at the site prior to or commensurate with site alterations. Such controls shall be properly maintained, replaced, supplemented, or modified as necessary throughout the life of this project to minimize soil erosion and to prevent sediment from being deposited in any wetlands not subject to disturbance under this permit.
11. Upon permanent stabilization of all disturbed soils, temporary erosion and/or sediment controls consisting of hay bales and/or silt fence must be removed.

12. You are obligated to install, utilize and follow all best management practices detailed or described on the approved site plans in the construction of the project to minimize or prevent adverse impacts to any adjacent freshwater wetlands and the functions and values provided by such wetlands.
13. All construction activities involving soil disturbances within watercourses must be limited to the low flow period (i.e., the period from July 1 to October 31 of any calendar year). Soil disturbance in these watercourses must temporarily cease in the event of any abnormally high stormwater runoff event during the low flow period.

This Permit also constitutes your authorization from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ("Corps") under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act for the work proposed. Your project qualifies as a Category II activity under the Rhode Island Programmatic General Permit (RI PGP, Permit No. NAE-2006-2711). You are, therefore, not required to file a separate application with the Corps.

Please note that the attached RI PGP conditions apply to all activities authorized under the RI PGP. Please review them carefully to thoroughly familiarize yourself with their contents. You may wish to discuss all permit conditions with your contractor to ensure that the work can be accomplished in a manner that conforms to all requirements.

Pursuant to the provisions in Rule 7.09 and 11.04, as applicable, any properly recorded and valid permit is automatically transferred to the new owner upon sale of the property.

You are required to comply with the terms and conditions of this permit and to carry out this project in compliance with the Rules at all times. Failure to do so may result in an enforcement action against you by the DEM and/or subject you to the enforcement provisions of the Corps' regulations.

In permitting the proposed alterations, the Program assumes no responsibility for damages resulting from faulty design or construction. This permit does not remove your obligation to obtain any local, state, or federal approvals or permits required by ordinance or law and does not relieve you from any duties owed to adjacent landowners with specific reference to any changes in drainage.

If you are aggrieved by this decision, you may, within thirty (30) days of the receipt of this letter, request an adjudicatory hearing in writing. This request must be sent directly to the DEM Administrative Adjudication Division ("AAD"), 235 Promenade Street, Providence, RI 02908. A copy of the request should also be forwarded to this Program and to the Office of Legal Services, at the same address. Your written request for an adjudicatory hearing must be timely filed and should conform to the requirements of Rule 7.00(b) of the "Administrative Rules of Practice and Procedure for the Department of Environmental Management Administrative Adjudication Division for Environmental Matters", (AAD Rules). AAD Rule 7.00(b) provides:

"The request for hearing shall state clearly and concisely the specific issues which are in dispute and the facts in support thereof, the relief sought if any, the license or permit sought or involved and any additional information required by applicable statutes and regulations."

The written request must be accompanied by an adjudicatory hearing fee of two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00); in the form of a certified bank check or money order made payable to the Rhode Island General Treasurer; however, in the event that the cost of the hearing exceeds the fee paid, the Program through the AAD will require an additional fee which the applicant must submit prior to the DEM's issuance of any final decision regarding this application. The adjudicatory hearing will be held before a Hearing Officer from the AAD. Such hearing will be held in compliance with the AAD Rules, Chapter 42-35-1 et seq. of the R.I.G.L., and other governing laws, rules, and regulations adopted by the DEM. Please note that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel in any proceeding which may be held in this matter.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, you may contact me or Joseph Casey of my staff at this office (telephone: 401-222-6820).

Sincerely,



Martin D. Wencek, Permitting Supervisor
Office of Water Resources/Permitting Section
Freshwater Wetlands Program

MDW/JC/jc

Enclosure: Approved Site Plans
RI PGP Conditions

xc: David Kerins, Esq., Acting Chief, Administrative Adjudication Division
Christopher Mason, Mason and Associates, Inc.
Linda Steere, Applied Bio-Systems, Inc.
Kamal Hingorany, Narragansett Engineering, Inc.
George Medeiros, Portsmouth Building Official
Neal Personeus, Water Quality Certification Program