



**RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**  
**OFFICE OF WATER RESOURCES**  
235 Promenade Street  
Providence, Rhode Island 02908

April 24, 2024

Providence Parks Department  
Sam Greenwood, Project Manager  
1000 Elmwood Avenue  
Providence, RI 02905

### **Freshwater Wetlands Permit**

Re: Application No. 24-0040 for the property and project located:

At 1000 Elmwood Avenue, approximately 730 feet northeast from the intersection of F.C. Green Memorial Boulevard and Rose Avenue, Assessor's Plat 90, Lot 157, Providence, RI.

Dear Mr. Greenwood:

Kindly be advised that the Department of Environmental Management's ("DEM") Freshwater Wetlands Program ("Program") has completed its review of your **Application for a Freshwater Wetlands Permit** as described in Rule 3.11 of the Rules and Regulations Governing the Administration and Enforcement of the Fresh Water Wetlands Act, 250-RICR-150-15-3 ("Rules"). This review included a site inspection of the above referenced property ("subject property") and an evaluation of the proposed, 12'x12'x12' temporary installation (16 months to encompass two growing seasons) of a floating wetland structure with native plantings, anchors and pontoon ring as illustrated and detailed on site plans submitted with your application. These site plans were received by the DEM on March 1, 2024.

Our observations of the subject property, review of the site plans and evaluation of the proposed project reveals that alterations of jurisdictional areas are proposed. However, pursuant to Rule 3.7.3A of the Rules, this project meets the General Variance Criteria and a **Freshwater Wetlands Permit** may be issued under the following terms and conditions:

Terms and Conditions for Wetlands Application No. 24-0040:

1. 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 March 1, 2024. A copy of the site plans stamped approved by the DEM is enclosed. Changes or revisions to the project that 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 of the anticipated start date, and of your contractor's contact information, by submitting the Notice of Start of Construction Form prior to commencement of any

permitted site alterations or construction activity. You must also notify this Program in writing upon completion of the project. The Start of Construction Form can be found on the webpage: [dem.ri.gov/stormwaterconstruction](http://dem.ri.gov/stormwaterconstruction).

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 city 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 Providence 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 five (5) years from the date of this letter unless renewed pursuant to the Rules.
8. Any material utilized in this project must be clean and free of matter that could pollute any jurisdictional area.
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.
10. Only dried and inert stalks of Japanese Knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*) and Bamboo (*Phyllosyachys sp.*) are to be utilized in the construction of the floating wetland prototype to ensure no invasive plant species will spread to the pond shore of Polo Lake. In the event that any sprouting is observed, the floating wetland must be immediately removed from the pond to a suitable upland location.
11. You are obligated to install, utilize and follow all best management practices detailed or described on the approved site plans and within the project narrative in the construction and installation of the project to minimize or prevent adverse impacts to any adjacent freshwater wetland, or buffer or other jurisdictional areas and the functions and values provided by such freshwater wetlands and buffers.

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 by this Department.

In permitting the proposed alterations, the DEM assumes no responsibility for damages resulting from faulty design or construction.

Kindly be advised that this permit is not equivalent to a verification of the type or extent of freshwater wetlands or jurisdictional areas on site. Should you wish to have the types and extent of freshwater wetlands verified, you may submit the appropriate application in accordance with 250-RICR-150-15-3.9.3.

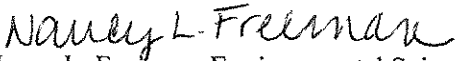
This permit does not remove your obligation to obtain any local, state, or federal approvals or permits required by ordinance or law and does not relieve you from any duties owed to adjacent landowners with specific reference to any changes in drainage.

If you have not already done so, or in order to check on the status of their review, please contact the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to determine federal permit requirements on your project. Write the Corps' New

England District, Regulatory Branch, 696 Virginia Road, Concord, MA 01742-2751; website: <https://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/or> email at [cenaer@usace.army.mil](mailto:cenaer@usace.army.mil) . Please note that the Department of the Army authorization must be obtained before any work is initiated in areas subject to Corps jurisdiction.

Please contact Sophie Clode of this office (telephone: 401-537-4211) should you have any questions regarding this letter.

Sincerely,



Nancy L. Freeman, Environmental Scientist III  
Office of Water Resources  
Freshwater Wetlands Program

NLF/SC/sc

Enclosure: Approved site plans

cc: Hope Leeson, Project Coordinator  
Maxwell Fertik, Construction & Installation  
Johnny Suarez, Building Official, City of Providence  
Charlotte Skolnick, USACE Regulatory Division