

# RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT OFFICE OF WATER RESOURCES

235 Promenade Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02908

#### HAND DELIVERED

January 23, 2025

Saul Chase 166 Nursery Avenue Woonsocket, RI 02895

### PERMIT TO ALTER FRESHWATER WETLANDS

Re: Application No. 22-0228 in reference to the location below:

Approximately 230 feet west of Cherry Hill Avenue, near utility pole number 5, approximately 185 feet southwest of the intersection of Scotia Street and Cherry Hill Avenue, Assessor's Plat Map C2, Lot 1-287, Woonsocket, RI.

Dear Mr. Chase:

The Department of Environmental Management's ("DEM") Freshwater Wetlands Program ("Program") has completed its review of your **Application for a Significant Alteration** regarding the proposed construction of a single-family dwelling with utility connections including an overhead electrical connection, paved driveway, a rain garden for stormwater management including an additional dry basin, evergreen buffer plantings, grading, landscaping, a fire hydrant, and temporary erosion controls as described and detailed in the material and information submitted in support of your application and on site plans received by the DEM on December 27, 2024. 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. Gen. Laws § 2-1-18 et seq.) and the procedures set forth in the Rules and Regulations Governing the Administration and Enforcement of the Freshwater Wetlands Act, 250-RICR-150-15-1, specifically in 250-RICR-150-15-1.10.

This Program received 1 letter relating to your application which was submitted during the public notice period. This letter expressed concern regarding your project's impacts to freshwater wetland values. This Program reviewed this letter together with any supporting documents and evaluated the potential impacts from the project upon the values mentioned in the letter. The Program has determined that the comments contained within this letter does not constitute an objection of a substantive nature as defined in 250-RICR-150-15-1.12.4(C)(3). Therefore, a public hearing pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 2-1-22 is not required.

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 Wetlands Application No. 22-0228:

- This letter is the DEM's permit for this project under the R.I. Fresh Water Wetlands Act, R.I. Gen. Laws § 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 December 27, 2024. 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 again 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 or town 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 City of Woonsocket and supply this Program with written documentation obtained from the City 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 date of this letter unless renewed pursuant to 250-RICR-150-15-1.10(G)(6).
- 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.
- Upon permanent stabilization of all disturbed soils, temporary erosion and/or sediment controls must be removed.
- 12. You are responsible for the proper installation, operation, maintenance and stability of any mitigative features, stormwater treatment facilities, and systems of treatment and control that are installed or used in compliance with this permit to prevent harm to adjacent wetlands until such time that documentation is provided that this responsibility has been assigned to another entity.

- 13. 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.
- 14. All plantings of shrubs, trees or other forms of vegetation as shown or detailed on the approved plans, or detailed in this permit, must be installed as soon as possible after completion of final grading; weather and season permitting. You must notify this Program in writing upon completion of the required plantings for a compliance inspection by a Program representative.
- 15. Mitigation screen plantings of trees and/or shrubs proposed between the project and any adjacent freshwater wetland areas, except for necessary replacement, must be allowed to develop naturally without being subjected to moving or manicuring.
- 16. Any plantings which fail to survive one full growing season shall be replaced. Replacement plantings shall be similarly guaranteed for one full growing season.
- 17. Also prior to commencement of any site alterations, permanent buffer zone markers must be installed along the limit of disturbance at the locations indicated in red ink on the approved site plans, in order to provide permanent reference points on site that are clear to present and future property owners. Acceptable permanent type markers include 4" x 4" pressure treated timber posts, galvanized fence posts with cap, or granite or concrete bounds. Markers must extend a minimum 24" above grade. A permanent-type tag or sign labeled "RIDEM Buffer Zone" must be placed on each marker. A permanent-type fence at least 24 " tall placed along the limits of disturbance may be substituted where desired. No alterations of any kind are permitted beyond these markers without first obtaining the necessary permit from this Program.
- 18. Immediately upon installation of the buffer zone markers, this Program must be contacted to arrange an on-site inspection. Once proper installation has been confirmed by this Program, work may be initiated on the project as herein approved.

Pursuant to the provisions in 250-RICR-150-15-1.7(A)(9) and 250-RICR-150-15-1.11(D) of the Rules, as applicable, any properly recorded and valid permit is automatically transferred to the new owner upon sale of the property. Pursuant to the provisions in 250-RICR-150-15-1.7(A)(9)(c), within ten (10) days of any property transfer, the subsequent transferee must notify the Department by forwarding a certified copy of the deed of transfer.

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.

In permitting the proposed alterations, the Department 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, Suite 350, 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 250-RICR-10-00-1.7(B) of the DEM Rules and Regulations for the Administrative Adjudication Division, 250-RICR-10-00-1. Section 250-RICR-10-00-1.7(B) provides:

"The request for a 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 statues 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 250-RICR-10-00-1, R.I. Gen. Laws Chapter 42-35-1 et seq., 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 Lucianna Faraone Coccia at this office (telephone: 401-537-4225).

Sincerely,

Martin D. Wencek, Program Supervisor

Office of Water Resources Freshwater Wetlands Program

MDW/mdw

**Enclosure: Approved Site Plans** 

ec: Mary Dalton, Administrative Adjudication Division

Michael Coleman, Assistant Building Inspector, Woonsocket, RI

Kenneth Kirkland, Town Planner, Woonsocket, RI Steven D'Agostino, Department of Public Works Scott P. Rabideau, Natural Resource Services, Inc.

Paul D. Carlson, PE, Insite Engineers, Inc.

xc: Regina Bechta



## RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT OFFICE OF WATER RESOURCES

235 Promenade Street Providence, Rhode Island 02908

November 28, 2023

Saul Chase 166 Nursery Avenue Woonsocket, RI, 02859

**RE:** Application No. 22-0228 in reference to the location below:

Approximately 230 feet west of Cherry Hill Ave, approximately 185 feet southwest of the intersection of Scotia Street and Cherry Hill Ave, near utility pole no. 5, Assessor's Plat C2, Lot 1-287, Woonsocket, RI.

Dear Mr. Chase:

The Department of Environmental Management's ("DEM") Freshwater Wetlands Program ("Program") has completed its initial review of your Application to Alter a Freshwater Wetland. This initial review has determined that your application is complete and adequate for Notice for public comment in accordance with the Rules and Regulations Governing the Administration and Enforcement of the Freshwater Wetlands Act, 250-RICR-150-15-1. In order to carry out the Notice pursuant to the Rules, you are required to submit seven (7) full size copies of your site plans and twenty-three (23) reduced-size (8½" x 11") copies of your site plans. Other than the necessary revision to the plans as noted below in this letter, these site plans must be identical to the site plan recently reviewed by the Program and entitled:

"Scotia Street Extension; Map C2, Lot 1-287, Woonsocket, Rhode Island; Prepared for: Saul Chase; 166 Nursery Avenue, Woonsocket, Rhode Island 02895", two (2) sheets total; bearing a revised date of October 24, 2023; and received by RIDEM on October 27, 2023.

A revision that is necessary to the site plans for Public Notice shall include four permanent buffer zone markers which were requested and discussed in specific locations along the limit of disturbance at the meeting held with the project consultant on October 11, 2023 (which were drawn on the draft plans we had in the meeting).

In addition to the site plans required, please provide one (1) copy of the written material or documents submitted in support of your application.

You are responsible for reviewing the list of abutters provided to this Program for purposes of the public Notice and ensuring that it is accurate and up to date. If necessary, please provide an updated list to reflect any recent land transactions or changes in ownership.

Please provide this information as soon as possible so that we may continue to process your application. Upon receipt, this Program will review this material for completeness in accordance with this letter and promptly Notice your application in accordance with the Rules.

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Please ensure that your site plans, both full and reduced, are legible and bear the stamp, signature, and date of signing of all licensed professionals that are responsible for plan preparation pursuant to state law (see 250-RICR-150-15-1.7(A)(3)(m)).

Please reference the Application Number above in all communications regarding your application. If you have any questions, please contact Lucianna Faraone Coccia of this Office at (401) 222-6820 ext. 2777270.

Sincerely,
martin D. Wencele\_

Martin D. Wencek, Program Supervisor Freshwater Wetlands Program Office of Water Resources MDW/LFC/lfc

ec: Paul D. Carlson, Insite Engineering Suzanne Santos, Insite Engineering