

**Board of Selectmen
Special Meeting Agenda
October 7, 2021 at 7:00 pm**

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84358773695?pwd=bkxqTGF3cU1TUEtubEFXM1FNSGFUUT09>

Webinar ID: 843 5877 3695

Passcode: 584986

Join by phone: 646 558 8656

- 1. Call to order**
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3. Notification of upcoming community events**
- 4. Proclamation for Fire Prevention Week**
- 5. Discussion concerning the Weston Volunteer Fire Department receiving an Assistance to Firefighter grant**
- 6. Acceptance of Kirby Brendsel's resignation from the Lachat Town Farm Commission, Sustainable Weston Committee, and the Weston Parks and Recreation Committee**
- 7. Interview of Alissa Stoltz for the Lachat Town Farm Commission**
- 8. Interview of Ellen Crown for a position on the Beautification Committee**
- 9. Interview of Charles Cuggino for the Dial-A-Ride per diem back up driver position**
- 10. Public Workshop on the use of chemicals in Weston by Eversource and the CT Department of Transportation**
- 11. Discussion/ Decision to require that Weston Senior Center visitors be fully vaccinated against Covid**
- 12. Acceptance of AnnMarie Fontana's resignation as Administrative Assistant effective 9/30/21**
- 13. Discussion/decision to establish a public hearing regarding the adoption of a Support Service Fee Ordinance**
- 14. Approval of Tax Refunds totalling \$10,613.24**
- 15. Approval of minutes from the Board of Selectmen Meetings held September 1, 2021, September 2, 2021, September 14, 2021, September 23, 2021, and September 30, 2021**
- 16. Adjournment**

DRAFT Motions for the 10/5/21 Special BOS Meeting

1. Call to order: **No motion**
2. Pledge of Allegiance: **No motion**
3. Notification of upcoming community events: **No motion**
4. Proclamation for Fire Prevention Week: **No motion**
5. Discussion concerning the Weston Volunteer Fire Department receiving an Assistance to Firefighter grant: **No motion**
6. Acceptance of Kirby Brendsel's resignation from the Lachat Town Farm Commission, Sustainable Weston Committee, and the Weston Parks and Recreation Committee: **I move to accept Kirby Brendsel's resignation from the Lachat Town Farm Commission, Sustainable Weston Committee, and the Weston Parks and Recreation Committee effective immediately**
7. Interview of Alissa Stoltz for the Lachat Town Farm Commission: **No motion**
8. Interview of Ellen Crown for a position on the Beautification Committee: **No motion**
9. Interview of Charles Cuggino for the Dial-A-Ride per diem back up driver position: **No motion**
10. Public Workshop on the use of chemicals in Weston by Eversource and the CT Department of Transportation: **No motion**
11. Discussion/ Decision to require that Weston Senior Center visitors be fully vaccinated against Covid: **I move to require that visitors to the Weston Senior Center must show proof of full vaccination against Covid, with exceptions as recommended by the Town Attorney and Westport Weston Public Health Director.**
12. Acceptance of AnnMarie Fontana's resignation as Administrative Assistant effective 9/30/21: **I move to accept AnnMarie Fontana's resignation as Administrative Assistant effective 9/30/21.**
13. Discussion/decision to establish a public hearing regarding the adoption of a Support Service Fee Ordinance: **I move to establish a public hearing regarding the adoption of a Support Service Fee Ordinance**
14. Approval of Tax Refunds totaling \$10,613.24: **I move to approve tax refunds totaling \$10,613.24, as presented.**
15. Approval of minutes from the Board of Selectmen Meetings held September 1, 2021, September 2, 2021, September 14, 2021, September 23, 2021, and September 30, 2021: **I move to approve the unapproved minutes from the following Board of Selectmen meetings, as presented: September 1, 2021, September 2, 2021, September 14, 2021, September 23, 2021, and September 30, 2021**
16. Adjournment: **I move to adjourn.**

1. Call to order: **No motion**
2. Pledge of Allegiance: **No motion**
3. Notification of upcoming community events:
No motion
4. Proclamation for Fire Prevention Week: **No motion**

First Selectman's Office
2021 Fire Prevention Week Proclamation

WHEREAS, the Town of Weston is committed to ensuring the safety and security of all those living in and visiting our town; and

WHEREAS, fire is a serious public safety concern both locally and nationally, and homes are the locations where people are at greatest risk from fire; and

WHEREAS, home fires killed more than 2,770 people in the United States in 2019, according to the National Fire Protection Association® (NFPA®), and fire departments in the United States responded to 339,500 home fires; and

WHEREAS, smoke alarms sense smoke well before you can, alerting you to danger in the event of fire in which you may have as little as 2 minutes to escape safely; and

WHEREAS, working smoke alarms cut the risk of dying in reported home fires in half; and

WHEREAS, Weston residents should be sure everyone in the home understands the sounds of the alarms and knows how to respond; and

WHEREAS, Weston residents who have planned and practiced a home fire escape plan are more prepared and will therefore be more likely to survive a fire; and

WHEREAS, Weston residents will make sure their smoke and CO alarms meet the needs of all their family members, including those with sensory or physical disabilities;
and

WHEREAS, Weston Volunteer Firefighters are dedicated to reducing the occurrence of home fires and home fire injuries through prevention and protection education; and

WHEREAS, Weston residents are responsive to public education measures are better able to take personal steps to increase their safety from fire, especially in their homes; and

WHEREAS, the 2021 Fire Prevention Week™ theme, “Learn the Sounds of Fire Safety™,” effectively serves to remind us it is important to learn the different sounds of smoke and carbon monoxide alarms.

THEREFORE, I Samantha Nestor First Selectwoman of the Town of Weston do hereby proclaim October 3–9, 2021, as Fire Prevention Week throughout this state, and I urge all the people of (STATE) to “Learn the Sounds of Fire Safety” for Fire Prevention Week 2021 and to support the many public safety activities and efforts of the Weston Volunteer Fire Department.

5. Discussion concerning the Weston Volunteer Fire Department receiving an Assistance to Firefighter grant: **No motion**



Jonathan Luiz <jluiz@westonct.gov>

[EXTERNAL] Grant Info

1 message

Marc Barenberg <mbarenberg@wvfd.com>

Fri, Oct 1, 2021 at 2:35 PM

To: Jonathan Luiz <jluiz@westonct.gov>

Jonathan

Sorry for the delay... I've been swamped with my work. Here's a blurb about the grant that you requested. Please let me know if you need additional info

Weston Volunteer Fire Department (WVFD) Receives Federal Grant

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) awarded WVFD \$266,666.67 federal funds through the 2020 Assistance to Firefighter (AFG) grants program for the acquisition and replacement of the department's self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA).

Along with firefighter gear, SCBA is the firefighters' lifeline when battling a fire. It is the foundational tool that provides the greatest amount of protection from toxic gas and harmful particulates. According to national standards, the SCBA should be taken out of service and considered obsolete after 15 years. WVFD's current fleet of SCBAs are at or exceed their useful life.

Since 2011, the Assistance for Firefighters Grant Program (AFG) has helped local fire and first responder departments obtain critically needed resources necessary for protecting the public and emergency personnel from fire and related hazards. Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program is one of three grant programs that constitute the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA's) focus on enhancing the safety of the public and firefighters with respect to fire and fire-related hazards.

Winning an AFG grant is highly coveted by both career and volunteer departments. Only 1 of every 5 applications are awarded funds after a comprehensive regional and national vetting process. Grants are allocated for a variety of uses including, but not limited to: training, equipment, public education, apparatus, and construction. Awards range from as small as \$100 to over \$3m.

WVFD is honored to be selected to receive this funding and acquire much needed equipment for its members.

Marc Barenberg
Lieutenant (L-5)
Weston Vol. Fire Dept.
52 Norfield Road
Weston, CT 06883
(203) 222-2647



6. Acceptance of Kirby Brendsel's resignation from the Lachat Town Farm Commission, Sustainable Weston Committee, and the Weston Parks and Recreation Committee: **I move to accept Kirby Brendsel's resignation from the Lachat Town Farm Commission, Sustainable Weston Committee, and the Weston Parks and Recreation Committee effective immediately**



Jonathan Luiz <jluiz@westonct.gov>

[EXTERNAL] Kirby Brendsel Weston Volunteer Service Resignations

1 message

Kirby Brendsel <brendsel@hotmail.com>

Thu, Sep 23, 2021 at 8:20 PM

To: Jonathan Luiz <jluiz@westonct.gov>

Cc: Tom Socha <Tomsocha2@gmail.com>, Eric Shrago <eric.shrago@gmail.com>, Elizabeth Zeppernick <ezeppernick@gmail.com>, Dave Ungar <DUngar@westonct.gov>, Mark Crowley <markjcrowley@yahoo.com>, Matt Carrothers <carrothers1@gmail.com>, Stephan Grozinger <sgrozinger@westonct.gov>, Stephan Grozinger <stephan@stephangrozinger.com>, "topous@hotmail.com" <topous@hotmail.com>, Christopher Spaulding <cspaulding@westonct.gov>

Jonathan –

The saddest part of my current impending adventure on trying to continue to make a contribution for my town is that I have to resign from my current service endeavors for the Town of Weston. I have thoroughly appreciated the awesome opportunity to give back to my community and work with an extremely talented and selfless group of great people who are making a huge difference for the wonderful town we live in.

As of close of business on Thursday, September 30, please accept my resignation from the Boards / Leadership of Lachat, the Sustainable Weston Committee, Weston Parks and Recreation. I have already advised the Weston Republican Town Committee of my impending transitions and we are working on candidates to take my place.

Please do not hesitate to let me know if there is anything else you or anyone else need from me, and I will follow up right away.

And on a personal level, also greatly appreciated your (and many others from our town– too countless to name) support and the chance to work with you on all of these fine groups and the plethora of impactful projects we completed together over the past several years.

Sincerely,

Kirby

Kirby Brendsel

brendsel@hotmail.com

C: 203-635-3527

7. Interview of Alissa Stoltz for the Lachat Town Farm Commission: **No motion**



Jonathan Luiz <jluiz@westonct.gov>

[EXTERNAL] Re: [EXTERNAL] Introduction to Alissa Stoltz

1 message

Alissa R A Stoltz <alissa.stoltz@gmail.com>

Tue, Sep 28, 2021 at 12:35 PM

To: Jonathan Luiz <jluiz@westonct.gov>, "snestor@westonct.gov" <snestor@westonct.gov>

Cc: Elizabeth Zeppernick <ezeppernick@gmail.com>

Hi Sam and Jonathan,

I was just informed that Kirby has officially given notice of his resignation for the Lachat Town Farm Commission. I wanted to follow up to reiterate my interest in filling this position. I have loved volunteering at Lachat for the past 4 years, and a spot on the Commission to further support this amazing gem in Weston would be a great honor. Thank you for your consideration, and please let me know if you have any questions for me.

Best regards,
Alissa
917-816-8216

On Thu, Aug 5, 2021 at 4:53 PM Alissa R A Stoltz <alissa.stoltz@gmail.com> wrote:

Thank you for the connection, Elizabeth. I am thrilled to be considered for the opening on the Lachat Commission! Attached is my resume - please let me know if you need anything else from me.

Best,
Alissa

On Thu, Aug 5, 2021 at 1:39 PM Jonathan Luiz <jluiz@westonct.gov> wrote:

Elizabeth - thanks for the email. When would Alissa be appointed?

Alissa - would you please email me a resume or linkedin profile?

Sincerely,
Jonathan Luiz
Weston Town Administrator

On Thu, Aug 5, 2021 at 1:19 PM Elizabeth Zeppernick <ezeppernick@gmail.com> wrote:

Hello Jonathan,

If you haven't already met, I would like to introduce you to Alissa Stoltz who I have included in this email. Alissa has been giving her time to Lachat for several years now. She is not only one of our most actively engaged volunteers but she is an extremely level headed advocate when it comes to the farm and community as a whole. Alissa is aware that a Commission member of ours announced his departure during our monthly meeting this past week. She has expressed interest in the open position and I can't recommend anyone with more confidence!

Thank you for assisting her with the next steps to put her name forward to the Board of Selectmen.

Respectfully,
Elizabeth

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Sincerely,
Jonathan Luiz
Weston Town Administrator

ALISSA R. A. STOLTZ

87 NORFIELD ROAD • WESTON, CT 06883
ALISSA.STOLTZ@GMAIL.COM • (917) 816-8216

EDUCATION

- **DARTMOUTH COLLEGE**, Bachelor of Arts, cum laude, in Psychological and Brain Sciences (with honors), 2001
 - **TEACHERS COLLEGE, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY**, Master of Arts in Social-Organizational Psychology, 2004
 - **INSTITUTE FOR INTEGRATIVE NUTRITION**, Certified Holistic Health Counselor, 2013
 - **UConn EXTENSION MASTER GARDENING PROGRAM**, Master Gardener, 2020
-

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

FARMIGO, ONLINE FARMERS MARKET **BROOKLYN, NY**
COMMUNITY EDUCATION AND OUTREACH MANAGER **2015-2016**

- Developed content to market the benefits of supporting local farms and eating fresh foods to current and potential customers
- Led educational workshops for client communities to build connection and appreciation for sourcing food locally with concern for the growers/producers and the environment, in addition to taste and health
- Hosted community pick-up location, promoting Farmigo to neighbors and facilitating distribution of weekly orders

THE SIMPLY WHOLESOME KITCHEN **LIVINGSTON, NJ**
FOUNDER **2009-2017**

- Coached individuals and conducted educational workshops on appreciating and eating more fresh, whole foods
- Taught cooking skills to empower clients to create simple, healthy meals for themselves and their families
- Guided clients in grocery shopping and food selection to reduce stress and improve diet quality
- Blogged curated recipes that are easy for the average home cook and feature minimally processed ingredients
- Advocated for quality food in schools, educating children and staff on how to make choices that support health

CITI GLOBAL WEALTH MANAGEMENT **NEW YORK, NY**
VICE PRESIDENT, ORGANIZATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS **2003-2009**

- Designed training workshops and provided coaching to support manager effectiveness and leadership development
- Designed and analyzed results of culture/climate surveys and identified action priorities for the business
- Developed customized competency models to facilitate employee assessment and development
- Led multi-source feedback processes, including administration, analysis, and presentation of results
- Facilitated talent management processes to identify key talent and provide appropriate career opportunities

JPMORGAN CHASE & Co. **NEW YORK, NY**
ANALYST, INTERNAL CONSULTING SERVICES (ICS) **2001- 2002**

- Supported firm-wide initiatives through survey design, return on investment data collection and analysis, benchmark research, and presentation to advise on change management strategies
-

COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER WORK

- **WESTON POLLINATOR PATHWAY STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBER**, Weston, CT, 2019-present
- **SUSTAINABLE WESTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBER**, Weston Public Schools, Weston, CT, 2019-present
- **LACHAT FARMERS MARKET COMMITTEE MEMBER**, Weston, CT, 2018-present
- **SUSTAINABLE WESTON TOWN COMMITTEE MEMBER**, Weston, CT, 2020-2021
- **GARDEN CO-CHAIR**, Hurlbutt Elementary School PTO, Weston, CT, 2020-2021
- **GARDEN, NUTRITION, AND SUSTAINABILITY CO-CHAIRS**, Collins Elementary School PTO, Livingston, NJ, 2014-2017
- **GARDEN CHAIR**, Temple B'nai Jeshurun, Short Hills, NJ, 2013-2015

8. Interview of Ellen Crown for a position on the Beautification Committee: **No motion**

9. Interview of Charles Cuggino for the Dial-A-Ride per diem back up driver position: **No motion**

Tue, Sep 28, 2:23 PM (6 days ago)

Ellen Crown

to me, Samantha

Dear Sara, My name is Ellen Crown. I have lived part time in Weston for over thirty years. Our primary residence was always New York City. Since the pandemic we have been spending more time out here and have decided to move here permanently and send our son, Austin to Weston High School. He is currently a freshman. I have always loved this town but felt that there was so much that could be done to make it even better. Meeting yesterday with Nancy Thiel and Claudia Hahn was wonderful for me. I learned about the Town Green Project and was very excited by the prospect of not only beautifying this area, but creating a gathering spot for friends and neighbors in our community. I feel that one step at a time, the beautification committee is going to bring this town to a place that I always dreamed it could be. I envision more beautiful community spaces and a lovely town that brings families out to walk around and gather. Thank you for your consideration. Warmly, Ellen

Sent from my iPad



Jonathan Luiz <jluiz@westonct.gov>

[EXTERNAL] Per Diem Dial-A-Ride Van Driver

1 message

ccuggino@gmail.com <ccuggino@gmail.com>

Tue, Sep 7, 2021 at 4:05 PM

Reply-To: ccuggino@gmail.com

To: jluiz@westonct.gov

I see that this opening is still listed on the website. If it is still open, I would like to be considered.

I am living in Weston and seeking local employment for the next 3-5 years. Please, let me know if I am a candidate. Thank you.

Charles Cuggino

CC For Business

(949) 500-1410



Resume CCB.docx

21K

Charles Cuggino

E Mail: ccuggino@gmail.com

Weston, CT

Mobile: (949) 500-1410

Entrepreneur and innovator in communications and information technology, software development and integration, and marketing/sales initiatives supporting manufacturers, distributors, and end-user organizations.

- As CEO of TFB, achieved a record of success and growth through establishing reseller relationships with leading communications companies and selling to corporate organizations culminating in acquisition by Fusion Connect.
- Established CC for Business providing ongoing consulting, software development and integration services, and marketing/sales support.

Professional Experience

CC For Business – Weston, CT
Founder/ Principal

2018-Present

- Established CCB Consulting & Development to encompass ongoing work and service to clients in technology, sales, and marketing endeavors.
- Formalized ongoing support of Brandwidth Global in market research with an emphasis on healthcare and pharmaceutical organizations.
- Formalized ongoing support of ConsortiumQC in providing telecommunications services to manufacturer, distributor, and end-user organizations.

Fusion Connect – New York, NY
2018

2016 –

Vice President – Contact Center Solutions

Responsibilities included:

- Coordination of migration of TFB's software solutions to Fusion's "cloud" network.
- Re-establishment of TFB's distributor base as Fusion resellers.
- Positioning TFB's customer base for migration of premise-based solutions to Fusion's cloud.
- Act as "subject matter expert" in support of Fusion's direct and distributor-based sales.

Technology For Business Corporation (TFB) – Manhattan Beach, CA
2016

1991–

Founder / CEO

Responsibilities included:

- Established TFB as an application development and system integration organization in the nascent telecommunication industry.
- Secured Agreements with technology partners and PBX manufacturers such as Northern Telecom, NEC, Avaya, and Cisco.
- Strategic planning and execution including acquisition of JMA Communications and incorporation of TFB.
- Daily responsibility for sales including to clients such as Northwell Health, County of Los Angeles, Cobb Energy, MGM Grand Hotel & Casino, Japan Airlines, Scripps Health, Veteran's Hospitals, Warner Bros., et al.
- Negotiated acquisition of TFB by Fusion Connect.

EDUCATION

Boston College – Bachelor of Arts

10. Public Workshop on the use of chemicals in
Weston by Eversource and the CT
Department of Transportation: **No motion**



Jonathan Luiz <jluiz@westonct.gov>

[EXTERNAL] Public Workshop invitation

1 message

Boone, Adam J <Adam.Boone@ct.gov>
To: "snestor@westonct.gov" <snestor@westonct.gov>
Cc: "jluiz@westonct.gov" <jluiz@westonct.gov>

Thu, Sep 23, 2021 at 7:20 AM

Good morning First Selectwoman Nestor,

Thank you for your invitation to a public workshop concerning DOT's herbicide program on state roads. I will not be able to attend the workshop, however, I've attached our latest-revised Vegetation Management Guidelines (Guidelines) for your reference. The Chapter for the Herbicide Program (pages 21-23) contains a detailed description of the program which may be helpful for the Board of Selectman. The Guidelines may also be found on the DOT website (ct.gov/dot) under the heading Projects, Plans, and Policies or by using this link: [VegManGuidelines.pdf \(ct.gov\)](#).

Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have.

Thank you and have a great day.

Adam Boone

Landscape Designer

Central Maintenance Administration

C: 860-462-5054

E: adam.boone@ct.gov

Please contact me by cell or email as I am working remotely. Thank you!

 **Vegetation Management Guidelines.pdf**
12674K

A. Publish a map showing the extent of the impacted areas.

The Herbicide Program applies to all state roads in all towns including divided highways, secondary roads, and service roads. Within the town of Weston specifically, Route 53 and Route 57 apply.

B. Share methods of vegetation management in those areas (including application method and active ingredients)

The Department of Transportation has an integrated approach to vegetation management. These include manual methods, mechanical methods such as mowing, string trimming, and brush cutting, as well as chemical methods such as herbicide applications from a truck-mounted spray rig, pump sprayer, and backpack sprayer. Application is made directly to signage and along and under guiderail and cable-fence systems in a 3-5' pattern to manage weeds, invasives, and woody vegetation growing under, around, and over the system. This is required to maintain visibility and serviceability of the systems. Roundup Custom is utilized, in conjunction with surfactant, as it is registered for both aquatic and terrestrial use. It has a CAUTION label, which is the lowest toxicity level, and is used at an amount-per-acre far below what is allowed by the label. If any large stands of invasive vegetation occur within the right of way it is reviewed and a species-specific removal is done.

All programs are in compliance with state and federal regulations. Reference to pertinent CGS statutes may be made with the following link: [PERTINENT PESTICIDES STATUTES AND REGULATIONS \(ct.gov\)](#)

C. Share timeline of vegetation management events.

The Herbicide Program under guiderail systems is conducted from May thru Aug. 15th. Spot spraying in specific areas to manage invasives is done as needed throughout the season, in accordance with product labels and plant physiology. Mechanical methods of vegetation management are conducted throughout the year, as needed.

D. Share their replanting plan to replace the trees that have been removed

The Bureau of Highway Operations and Maintenance removes hazardous, dead, or structurally compromised trees (defined as 6" dbh or greater) within the state right of way to maintain adequate sightlines and safety of the traveling public. While the Bureau of Highway Operations does not maintain a replanting program, Enhancement planting and replanting of cleared areas is conducted on a large scale by the Office of Engineering and Construction on state and federal projects which aims to place the correct vegetative cover in the locations that balances safety with aesthetics.

For further information on the Herbicide Program please refer to pages 21-23 in the Vegetation Management Guidelines, link below.

[VegManGuidelines.pdf \(ct.gov\)](#)



Jonathan Luiz <jluiz@westonct.gov>

[EXTERNAL] RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: [EXTERNAL] Public Workshop invitation

1 message

Boone, Adam J <Adam.Boone@ct.gov>
To: Samantha Nestor <snestor@westonct.gov>
Cc: "jluiz@westonct.gov" <jluiz@westonct.gov>

Tue, Oct 5, 2021 at 9:16 AM

Good morning,

In 2017 the program was cancelled due to funding. In 2018 we used Glypro which is another product registered for both aquatic and terrestrial areas. From 2019 to 2021 we used Roundup Custom as previously described. Hope this is helpful.

Thanks

Adam

From: Samantha Nestor <snestor@westonct.gov>
Sent: Monday, October 4, 2021 1:58 PM
To: Boone, Adam J <Adam.Boone@ct.gov>
Cc: jluiz@westonct.gov
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: [EXTERNAL] Public Workshop invitation

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Adam this is very helpful! Thank you so much. One question I have is if you can confirm the actual pesticide / s that they have used in Weston in the past 5 years? I know this will probably be a question asked of Eversource as well.

Best regards,

Samantha

Samantha Nestor
First Selectwoman
Town of Weston
203-222-2680

On Mon, Oct 4, 2021 at 11:51 AM Boone, Adam J <Adam.Boone@ct.gov> wrote:

Good morning First Selectwoman Nestor,

Please see the attachment for responses to your inquiries. Thank you again for your interest in our vegetation management programs.

Adam Boone

Transportation Landscape Designer

CT Dept. of Transportation

[2800 Berlin Turnpike](#)

[Newington, CT 06131-7546](#)

Phone: (860) 594-2612 office

(860) 462-5054 cell

adam.boone@ct.gov



From: Samantha Nestor <snestor@westonct.gov>
Sent: Thursday, September 23, 2021 7:36 AM
To: Boone, Adam J <Adam.Boone@ct.gov>
Cc: jluz@westonct.gov
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Public Workshop invitation

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Adam,

Thank you for your general guidelines and I would like in advance the following answers for the public that are specific to Weston;

Here they are and we would need by 10/4 -

- A. Publish a map showing the extent of the impacted areas.
- B. Share methods of vegetation management in those areas (including application method and active ingredients)
- C. Share timeline of vegetation management events.
- D. Share their replanting plan to replace the trees that have been removed.

Thank you so much,

Samantha

Sent from my iPhone, so please forgive brevity and auto-correct gone awry.

On Sep 23, 2021, at 7:21 AM, Boone, Adam J <Adam.Boone@ct.gov> wrote:

Good morning First Selectwoman Nestor,

Thank you for your invitation to a public workshop concerning DOT's herbicide program on state roads. I will not be able to attend the workshop, however, I've attached our latest-revised Vegetation Management Guidelines (Guidelines) for your reference. The Chapter for the Herbicide Program (pages 21-23) contains a detailed description of the program which may be helpful for the Board of Selectman. The Guidelines may also be found on the DOT website (ct.gov/dot) under the heading Projects, Plans, and Policies or by using this link: [VegManGuidelines.pdf](#) (ct.gov).

Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have.

Thank you and have a great day.

Adam Boone

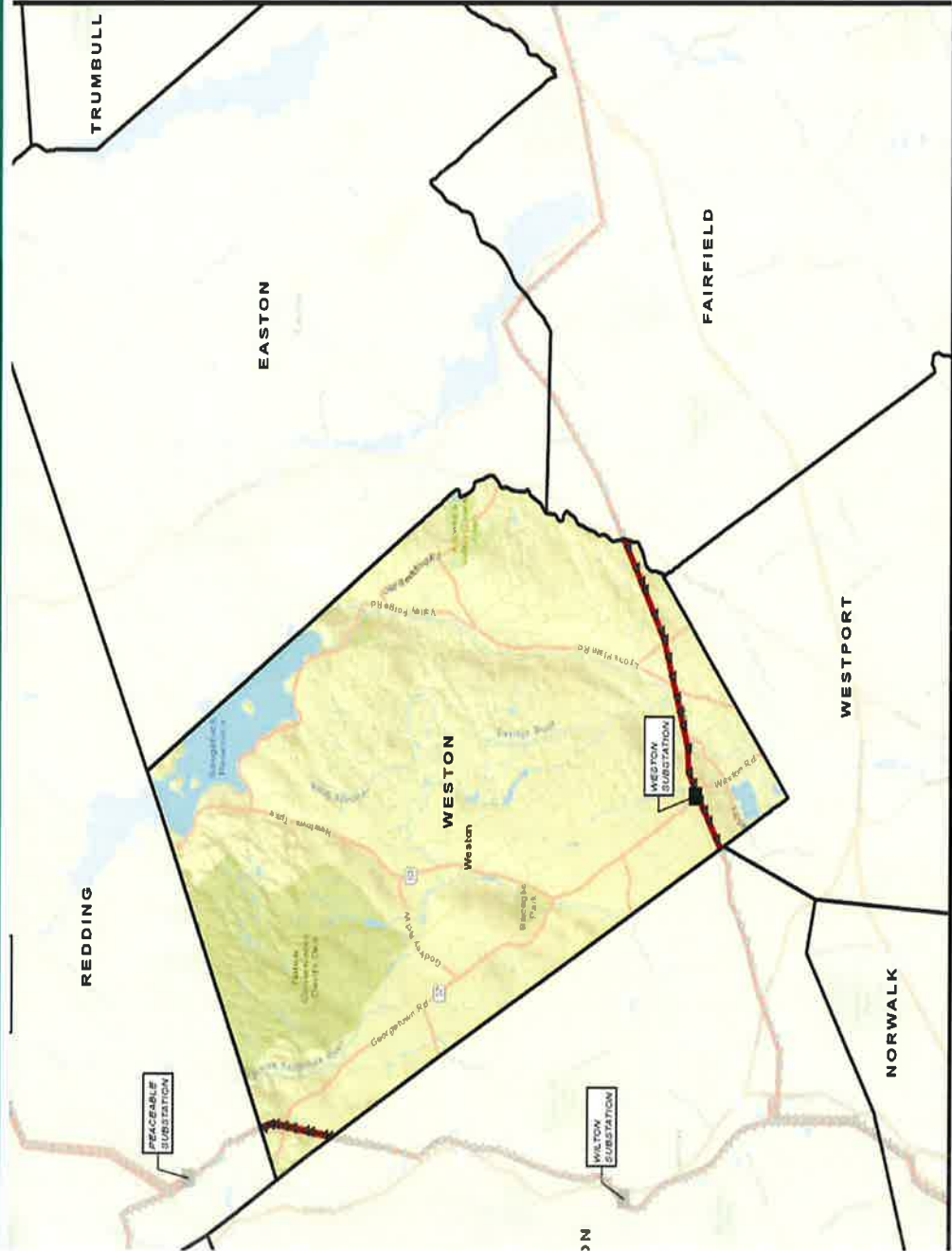
Landscape Designer

Central Maintenance Administration

C: 860-462-5054

- Transmission Vegetation Management (TVM) Program
 - 2,300 miles/46,800 acres of electric transmission of ROW in CT, MA, NH
- TVM Goal: Ensure the safe and reliable transmission of electricity in Rights-of-Way (ROW), access to facilities for maintenance and restoration work and to promote environmental stewardship. Zero vegetation outage expectation in maintained corridor.
- Trees are the biggest cause of outages during storms
- Company Standards, Technical Requirements & Compliance
 - Standards & Procedures, Transmission Vegetation Management Plan (TVMP)
 - Federal Electric Reliability Commission (FERC) regulates interstate transmission of electricity. TVM reliability standard FAC-003-4 enforced by North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC)
 - ISO New England, CT DEEP, CT Town Tree Wardens.

Town Map showing areas of IVM work



WESTON

**ROW VEGETATION
MANAGEMENT WORK
IN THE TOWN OF WESTON**
3.47 MILES

- Substation
- Transmission Structure
- Transmission Span
- Transmission ROW
- Town Boundary



PROPRIETARY INFORMATION: The material contained on the Overhead Distribution Circuit Map shall be considered proprietary to Eversource (ES), and Users (which shall be defined as any person or entity who has received the Map through sale, purchase, lease, license, or otherwise) shall not disseminate, reproduce, or disclose it to any third party without the prior written permission of Eversource.

DATE: 1/25/2021

What is an IVM program?

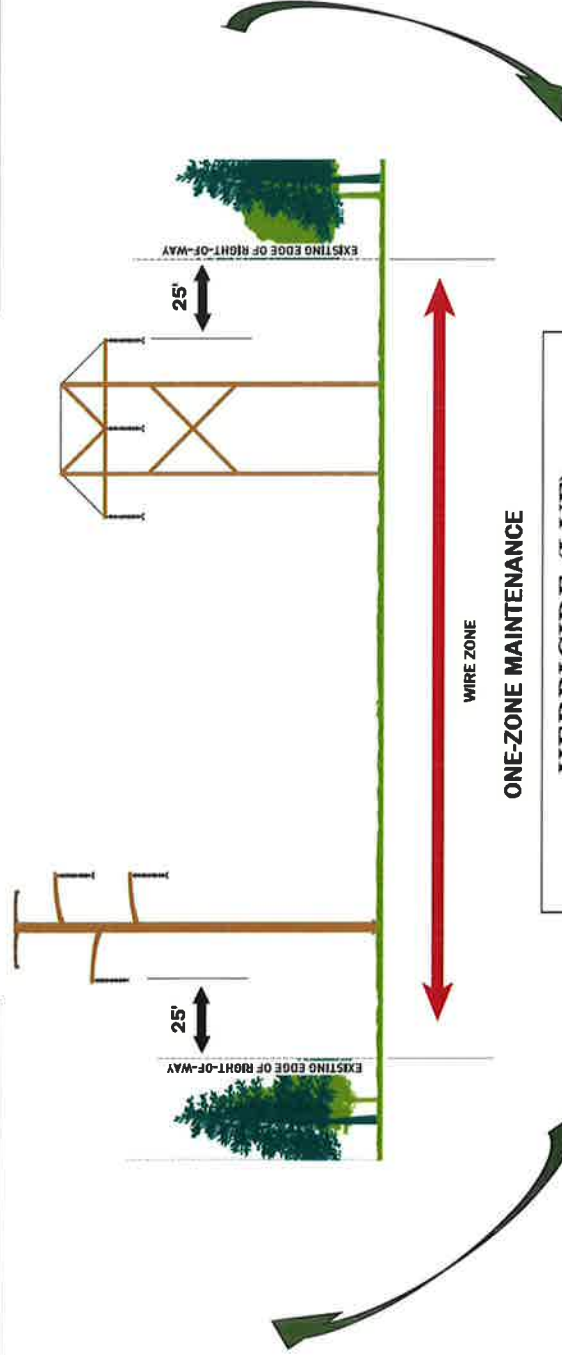
- Combination of **mechanical/manual, chemical and natural/cultural controls** are used to maximize benefits and keep the ROW in a safe state of low growing species.
- Promotes compatible vegetation and stable low-growing plant communities that will resist invasion of tall growing tree species –through the use of appropriate, environmentally-sound and cost effective control methods.
- Establishes a stable, compatible plant community and creates habitat for pollinators and other wildlife.
- Information gathering, data-driven system, utilized to plan and complete work with follow-up auditing to ensure desired results are achieved. IVM is a structured decision making process in a continuous loop that is adjusted to meet needs.

NATURAL/CULTURAL

- Within IVM Program, a highly desirable early successional habitat will naturally flourish; and reintroduce compatible native species, mulch, & compost

MANUAL/MECHANICAL

- Initial removal of incompatible plants
- Spot removal as undesirable species re-establish



**WIRE ZONE
ONE-ZONE MAINTENANCE**

HERBICIDE (LVF)

- Selective LVF application
- Stabilizes flora & fauna, promotes greater diversity
- 4 yr treatment cycle

- **Integrated Vegetation Management or IVM** is a sustainable method to promote a safe and reliable electric transmission system, to provide access for maintenance and inspection of the infrastructure and to comply with federal regulations.
- IVM establishes a stable, compatible plant community and creates habitat for pollinators and other wildlife.
- Compatible plant communities are those that do not exceed a mature height greater than 15ft.
- Compatible plants communities suppress incompatible species through competition

Herbicides Used

Eversource uses federally approved, state-registered herbicides by state-licensed applicators in a carefully prescribed and targeted manner to control incompatible vegetation. Below is the herbicide mixture that will be used in Weston.

The Safety Data Sheet (SDS) for each of these materials can be found online:

Tank Mix #2 for Low Volume Foliar (LVF) Treatment Applications

Herbicides & Adjuvants	Active Ingredient	EPA Registration Number(s)	Mix Concentration (per 100 gals. water)	Estimated Application Rate Per Acre
Rodeo	Glyphosate	62719-324	3-5%	16-128 oz.
Escort XP or Patriot	Metsulfuron-Methyl	432-1549 or 228-391	2-4 oz.	0.125-0.8 oz.
Arsenal Powerline or Polaris ¹	Imazapyr	241-431 or 228-534	0.125%-0.5%	2-8 oz.
Induce, Clean Cut, MSO ³ , or Aqua Fac or equivalent surfactant ²	n.a.	n.a.	0.125%-1%	1-16 oz.
Point Blank, Clasp, or equivalent drift retardant ²	n.a.	n.a.	0.125%-0.5%	1-2 oz.
Carrier: Water	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
				Gallons per acre – 3 to 15

Timeline for Vegetation Management work done in Weston

In 2020 Cyclical Maintenance work was done including tree and brush removal and side tree trimming

Herbicide treatment in 2021 in easement area on private properties that have had Outreach performed

Approximately 20 properties have received replanting plans to mitigate this tree work

- Make sure incompatible saplings (trees or shrubs that mature taller than 15ft tall are cut from your property.
- Spray these incompatible species with your own organic mix to keep the ROW clear of these tall growing species.
 - Doing this will ensure when our IVM crew approaches your property, there is nothing to do.
 - Call the number on the notice left to schedule a meeting and discuss your concerns.
- **I am available to meet with you to answer any questions concerning the work to be done on your property. Please give me a call at (860)-665-3652.**



Jonathan Luiz <jluiz@westonct.gov>

[EXTERNAL] Eversource: Photos of Equipment to Spray Glyphosate

1 message

Donna Moore <dmoorebarack@gmail.com>
To: Samantha Nestor First Selectwomen <snestor@westonct.gov>
Cc: jluiz@westonct.gov

Mon, Oct 4, 2021 at 8:05 AM

Sent from my iPhone

9 attachments

IMG_9970.JPG
97K









**CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION**

Bureau of Highway Operations



VEGETATION MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES



Prepared by and for:

Bureau of Highway Operations – Office of Maintenance

August 2021

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Bureau of Highway Operations

VEGETATION MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

August 2021



Signed by:

Paul T. Rizzo

Bureau Chief Paul T. Rizzo

Date: 8/19/2021

Approved by:

Joseph J. Giulietti

Commissioner Joseph J. Giulietti

Date: 8/24/21

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OVERVIEW

Vegetation Management Guidelines have been established by and for the Bureau of Highway Operations to provide maintenance personnel with the necessary information and guidance for maintaining an efficient and effective vegetative landscape along CTDOT highways. A significant objective is continuing the management of overgrowth along the State highway system. Vegetation management is essential for inspection and routine maintenance of our transportation infrastructure including roadways, bridges, drainage systems, signage, traffic, guiderail and barrier systems.



Vegetation management has several positive impacts that improve the movement and safety of the traveling public. Tree removal and limb management helps to decrease the overall failure of trees and limbs from falling onto the roadways. This greatly decreases the likelihood of vehicle strikes as well as increasing sunlight onto our road surfaces resulting in improved driving conditions during the winter months. Brush management, roadside mowing, and controlled herbicide use on targeted invasive plant species manages overgrowth and improves line of sight distances. Additionally, managing vegetative growth greatly reduces the exposure of wildlife, particularly deer along CTDOT highways. All of which make travel safer for the highway user.

In response to Federal legislation, and in accordance with CT Public Act 16-17, CTDOT implemented a pollinator program establishing selected highway locations throughout the state as conservation areas. Selective vegetation management in these areas is designed to promote the establishment and propagation of wildflowers and warm season grasses. This has resulted in increased habitat for pollinators such as bees, insects, meadow birds and other species.

It is essential our maintenance operations continue to make reasonable efforts to promote pollinator habitat and preserve the overall aesthetic appeal of the highway landscape. Special consideration will be given to preserve our designated scenic highways and the aesthetics of all our roadsides provided that the safety and efficiency of the highway system is not compromised by doing so.

Natural disasters and various weather events may damage vegetation and impede travel along state highways. The Bureau of Highway Operations is committed to managing storm debris operations to facilitate a prompt and efficient recovery of the highway system.

These guidelines are designed to provide information and guidance to Bureau of Highway Operations personnel for maintenance activities related to vegetation management.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

When used in these guidelines, the following words and phrases shall have the meaning that is designated herein:

Boundary Line Tree

A tree growing in whole, or in part, on a boundary line between abutting property owners.

Bounded Highway

A highway Right of Way whose limits are set by monuments and shown on Department mapping.

Clear Zone

AASHTO definition: a region around the roadway of sufficient width to allow 80 percent of vehicles that inadvertently leave the roadway to safely recover to the roadway.

Compromised Tree

A tree that has substantial visible decay or substantial visible damage that renders the tree, or a part of the tree, structurally unsound.

Conservation Area

Designated locations where planned vegetation management practices provide for pollinator habitat.

Dead Tree

A tree that has no leaves or foliage on it during the summer months (June to September).

Emergency

An unexpected and sudden event that must be dealt with urgently.

Encroachment

An intrusion or use of a highway right of way for purposes other than for traveling.

Encroachment Permit

A permit issued by the District Maintenance Director, or his assignee allowing the use of highway right of way to a permittee who has met certain qualifications, herein referred to as a "permit".

Herbicide

A substance that is toxic to targeted plants and is used to control unwanted vegetation.

Highway

A highway, bridge, or appurtenance to a highway or bridge designated as part of the state highway system; see also "State Highway System".

Large-Scale Tree Cutting Operation

On multi-lane highways an operation requiring complete removal of trees within the 30' clear zone for a total distance of 1/4 mile or more. On secondary highways, where the clear zone is variable due to lane widths and right-of-way constraints, tree cutting operations are considered "large-scale" when they include removals of more than 100 trees within a total distance of 1/4 mile or less.

Major Traffic Generator (MTG)

With the context of CGS 14-311, any open air theater, shopping center or other development generating large volumes of traffic, shall mean any development providing two hundred or more parking spaces, or a gross floor area of 100,000 square feet or more which substantially affects state highway traffic within this state, and as provided for in the Administrative Regulations promulgated by the Office of the State Traffic Administration (OSTA).

Merritt Parkway Advisory Committee (MPAC)

The MPAC is comprised of representatives from the 8 towns the Parkway traverses, DOT disciplines, Metropolitan Planning Organizations, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), State Police Troop G Commander, CT Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, CT Chapter of American Society of Landscape Architects, CT Trust for Historic Preservation, and the Merritt Parkway Conservancy (MPC). The committee's purpose is to advise CTDOT on all matters relative to the Merritt Parkway.

Merritt Parkway Conservancy (MPC)

A program of the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation which aims to revitalize the Merritt Parkway.

Non-Recoverable Slope

A slope which is considered traversable but on which an errant vehicle will continue to the bottom, such as slopes that are steeper than 4:1. Most drivers will not be able to recover and return to the highway on this degree of slope.

Permittee

An individual, firm, public utility company, municipality, or other state agency to which a permit is issued.

Pollinator

An agent (insect or animal) that pollinates flowers.

Pollinator Program

A program consisting of creating or identifying designated conservation areas for pollinator habitat. Planned vegetation management practices, including reduced mowing, are an integral part of the program.

Right of Way (ROW)

Real property, reserved for highway purposes, obtained by CTDOT either in fee or through line establishment and containing the travelway, roadside, drainage systems and other appurtenances necessary for public travel.

Roadway

The portion of the highway, including shoulders, intended for the movement of vehicles.

Scenic Road

A designated CT state highway, or portion of it, that (1) passes through agricultural land, or abuts land on which stands an historic building or structure listed on either the federal or state register of historic places, or (2) affords a view of marshes, shoreline, forests with mature trees, or notable geologic or other natural features that, singly or in combination, distinguish the highway.

Sightline

A line of sight along a specific orientation or plane; refer to CTDOT's Highway Design Manual, as revised for additional information.

Shoulder

The part of the roadway between the travelway and edge of pavement, gutter, or ditch.

Shrub Bed

An area containing vegetation; usually one continuous prepared soil area.

Sight Distance

The length of roadway visible to the driver of a vehicle at a given point on the roadway when the view is unobstructed.

State Highway System

A system of highways which includes state primary highways, state secondary highways, state special service highways, and all highways in the interstate highway system, pursuant to the Connecticut General Statutes, as revised.

Swath

A term that refers to the cutting widths as applied to mowing and brush removal.

Target

People, property, or activities that could be injured, damaged, or disrupted by a tree failure.

Travelway

The portion of the roadway for the through movement of vehicles, exclusive of shoulders and auxiliary lanes.

Unbounded Highway

A section of highway which is not set by monuments or mapping to show its width or highway lines.

Volunteer Woody Vegetation

Plants that have begun growing in an area borne by air, water or by birds.

ABBREVIATIONS

AASHTO

American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials; a nonprofit, nonpartisan association representing Highway and transportation departments in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico

ADT - Average Daily Traffic

CAES - Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station

CGS - Connecticut General Statute

Commissioner -The CTDOT Commissioner of Transportation

CTDOT - Connecticut Department of Transportation

DBH - Diameter Breast Height; diameter of tree measured 4.5 feet up from soil surface

DEEP - Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

GIS - Geographic Information System; a system designed to capture, store, manipulate, analyze, manage, and present spatial or geographical data

IRMS - Image Records Management System; a CTDOT map records program

Maint. 37 - Right of Entry form; used whenever state personnel or equipment need to enter upon private property

Maint. 89 - Tree Report; used to evaluate and document condition of tree(s)

OEP – Office of Environmental Planning

PCMP - Pest Control Management Plan

UCONN - The University of Connecticut

GENERAL GUIDELINES

This section provides guidelines which apply throughout the document and should be referred to for all vegetation management practices.

Working near Environmentally Sensitive Areas

Coordination with the Office of Environmental Planning, or the Central Maintenance Environmental Planner, is required to review any cutting limits and vegetation removal operations proposed within and directly adjacent to environmentally sensitive areas.

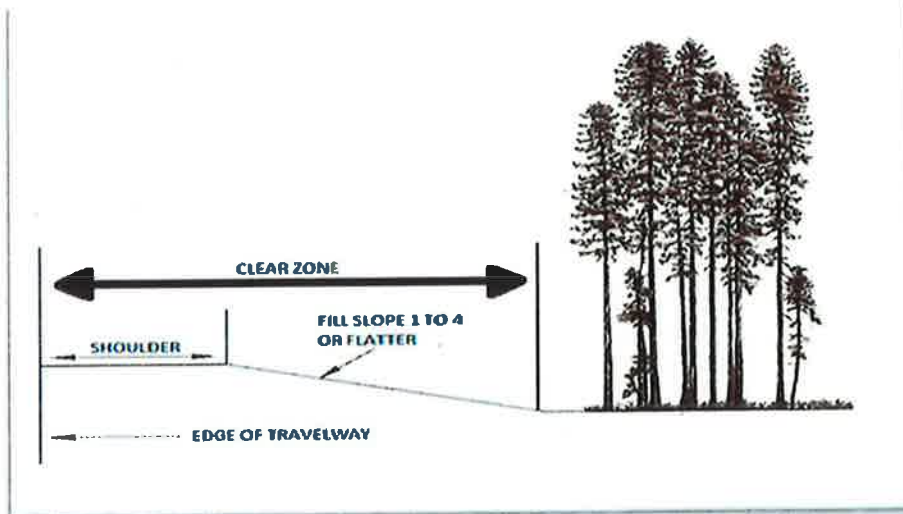
Clear Zones/Guiderail systems

Roadside areas unprotected by barrier should be maintained to provide motorists an unobstructed, traversable area that will allow an operator to stop safely or regain control of a vehicle that has left a roadway. In areas protected by barrier there is no clear zone application. Each area is cut to meet or exceed the deflection zone corresponding to the installed guiderail system.



When determining the distance to cut beyond the deflection zone, considerations may be the lean of the trees, falling distance, previous cut distances, and sunlight onto the roadway. When the area

behind the barrier is steep or a non-recoverable slope, the cutting distance should be determined by the District Landscape Designer. When reestablishing a clear zone or removing vegetation for a system deflection zone the District Traffic Engineer should be consulted for a determination.



Scenic

Vegetation management operations on scenic roads must be reviewed and approved by a member of the Scenic Roads Advisory Committee in advance of the work unless an emergency condition exists. Generally, the committee member to be contacted for this purpose is the Landscape Designer in the Office of Central Maintenance. *Refer to Section 8 Sight Distances*

In accordance with CGS 13a-99a, the municipality is responsible for sight distances at an intersecting, town-owned roadway onto a state road. Similarly, when exiting a private drive onto a state road, the responsibility to provide and maintain adequate intersectional sight distance is placed upon the owner of the private drive. An encroachment permit must be obtained for any work within the ROW.



Right of Entry

A right of entry form (Maint. 37) should be used whenever state personnel or equipment will need to enter upon private property to address a tree within the ROW. The form is to be signed by the abutting property owner granting access to their property for the specific purpose of removing / trimming trees on state property. Unless absolutely necessary as determined by the Maintenance General Supervisor or the District Landscape Designer, no work should take place until the form is signed and returned to the respective District Landscape Designer or Maintenance General Supervisor. Extra care should be exercised to prevent damage whenever entering upon private property.

Handling Complaints

Vegetation complaints or requests received for tree evaluations will be reviewed by the General Supervisor or District Landscape Designer, as soon as practicable. If pruning or removal is deemed necessary, the District Landscape Designer should determine the location of the tree in relation to the ROW and take the appropriate action depending on whether the tree is within or outside the state highway right of way. The District Landscape Designer will complete the Tree Risk Assessment form (Maint. 89, page 2). If it is determined that work is needed, the District Landscape Designer will complete a work order and any other documents (notification card, Right of Entry–Maint. 037) and forward them to the applicable Maintenance Manager for completion of the recommended action:

For locations where the right of way property line is bounded ownership of the tree(s) or vegetation is determined by using ROW mapping, IRMS, or latest Department Software. In locations of unbounded

highways, town (GIS) mapping may be used. The District Survey Unit may also assist in determining the location of the state highway right of way line.

Late Fall, Early Spring

For these guidelines late-fall is defined as mid-October through mid-December. Early-spring is defined as mid-March to the end of April.

Section 1

TREE REMOVAL



PURPOSE

Trees within the state highway right of way are to be maintained to provide for the safe and efficient movement of the travelling public. CGS 13a-140 grants the Commissioner exclusive authority over all CTDOT rights of way by stating “the Commissioner may cut, remove or prune any tree, shrub or other vegetation situated wholly or partially within the limits of any state highway so far as is reasonably necessary for safe and convenient travel thereon.”

GUIDELINES

Tree removal may be performed at any time during the year. Maintenance forces will engage in a continuing program of selective tree removal, removal of woody vegetation, invasive species and overgrowth situated within the ROW. Trees within the ROW that are determined to be dead or compromised and in need of corrective action will be either removed or maintained as deemed necessary.

Highway boundary line trees may be removed without the abutting property owner’s consent if they pose an immediate danger and warrant immediate action.

Prior to the commencement of tree work notifications should be made to the abutting property owners when practicable. When notifying an abutting property owner, a notification card or business card may be left in the doorway or other conspicuous location (not in a mailbox). This is to advise the abutter of the work to be done and offer contact information in the case of questions or concerns related to the work.

In instances when a tree falls from state property onto private property, the following position statement is to be applied: It is the Department's position that when a tree falls from State property

onto private property, it is the responsibility of the private property owner for the removal of the tree(s). The only exception to this is if it is determined that special, unique circumstances exist; in such case the details are to be given to the Maintenance Manager of the section who will determine a course of action. In the event the complainant requests claim information, the Office of the Claims Commissioner website is available to them for filing instructions.

Substantial wood debris such as large logs or limbs that remain after the trimming or removal of a tree shall be placed in a safe manner. The butt ends of trees and limbs should be placed on an angle facing away from the direction of travel and removed from the ROW as soon as practicable. Exceptions may occur during extreme weather events.

Whenever possible, limbs shall be chipped and blown off to the side of the road or onto a slope. Wood chips shall be dispersed evenly along roadsides or hauled off site for re-use as advised by OEP or the Central Maintenance Planner. No wood chips should be placed on rock cut areas, drainage areas, or watercourse systems.

Trees that are removed should be cut at ground level with a clean cut, including flush cutting stumps at the angle of the slope. Stumps may be removed by excavation or stump grinding. If the stump is located on a lawn or other developed area, it will be removed to a minimum of 6" below the ground. Stumps in cleared wooded areas may be removed to a minimum of two inches below ground, depending on the location and the need. Areas where stumps are excavated will require grading and erosion control measures in accordance with the Department's Best Management Practices as identified in the latest edition of the CTDOT *Standard Specifications for Roads, Bridges, Facilities, and incidental Construction*.



Sub. 1(a) Large Scale tree Cutting.

When planning for large-scale tree cutting operations, *Maintenance Directive No. 20-02 Tree Cutting – Large Scale Operations Standard Operating Procedure*, will be followed. The Office of Environmental Planning, Office of Central Maintenance, and District Maintenance Manager must be notified prior to and upon completion of any large-scale tree cutting operation.

Tree cutting operations on multi-lane highways are generally considered large-scale when they include complete removal of trees within the 30' clear zone for a total distance of ¼ mile or more.

On secondary highways, where the clear zone is variable due to lane widths and right of way constraints, tree cutting operations are considered large scale when they include removals of more than 100 trees within a total distance of a ¼ mile or less.

- Special considerations should be given to large-scale tree removal operations on the Merritt Parkway, in accordance with Connecticut State Regulations Sections 13b-31e-1 through 13b-31e-4. CTDOT should apprise the MPAC and MPC of proposed alterations and improvements in accordance with the Landscape Master Plan for the Merritt Parkway and the Merritt Parkway Guidelines for General Maintenance and Transportation Improvements.

(Refer to Scenic Roads chapter for further guidelines)

Sub. 1(b) Working with Contractors

Contracted tree crews utilizing specialized equipment may be employed to remove and properly dispose of trees or vegetation. The District Planning office should be consulted for DAS contract information related to contractor tree removal, trimming, or disposal of wood debris services. The District Landscape Designer, Maintenance General Supervisor, or their designee will have oversight of contracted tree crew operations to ensure that the defined tree or area where trees are to be removed is strictly adhered to and the terms of the contract are followed. Maintenance personnel should be familiar with contract language and provide routine inspection of contracted operations. Maintenance General Supervisors and Landscape Designers may exercise discretion in establishing cutting limits in relation to abutting property owners or environmentally sensitive areas such as watercourse crossings, areas adjacent to water bodies or wetland areas.

Sec 1(c) Dead or Compromised Trees



If during their routine highway patrol activities, the Maintenance General Supervisor observes a tree that visibly appears to be dead or significantly compromised. The Maintenance General Supervisor should document such tree by completing the front page of a Preliminary Tree Report (Maint. 89) and send the form to the District

Landscape Designer for evaluation of the tree. The District Landscape Designer will complete the back page of the Maint. 89 form and issue a work order as needed. Maintainers should notify the

Maintenance General Supervisor if they observe the above-noted conditions during their course of travel. If deemed necessary by the Maintenance General Supervisor, this information may be communicated verbally to the District Landscape Designer. In the event the District Landscape Designer is unavailable and/or conditions warrant immediate action, the Maintenance General Supervisor may contact the maintenance tree crew or maintenance forces directly and request whatever action is deemed necessary.

Dead or compromised trees identified by the Maintenance General Supervisor which are located on private property immediately adjacent to the highway right of way, generally require the District office to initiate a certified letter addressed to the property owner. Notification should include that it has been determined that the tree poses a risk to the state right of way and that it is the property owner's responsibility to prune and/or remove the tree. In cases where the District Landscape Designer determines that immediate corrective action is necessary for the safety of the traveling public, the District Maintenance Director may establish an immediate course of action including the authorization of state forces to remove the dead or compromised tree(s).

Section 2

WORK NEAR UTILITY WIRES

ALL UTILITY WIRES ALONG THE HIGHWAYS SHALL BE CONSIDERED TO BE "LIVE" WIRES. Employees shall not attempt to differentiate between live wires, dead wires, wires carrying high or low voltage, insulated wires, telephone wires, or the like. Employees shall not work in proximity to downed wires, broken wires, low wires, hanging wires, etc. Wires of this sort shall not be touched and if possible, spotters may be posted to prevent others from approaching these wires. **No CTDOT employee should enter near, or make contact with any downed wires unless the utility company explicitly states that the wires are "dead" and "grounded". No other person or company is qualified to determine this.** The utility company shall be immediately notified of the condition so that action may be taken with a minimum of delay. Treat all downed wires as live.



Whenever state crews are operating bucket trucks in the vicinity of wires, it is imperative that each supervisor of a bucket truck crew personally review the safe operation of this equipment with the crew, placing special emphasis on the following:

- Always keep the bucket, boom, tools, and all debris a minimum of 10' away from all wires.

- Dispel any ideas of the crew members that they are perfectly safe because the bucket and upper boom of the truck are insulated.
- Whenever operating near wires, the ground man shall constantly observe the position of the boom and shall signal its position to the operator in the bucket.

Whenever utility wires (wires) are involved, the Maintenance General Supervisor shall contact the appropriate public utility company acting as custodian of the lines to arrange for the utility company's participation in the removal of the tree parts in proximity to their wires.



Section 3

LIMB MANAGEMENT – SIGHTLINE MAINTENANCE

PURPOSE

Limb management and sightline maintenance will be performed within the state right of way to provide for overhead clearance, allow additional sunlight onto the road surface and provide clear sight distances along all state highways. Limbs that are obstructing sight distances, dead or structurally compromised, or are below the minimum overhead height requirement should be removed or elevated as necessary.

GUIDELINES

CTDOT may perform limb management and sightline maintenance at any time during the year. Branch stubs should not be left if possible and final trimming cuts are to be made at the branch collar leaving a clean and neat cut. Slope mowers shall not be used in the vertical position to perform tree trimming.

Maintenance forces will engage in a continuing program of limb management and sightline maintenance as the following conditions are observed:

- Sightline to warning, directional, regulatory signs, and traffic control signals.
- Limbs overhanging the highway travel way encroach upon the minimum vertical clearance requirement of 16 feet.
- Dead limbs overhanging the highway and originating from state or privately-owned trees.

- The standard sightline is restricted on the inside of horizontal curves, vertical curves, at intersections, crossovers, or grade crossings. Consult with the District Traffic Engineer or refer to the CTDOT Highway Design Manual (latest revised) for sightline distances.
- Curb and shoulder encroachments are found.

Pruning should be done to remove long lateral branches extending over the travel way to provide a minimum height clearance of 16 feet



Section 4

BRUSH MANAGEMENT

PURPOSE

Brush management is the removal or trimming of woody trees and shrubs. Without continued management activities small shrubs and trees become large and overgrown. This activity may only be performed in areas that predominately consist of brush and may not be performed in locations that predominately contain grasses or other herbaceous vegetation.



GUIDELINES

Brush management may be performed at any time during the year. This activity may also be used to restore desired vegetative cover to protect soil from erosion. Brush is defined as woody plants that may have several stems and have a diameter or caliper, measured single stem with a DBH of six

inches or less at a height of four and a half feet above the ground surface. Brush needs to be cut flush with the existing ground.

Maintenance activities will be continued on a regular basis to suppress the growth of volunteer woody vegetation. When the diameter of woody vegetation exceeds six inches and mechanical control is desired, refer to the Section 1 Tree Removal. Depending on the terrain and scale of work, track-mounted equipment with a brush mower or an excavator equipped with a large flail mower may be utilized.



Brush management may be used in the following locations:

Primary and Secondary Routes: Begins at the outermost limit established for routine mowing and extends to the right of way line or the tree line, whichever is less, regardless of slopes or ditches.

Interstate Routes: Along interstate shoulders and medians to maintain areas beyond the routine mowing limits that are included in the actual calculated clear zone.

Drainage Areas: Along clearly defined drainage ditches to maintain proper drainage and in areas which provide access to headwalls and culverts for maintenance operations. This activity is generally performed annually. This will consist of cutting vegetation as required on each side of the ditch, headwall, or culvert, regardless of the slope.

Fences and Sound Barriers: Brush removal should be performed along fences and sound barriers to protect the integrity, performance, and life of the asset. When performing this activity, access to the work area shall be obtained from the frontage road when possible.

Rock Cut/Ledge Areas: Brush in front of rock cut/ledge areas is to be removed for safety and inspection purposes. Trees growing within the rock cut/ledge area may be susceptible to failure due to poor root system establishment and should be removed when it is determined to pose a risk to the highway system.

Bridge Structures: Bridge structures should be free of vegetation from ten feet beyond the end of the bridge deck to the toe of the slope beneath the bridge at a width of 10 feet from the structure along its entire length.



Section 5

ROADSIDE MOWING

PURPOSE

The primary purpose for mowing is to provide a stabilized turf area adjacent to the state highways. This stabilized area helps prevent wind and water erosion, allows a safe area for errant vehicles, provides for safe sightline, reduces a possible fire hazard, and maintains reasonable aesthetics by providing a transition area from the highway to the surrounding vegetation.



GUIDELINES

Roadside mowing is conducted for approximately 24 weeks beginning around May 1st or when the grass reaches an average height of (8) inches. In areas generally over 60 feet in width the roadside shoulders and perimeters will be mowed. The interior areas will be deferred until control of any encroaching invasive plants or woody vegetation becomes necessary. To maintain turf areas in a healthy condition, mowers shall be set at a minimum cutting height of three (3) inches. This shall be attained by periodically checking all the mowers during the mowing season to be sure this minimum height is being maintained. Litter should be removed prior to each mowing.

During exceptional growing seasons, mowing frequency may be increased to prevent overworking mowing equipment. Mowing for brush control will be scheduled during the late growing season, preferably after October 1st or as required.

To prevent overworking mowing equipment, mower operators should utilize lower gears when mowing tall grass during the late season.

In residential areas and in keeping with maintenance practices on adjacent property, mowing may extend to a width that will blend neatly with the established surroundings.

Mowing sight lines at intersecting town roads may include the swath return up to the end of the Right



of Way. Refer to the *CGS § 13a-99a*; *Town roads lying within, intersecting, or crossing state highway rights of way.*

Slope mowers will be utilized in areas that conventional mowers are unable to maintain. This type of mower has the ability to remove small brush and undergrowth year-round.



Conservation Areas

Mowing practices in these designated areas will include the travel-way shoulders and where appropriate, the conservation area perimeter. Mowing of the interior area will be delayed until late fall or early spring of the new year. In some cases, deferment may extend until late fall of the second or third season depending on the presence and pressure of invasive plants within the conservation area. The District Landscape Designer should be consulted prior to mowing any interior of a conservation area.

Secondary Roads

Roadside mowing on secondary roads will consist of all required sightline areas and generally two (2) swaths along the roadways made two (2) or three (3) times during the growing season. Mowing for brush control will be scheduled as required to protect drainage systems and prevent brush encroachment.

Multi-Lane Roads

Roadside mowing of the multi-lane highways will consist of all required sightline areas and up to fifteen (15) feet alongside the highway. Exceptions would be:

- Mow to the drainage ditches if it is within two (2) additional swaths of the fifteen (15) feet. In this case, mow one additional swath beyond the ditch.

Medians, Ramps, Slopes

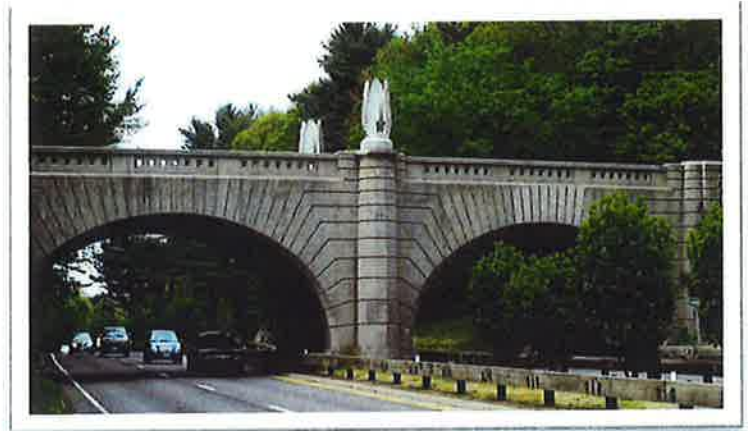
With the exception of extremely wide areas the entire median will be mowed where possible and mowing will terminate at the pronounced tree line. Extremely wide median areas may generally be defined as wider than 60 feet.

- 60' wide or less: mowed entirely.

- 60' wide or more: a 15' cut will be mowed on either side of the median or ramp.

Sightlines must be considered when determining mowing limits. Additional mowing may be required at on ramps, bowl areas, and the point of the ramp to improve sightline with merging or oncoming traffic.

Note: On tapered ramps when the average width becomes greater than 60 feet, consideration may be given to defer until late fall mowing (mid October to mid December) or early spring (mid-March – end of April) of the following year.



Merritt Parkway and Scenic Roads

Careful attention will be given to roadsides of specially landscaped highways. The presence of tall grass and weeds growing close to decorative plantings produce an unkempt appearance and detract from the aesthetics of the landscaped area. Additional mowing cycles may be needed in these areas to maintain a park-like appearance. When planted shrub beds or trees are within the area of a swath, cutting will end as neatly as possible at the edge of the shrub beds or trees. Care must be taken to keep the tractor mower far enough away from planted shrubs and trees to prevent injury to employees, equipment and the shrubs or trees. Reference should be made to the [Merritt Parkway Master Landscape Plan](#) for details in maintaining a park-like setting along scenic roads, the Merritt Parkway, and other specially landscaped highways. *Refer to section 8 for additional information*

Section 6

HERBICIDE PROGRAM

PURPOSE

CTDOT employs an integrated approach to roadside vegetation management utilizing manual, mechanical, and chemical methods. Control of vegetation is imperative to ensuring the accessibility and visibility of the guiderail systems, signs, barriers and bridge structures. Control measures also maintain sightlines, reduce fire hazards, maintain drainage systems, control invasive plants and preclude the growth of woody vegetation in designated conservation areas or established grass areas.

GUIDELINES

DOT personnel **MUST** possess and maintain a **Governmental Supervisory License (Cat.6)** to apply herbicide for chemically controlling vegetation within the state right of way. The herbicide program, including the herbicides used in the program is incorporated into an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPMP) as required by state statute. Specific application dates, work descriptions, and approved materials are available in the most current IPMP entitled “Pest Control Management Plan” and on file in the Office of Central Maintenance.

Connecticut-licensed contractors are also utilized for the application of herbicides on multilane roads, secondary roads and for spot spray applications. Contractors utilized for multilane herbicide applications are directed by the Landscape Designer in the Office of Central Maintenance or designated licensed personnel. Contractors utilized for all secondary road applications are directed by the respective District Landscape Designer or designated licensed personnel. Contractors may also be utilized for spot spray applications as directed by the individual District Landscape Designers, and as described in the “Methods of Control”. Herbicides typically utilized by CTDOT have the signal word – CAUTION, which is the lowest toxicity label.



The District Landscape Designer may determine “No Spray Areas” in areas where vegetation is maintained and does not present a concern with standard maintenance practices. The District Landscape Designer, and/or another approved Connecticut-licensed pesticide applicator may also apply approved herbicides via backpack sprayer or truck-mounted spray rig. These are spot spray applications to control stump regrowth, vines and invasive vegetation.

Areas of Control:

- A 3-5-foot width under guiderail systems on multilane and secondary highways.
- Along capped median dividers, capped islands and at the base of jersey barriers.
- In front of sound barrier walls or along wood-chipped earth berms.
- Around light standards, sign supports, delineators, and other appurtenances within the highway right of way.
- Regrowth of brush cut the previous season.

- Specific undesirable and invasive plant species within the right of way, i.e., poison ivy.
- Conservation Areas

Methods of Control:

- Vegetation control under guiderail systems will be accomplished with one herbicide application per calendar year normally between June 1st and August 31st.
- Herbicides used on divided highways shall be determined by the Central Maintenance Landscape Designer.
- Herbicides used on secondary highways shall be determined by the District Landscape Designer.
- Within designated watershed areas, an approved aquatic label product will be used. Herbicides used are a tank mix of the approved aquatic label product, a nonionic surfactant and a drift control agent at the rates recommended on the labels. No chemicals are to be applied directly to any water source.
- The spot application program requires one application per year of the herbicides determined by the District Landscape Designer. Basal or foliar applications may be performed January 1st to April 1st and from August 15th to December 31st. No applications will be made to snow-covered or frozen ground. Brownout should be minimized.



Brownout should be minimized.

Programs requiring special consideration:

The control of some invasive plants such as mile-a-minute, Japanese knotweed, phragmite and kudzu may require broadcast foliar applications of herbicides.

Review all product labels for the best and most effective applications of herbicides. The label

may require special consideration, “the label is the law”.

Section 7

POLLINATOR PROGRAM

PURPOSE

In 2017 CTDOT implemented a pollinator program in accordance with Public Act 16-17 by establishing conservation areas in selected locations within the highway system. These locations consist of warm season grasses, native wildflowers and low-growing vegetation increasing areas for pollinator habitats. CTDOT, in collaboration with various outside entities, continues to implement best management practices in the establishment, maintenance and monitoring of these locations. CTDOT is continually evaluating prospective locations for future expansion of the program.



GUIDELINES

Oversight of the Pollinator Program is conducted by the Landscape Designer in the Office of Central Maintenance in collaboration with the District Landscape Designer.

The designation of conservation areas is determined by several factors including available space, sight distances, terrain characteristics, soil conditions and the

existing presence and pressure of invasive plants and woody vegetation. Conservation Area signs may be strategically placed at each location for visibility to the traveling public and to assist mower operators.

Conservation Areas will be established at selected highway ramp areas, medians and along selected roadside shoulder areas. Reduced mowing practices are required at all conservation areas.

Pollinator plugs or a specialized seed mix may be used to help establish the pollinator corridor. In some cases, transplanting existing wildflowers from the area perimeter into the open, meadow section of the area may be implemented.

Planting and transplanting will occur in early spring or late fall. Seeds planted in the fall will become dormant over the winter and will begin growing the following spring, or, in many cases, 2-3 years later. A cover crop, or nursery crop, will be included in the seed mix to serve as temporary cover before the wildflower seeds germinate. Wildflowers should be planted on either level ground or a slight grade to ensure that the soil is well-drained. This will ensure the vitality of the plants as well as helping to control weeds. New topsoil may be used for conservation areas if the existing soil lacks the

necessary nutrients. It is crucial that seeds are planted at a sufficient depth or they will not germinate. The ideal planting depth is 1/8th of an inch. Wildflowers will be planted only within the conservation area, excluding areas that will be mowed for sight distance maintenance.

To promote biodiversity and a healthy pollinator habitat a variety of plants shall be selected. Pollinator plants shall have staggered bloom times to ensure the survival of pollinators in the area. At a minimum, three species shall be flowering at any given time during the growing season. Plants of the same variety shall be grouped within the corridor, as pollinating insects generally visit one type of flower at a time.

Section 8

SCENIC ROADS

Route 146, Guilford

PURPOSE

Maintenance activities on scenic roads require special consideration to preserve the roads' notable aesthetics and vegetation distinctions. Designated CT scenic roads abut significant natural or cultural features such as agricultural land or historic buildings and structures. Many of which are listed on the National or State Register of Historic Places. These roads may also afford vistas of marshes, shoreline, forests with mature trees, or other notable natural or geologic features, which singularly or in combination set the highway apart from other state Highways as being distinct.



GUIDELINES

Routine maintenance of trees and vegetation along state designated scenic roadways will be performed in accordance with Connecticut State Regulations, Chapter 242, Section 13b-31d through 13b-31e last revised.

The Scenic Roads Advisory Committee Chairperson should be apprised of significant pre-planned maintenance activities and approvals granted in advance of the work. In some instances, alternative means and/or methods will be recommended. In addition, a press release will be issued to advise the public of the upcoming operations, dates and termini.

Any encroachment permit affecting scenic roads must receive prior review and approval from the Scenic Roads Advisory Committee prior to issuance.

The Merritt Parkway is one of only two National Scenic Byways in Connecticut. The other is Route 169 (spanning Lisbon, CT to Charlton, MA). A Corridor Management Plan was prepared by the Route 169 Scenic Advisory Committee and the Northeastern Connecticut Council of Governments. A link to that study is here: [2016-2016 Corridor Management Plan](#)

Section 9

ENCROACHMENT-PERMITTED VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

PURPOSE

To provide control of the Department of Transportation (CTDOT) rights of way as it pertains to vegetation management performed by other than CTDOT personnel in accordance with CGS 13b-17 and 13a-140.

GUIDELINES

An encroachment permit is required for any vegetation management work within the state right of way by performed by a private owner, contractor, developer, or entity not working for the DOT. DOT personnel should notify their General Supervisor of any instances where it appears work will negatively affect state owned vegetation. Coordination for addressing the issue should be made with District Special Services personnel.

When it is determined that proposed work will compromise the overall health and integrity of vegetation within the ROW, the Special Services Section Manager or designee may require complete removal of the tree or vegetation.



Any encroachment permit affecting scenic roads must receive prior review and approval from the Scenic Roads Advisory Committee prior to issuance.

Examples of permit requests as related to vegetation management may include outdoor advertising, MTG (Major Traffic Generator), general (private/homeowner) permits, utility permits, and vegetation management for private development. These should be reviewed by the District Landscape Designer for approval or any

required changes to the proposed work. For additional information on OUTDOOR ADVERTISING refer to Policy Statement: Policy No. E&C -35 last revised.

In accordance with CGS 13a-140, utility permits involving removal of any trees over 18" diameter shall not be issued by the Commissioner of Transportation unless the chief elected official of the municipality in which the tree(s) are situated is notified in writing. The notice shall include the location and a description of such tree(s) to be cut or removed.

Section 10

STORM DEBRIS MANAGEMENT

PURPOSE

The State of Connecticut has established Debris Management Plans for proper management of debris generated by a natural disaster or significant weather event with the goal of facilitating prompt and efficient recovery that is cost effective, protective of the environment and may be eligible for FEMA reimbursement. Examples of natural disasters include flooding, hurricanes, tornadoes and extreme winter events.



GUIDELINES

The State utilizes monitoring and removal contracts to assist in the state's recovery efforts resulting from a natural disaster debris-producing event.

The State Natural Disaster Plan, latest edition, was prepared by the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP). The Plan establishes the mission assignments of State agencies in responding to natural disasters of a severity and magnitude typical for Connecticut. The Plan describes the interaction of state government with local governments, private response organizations (e.g., utilities, the American Red Cross) and the federal government in natural disaster situations.

The State Disaster Debris Management Plan, latest edition (Annex to the State Natural Disaster Plan) establishes the framework for proper management of debris generated by a natural disaster.,

The Plan is an important planning document for all levels of government – federal, state, and local and describes the state contracts that are in place to use in response to a catastrophic natural disaster; the contracts are for both debris' removal operations and the monitoring of these types of operations (see below for more information on the state contracts).

Further, included in the Plan are the planning and operation functions for temporary debris storage, reduction sites, the two phases of clean-up, and several appendices that provide references to waste management resources.

The [State Concept of Operations Plan \(ConOps\) for Disaster Debris Management, Activation and Use of the State Debris Removal and Monitoring Contracts](#) is a companion document to the State Disaster Debris Management Plan latest edition. This Plan details the steps that will be taken by the state, its contractors, and other parties to facilitate the removal, management, collection and disposal or recycling of all debris generated from a catastrophic natural disaster.

The debris management strategy for the state is divided into four major operational time periods: pre-landfall phase; phase 1; phase 2; and post-recovery. The pre-landfill phase involves planning for the particular storm. Phase 1 is the initial response, typically occurring during the first 24 to 70 hours following an event and consists primarily of “pushing” the debris along major roadways to the right of



way shoulders that would otherwise hinder immediate life-saving actions and that pose an immediate threat to public health and safety. Phase 2, which can last up to a year or longer, consists of removing, segregating, and disposing or recycling of the debris that hinders the orderly recovery of the community and poses less immediate threats to health and safety. State contracts may be initiated as early as Phase 1 if it is determined that the storm event may overwhelm state and local emergency response resources. The final phase is post-recovery which involves restoration and

reestablishment of the affected debris management areas.

Consult with Central Maintenance or the District Planning Office for guidance on contracts related to Storm Debris removal.



State contracts for the [monitoring of the disaster debris removal operations](#) and for the [removal of disaster debris](#) may be utilized when necessary. These are pre-need and pre-event contracts that can assist the state in disaster debris recovery operations. These contracts:

- assure the immediate availability of coordinated debris removal support following a debris producing incident.
- will be used on an as-needed basis; and,
- will be activated on a state-wide basis only by the Governor, typically in the context of an Emergency Declaration.

Debris Removal: provides for clearing, collecting, and transporting debris, establishing, and operating temporary debris management sites, and ensuring ultimate recycling or disposal of debris.

Debris Monitoring (Reimbursement Documentation): provides for monitoring of debris removal operations and debris site management. The monitoring contract also provides comprehensive oversight, guidance and documentation services. This monitoring is required to receive potential federal reimbursement for disaster debris management expenditures.

SUMMARY

The CTDOT Vegetation Management Guidelines were created by and for the Bureau of Highway Operations personnel to establish an efficient and effective maintenance strategy to standardize the vegetative landscape along Connecticut's highways. By providing clearly defined guidelines for CTDOT's roadside maintenance practices and vegetation control techniques, all CTDOT maintenance facilities can achieve state-wide uniformity in maintaining the integrity and aesthetic appeal of the vegetative landscape while improving the safety of the traveling public.



APPENDIX

A Landscape Master Plan for the Merritt Parkway; Milone & MacBroom, Inc.; October 1994

American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials; "Roadside Design Guide", 4th Edition, 2011

CGS 13a-140 Removal of Trees Along State Highways. Penalties Established by Municipalities

Connecticut Department of Transportation "An Overview of Snow and Ice Control Operations on State Highways in Connecticut", June 2015

Connecticut Department of Transportation Bureau of Engineering and Highway Operations "Manual of Organization, Functions and Procedures, 1997

Connecticut Department of Transportation "Connecticut Scenic Roads"

<http://www.ct.gov/dot/cwp/view.asp?a=2094&q=305520>

Connecticut Department of Transportation, FORM 816 and 817 – Standard Specifications for Roads, Bridges, Facilities, and Incidental Construction, 2004 and 2016

Connecticut Department of Transportation "Guidelines for Tree Maintenance and Removal", rev. November 2000

Connecticut Department of Transportation - Encroachment Permit Regulations 1992

Connecticut Department of Transportation "Highway Design Manual 2003 Edition", rev. to February 2013

Connecticut Department of Transportation "Merritt Parkway Guidelines" For General Maintenance and Transportation Improvements, June 1994

Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways 2009 Edition
<http://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov/pdfs/2009r1r2/mutcd2009r1r2edition.pdf>

Maintaining Roadsides for Pollinators Establishment, Restoration, Management and Maintenance, A Guide for State DOT Managers and Staff, Technical Manual, Mary Galea, Vicki Wojcik, Ph.D., Laurie Davies Adams, and Evan Cote, 2016

Merritt Parkway Guidelines for General Maintenance and Transportation Improvements; The Merritt Parkway Working Group; June 1994

Report of the Committee on Management of Roadside Trees, John Jasinski, Bradford Robinson, Chris Donnelly, February 22, 2012

“Report of the Two Storm Panel” presented to Governor Dannel P. Malloy, January 2013
http://www.ctsprague.org/resources/two_storm_panel_final_report.pdf

State of Connecticut “Substitute Senate Bill No. 231: Public Act No. 16-17”
<https://cga.ct.gov/2016/act/pa/pdf/2016PA-00017-R00SB-00231-PA.pdf>

The Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation in collaboration with ICF International “Pollinator Habitat Enhancement and Best Management Practices in Highway Rights-of-Way”, May 2015



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR DISASTER DEBRIS MANAGEMENT

Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS)

Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP)

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Northeast Recycling Coalition (NERC)

CT Department of Public Health (DPH)



NO SPRAY!



PROTECT WESTON'S WILDLIFE AND WATER SUPPLY

SARAH HUTCHISON, WESTON POLLINATOR PATHWAY





Memorial Day Parade 2019, top
 Fall Plant Sale 2021, bottom

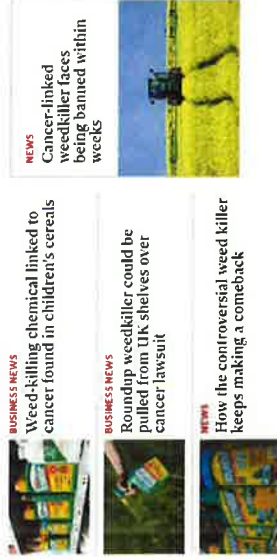
What Is The Pollinator Pathway?



- The pollinator pathway is a National effort to engage public and private landowners in providing safe habitats for pollinators, and by extension, the rest of the ecosystem
- Here in Weston, we have a dedicated group of volunteers who partner with local organizations to encourage homeowners to pledge to plant more native plants and stop using pesticides and herbicides on their land. Each year, the number grows as homeowners become more concerned about the impact that they have on the environment.



Bayer shares tumble after court finds that Roundup caused cancer



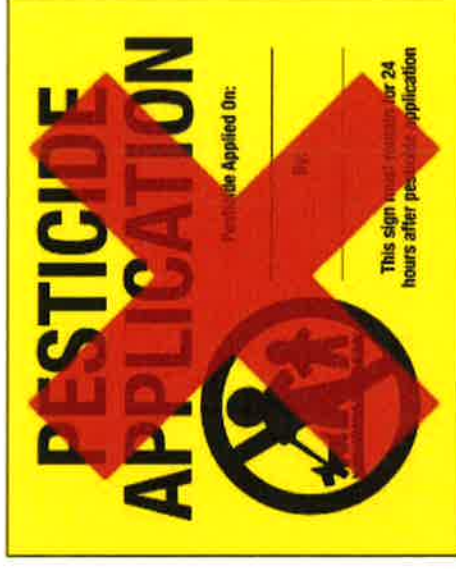
Top: Headlines from Independent.co.uk
Bottom: Algae bloom



Why No Spray?

The Heavy Environmental Consequences of Spraying:

- Toxic pesticide use, and glyphosate in particular, degrades the health of freshwater ecosystems - <https://beyondpesticides.org/dailynewsblog/2021/09/studies-show-how-pesticides-harm-organisms-that-form-the-foundation-of-freshwater-ecosystems/>
- Glyphosate has been detected in groundwater - https://toxic.usgs.gov/highlights/2014-04-23-glyphosate_2014.html
- Insect population has declined by 80% in 30 years - <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/11/27/magazine/insect-apocalypse.html>
- Habitat loss, pesticide use and introduced diseases are the leading factors in pollinator decline - <https://xerces.org/press/insect-declines-act-now>



No Spray Zones In Our Community



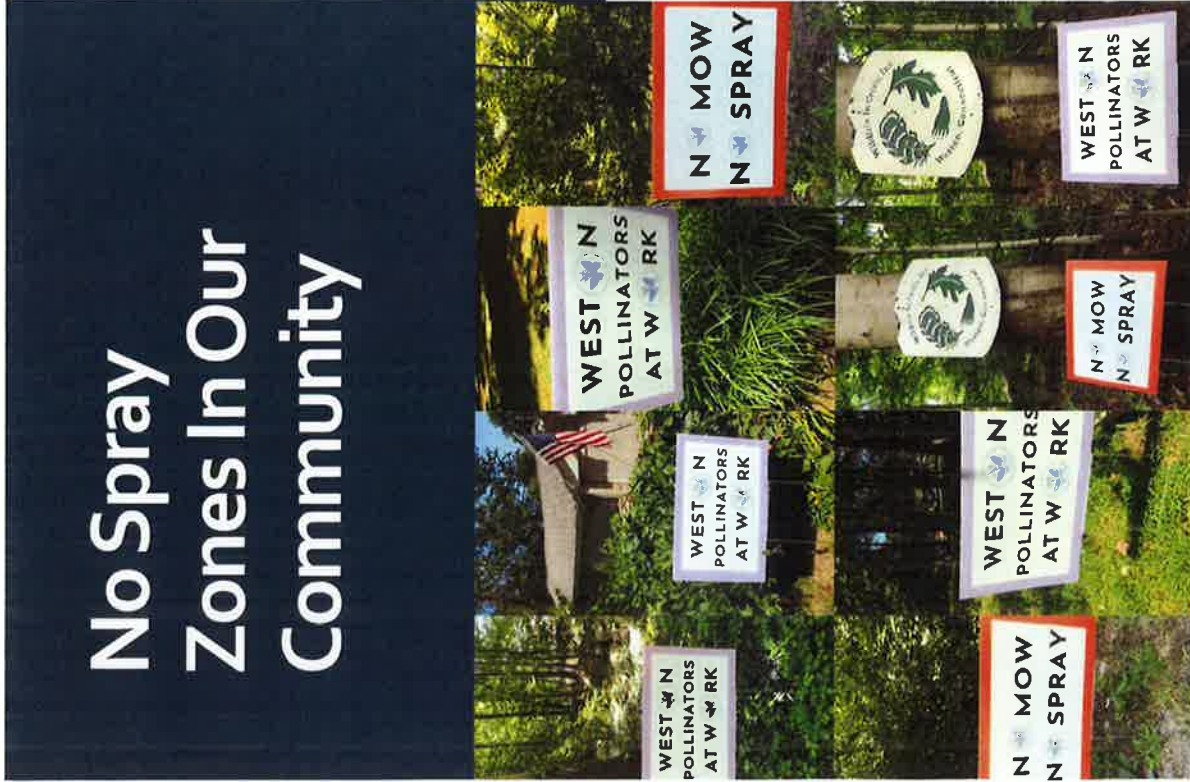
- CT State Law (2010) prohibits pesticide use in K-8 schools
- The Town of Weston recently (2021) issued a pollinator resolution asking homeowners to reconsider the use of pesticides on their property
- The Town of Stamford CT recently (2021) passed an organic land ordinance restricting toxic pesticides on public lands

<https://beyondpesticides.org/dailynewsblog/2021/09/stamford-ct-passes-organic-land-ordinance-restricting-toxic-pesticide-and-fertilizer-use-on-public-property/>

Unintended Consequences of Spraying

- Pesticide spray drift is the movement of pesticide dust or droplets through the air at the time of application or soon after, to any site other than the area intended.
- Pesticide drift can pose health risks when sprays and dusts are carried by the wind and deposited on other areas:
 - **Nearby homes, schools, and playgrounds.**
 - **Wildlife, plants**

<https://www.epa.gov/reducing-pesticide-drift/introduction-pesticide-drift#effects>, and streams and other water bodies.





My pollinator pathway, June 2020

Thank you for listening



<https://www.beyondpesticides.org/resources/pesticide-gateway>

<https://www.pollinator-pathway.org>

<https://www.xerces.org/blog/bee-friendlier-with-your-lawncare>

<https://nofa.organiclandcare.net/homeowner-resources/>

<https://www.aspetucklandtrust.org/green-corridor-vision>

<https://homegrownationalpark.org/>

<https://www.nwf.org/NativePlantFinder/>

<https://www.caryinstitute.org/science/tick-project>

11. Discussion/ Decision to require that Weston Senior Center visitors be fully vaccinated against Covid: I move to require that visitors to the Weston Senior Center must show proof of full vaccination against Covid, with exceptions as recommended by the Town Attorney and Westport Weston Public Health Director.



Jonathan Luiz <jluiz@westonct.gov>

Re: [EXTERNAL] Vaccination Requirement

1 message

Wendy Petty <wpetty@westonct.gov>

Mon, Sep 13, 2021 at 10:29 AM

To: Bruce Lorentzen <lorenbe@optonline.net>, Jonathan Luiz <jluiz@westonct.gov>

Thank you Bruce. I have copied Jonathan as well.

Best,
Wendy

On Mon, Sep 13, 2021 at 10:09 AM Bruce Lorentzen <lorenbe@optonline.net> wrote:

At today's meeting of the Commission on Aging we agreed that all those visiting the Weston Senior Center must be fully vaccinated against covid and they will be required to show proof. It may be required only one time and a record will be kept. We left this up to your discretion.

--

Wendy Petty
Director, Weston Senior Center
P: (203) 222-2608
Mailing Address:
PO Box 1007
Weston, CT 06883
wpetty@westonct.gov
www.westonseniorcenter.info

12. Acceptance of AnnMarie Fontana's resignation as Administrative Assistant effective 9/30/21: I move to accept AnnMarie Fontana's resignation as Administrative Assistant effective 9/30/21.

Jonathan Luiz, Town Administrator
Town of Weston, CT
56 Norfield Road
Weston, CT 06883

September 13, 2021

Dear Jonathan:

Please accept this letter as notice that I will be resigning from my job as Administrative Assistant with the Town of Weston, effective September 30, 2021.

Thank you for the support and the opportunities you have provided me over the course of the last six years. The Town has created a climate that makes it a pleasure to come to work each morning, and I will miss you all.

Sincerely,



AnnMarie Fontana
P&Z Commission / Conservation Commission
Town of Weston, CT

13. Discussion/decision to establish a public hearing regarding the adoption of a Support Service Fee Ordinance: I move to establish a public hearing regarding the adoption of a Support Service Fee Ordinance



Tracy Kulikowski
Land Use Director
56 Norfield Road
Weston, CT 06883
203-222-2530

To: Board of Selectmen
From: Tracy Kulikowski, Land Use Director
Date: June 29, 2021
Re: Renewal of the Support Service Fee (§70-2 of the Weston Town Code)

The Board of Selectmen adopted the Town's current land use fee ordinance on July 1, 2006. §70-2 of the Weston Town Code contains provisions for a Support Service Fee. The Support Service Fee permits the Planning & Zoning Commission, the Zoning Board of Appeals, and the Conservation Commission to engage the services of an outside consultant to evaluate and review an application with the costs of the review paid by the applicant. The Support Service Fee section of the land use fee ordinance expires on June 30, 2021. The Board of Selectmen last extended the Support Service fee on June 22, 2017 for the period of July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2012.

The Support Service Fee is a valuable tool for the land use boards, albeit a tool that they have utilized a limited number of times. I recommend that §70-2 of The Weston Town Code, Support Service Fee, be extended without an expiration date. The Town Attorney agrees with this recommendation.

History

In the fifteen years since the Support Service Fee was adopted, the Town's Conservation Commission has voted to require the fee five times. The most recent time was in November 2011 to engage Todd Ritchie, P.E. and Michelle Ford, Registered Professional Soil Scientist of

GHD, Inc. to review an application to remediate wetlands violations on a site on Smith Ridge Road. The Commission approved the remediation plans and included permit conditions drafted by Mr. Ritchie. Mr. Ritchie also conducted site visits with staff, the Commission and the owner's landscape architect to assure compliance. The independent review resulted in a successful remediation project. The Planning & Zoning Commission and the Zoning Board of Appeals have never utilized the Support Service Fee.

SECTION 70-2 SUPPORT SERVICE FEE

Section 70-2. Support Service Fee

- A. The Weston Planning & Zoning Commission, the Weston Zoning Board of Appeals, and/or the Weston Conservation Commission may require the services of outside consultants to evaluate or supplement application materials. Technical areas subject to such services include, but are not limited to: soil studies, water studies, traffic studies, building plans, engineering studies, surveys, etc.
- B. The decision to require the Support Service Fee shall be by affirmative vote of no fewer than five members of the Planning and Zoning Commission, or no fewer than five members of the Conservation Commission, unless there are only four members qualified to vote then a unanimous vote is required. The decision to require the Support Service Fee shall be by affirmative vote of no fewer than four members of the Zoning Board of Appeals. The fees for any outside consultant(s) shall be borne entirely by the applicant and shall be deposited with the Town prior to review of such application.
- C. The applicant shall deposit 150% of the estimated cost of review of such application by such outside consultant(s), based on a preliminary estimate determined by a qualified party or expert, prior to review of such application. Upon completion of the technical review by the outside consultant(s), the Town shall determine the costs incurred for the review and refund the excess monies to the applicant. The applicant will not be responsible for any costs incurred for technical assistance which exceed 150% of the collected estimate. The effective date of this section of this section of the ordinance shall be July 1, 2008. ~~This section of the ordinance shall expire on June 30, 2021, unless sooner extended by specific vote of the Board of Selectmen.~~

<i>Adopted by Board of Selectmen</i>	<i>June 3, 2008</i>
<i>Effective Date</i>	<i>July 1, 2008</i>
<i>Expires</i>	<i>June 30, 2021</i>

Note: By vote of the Board of Selectmen on 5-7-2009, the support service fee was extended to 6-30-2011. By vote of the Board of Selectmen on 5-23-2011, the support service fee was extended to 6-30-2013. By vote of the Board of Selectmen on 6-10-2013, the support service fee was extended to 6-30-2017. By vote of the Board of Selectmen on 6-22-2017, the support fee was extended to 6-30-2021.

14. Approval of Tax Refunds totaling \$10,613.24: I move to approve tax refunds totaling \$10,613.24, as presented.

2020-3-50441	BARTHOLOMAE CHARLES	\$	36.41	9/14/2021	AD55311
2020-3-51234	CINA JOSEPH	\$	28.61	9/14/2021	AT47974
2020-3-52332	FLOREN FAITH	\$	19.82	9/14/2021	AG81540
2020-3-52813	GROTTO JOSEPH	\$	16.07	9/14/2021	819YLP
2020-3-53025	HERBST ANDREW	\$	29.95	9/14/2021	AT87173
2020-3-53936	KOGOS LESLIE	\$	69.09	9/14/2021	843TYD
2020-3-53184	HONDA LEASE TRUST	\$	121.05	9/14/2021	AP58833
2020-3-53105	HONDA LEASE TRUST	\$	133.92	9/14/2021	411WUL
2020-3-53214	HONDA LEASE TRUST	\$	104.88	9/14/2021	AW62206
2020-3-55696	PORSCHE LEASING LTD	\$	618.57	9/14/2021	AT70625
2011-2019	RELAC BOYD	\$	2,884.74	9/14/2021	REALESTATE
2020-3-55963	ROBERT CYRIL	\$	11.03	9/14/2021	AM48417
2019-3-56248	ROBERT DEAN	\$	430.46	9/14/2021	DRLXX3
2020-3-56034	ROSEN CHRISTINA	\$	22.42	9/14/2021	461URV
2020-3-57065	TOYOTA LEASE TRUST	\$	592.59	9/14/2021	AM34162
2020-3-57011	TOYOTA LEASE TRUST	\$	304.60	9/14/2021	8AMWL3
2020-3-56975	TOYOTA LEASE TRUST	\$	261.88	9/14/2021	161XKT
2020-3-57052	TOYOTA LEASE TRUST	\$	313.07	9/14/2021	AK82367
2020-3-56988	TOYOTA LEASE TRUST	\$	366.39	9/14/2021	2AULT1
2020-3-57066	TOYOTA LEASE TRUST	\$	463.12	9/14/2021	AM65481
2019-4-81074	TOYOTA LEASE TRUST	\$	208.27	9/14/2021	AY37616
2020-3-57138	TOYOTA LEASE TRUST	\$	604.08	9/14/2021	AY37616
2020-3-57335	VAULT TRUST	\$	339.90	9/14/2021	AS65913
2020-3-57316	VAULT TRUST	\$	378.98	9/14/2021	860ZGC
2020-3-57323	VAULT TRUST	\$	297.66	9/14/2021	AL41217
2020-3-57351	VAULT TRUST	\$	82.89	9/14/2021	AY38469
2020-3-57373	VCFS AUTO LEASING CO	\$	146.53	9/14/2021	AG10477
2020-3-57386	VCFS AUTO LEASING CO	\$	139.41	9/14/2021	AP04243
2020-3-57553	VW CREDIT LEASING LTD	\$	28.24	9/14/2021	AJ09155
2020-3-57574	VW CREDIT LEASING LTD	\$	337.50	9/14/2021	AL42677
2019-3-57934	VW CREDIT LEASING LTD	\$	448.17	9/14/2021	AJ88770
2019-3-57964	VW CREDIT LEASING LTD	\$	510.32	9/14/2021	AN60913
2018-3-58049	VW CREDIT LEASING LTD	\$	105.95	9/14/2021	AC48882
2018-3-58051	VW CREDIT LEASING LTD	\$	156.67	9/14/2021	AD55707

TOTAL \$ 10,613.24 SUBMITTED TO 10/7/2021 MEETING

15. Approval of minutes from the Board of Selectmen Meetings held September 1, 2021, September 2, 2021, September 14, 2021, September 23, 2021, and September 30, 2021: I move to approve the unapproved minutes from the following Board of Selectmen meetings, as presented: September 1, 2021, September 2, 2021, September 14, 2021, September 23, 2021, and September 30, 2021

16. Adjournment: I move to adjourn.

**Board of Selectmen
Special Meeting Minutes
September 1, 2021 2:00 PM
The meeting was held remotely due to Covid**

1. Call to order: First Selectwoman Samantha Nestor called the meeting to order at 2.04pm, also in attendance were Selectman Stephan Grozinger, Selectman Martin Mohabeer, Town Administrator Jonathan Luiz, Board of Police Commissioner Chair Beth Gralnick, Vice Chair Jess DiPasqual and Board of Police Commission Members Dawn Egan, Susan Moch, Peter Ottomano, David Muller, Town Attorney Ira Bloom, Attorney Claire Ryan from Ryan Ryan Deluca, as well as Police Chief Ed Henion.
2. Discussion/ Decision to enter into executive session with the Weston Police Commission for the purpose of discussing pending claims set forth in State of Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities, Docket CHRO No. 2120339, Walter Simpson vs. Town of Weston, Police Department. Town Administrator Jonathan Luiz, Town Attorney Ira Bloom and Claire Ryan and Chief Henion were invited to attend. Selectman Grozinger moved to enter into executive session with the Weston Police Commission for the purpose of discussing pending claims set forth in the State of Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities, Docket CHRO No. 21203399. Walter Simpson vs. Town of Weston Police Department. This was seconded by Selectman Mohabeer. The motion carried unanimously. Executive session began at 2.06pm. The Executive session ended at 3.13pm.
3. Adjournment: Selectman Mohabeer moved to adjourn at at 3.14pm. Selectman Grozinger seconded this. The motion carried unanimously.

Minutes submitted by: Sara Beer, Executive Administrative Assistant

**Board of Selectmen
Special Meeting Minutes
September 2, 2021 at 7.00 pm
Meeting held remotely due to COVID 19**

1. **Call to order:** First Selectwoman Samantha Nestor Called the meeting to order at 7pm. Also in attendance were Selectman Stephan Grozinger, Selectman Martin Mohabeer and Town Administrator Jonathan Luiz.
2. **Executive session to discuss pending litigation:** Selectman Grozinger moved to enter into executive session to discuss pending litigation. This was seconded by Selectman Mohabeer. Town Administrator Jonathan Luiz was invited to attend. The executive session started at 7.02pm and ended at 7.28pm.
3. **Adjournment:** Selectman Mohabeer moved to adjourn at 7.28pm. This was seconded by Selectman Grozinger. The motion carried unanimously.

Minutes submitted by: Jonathan Luiz, Town Administrator

**Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting Minutes
September 2, 2021 at 7.30 pm
Meeting held remotely due to COVID 19**

1. **Call to order:** First Selectwoman Nestor called the meeting to order at 7.32pm. Also in attendance were Selectman Stephan Grozinger, Selectman Martin Mohabeer, Town Administrator Jonathan Luiz, Town Assessor Denise Hames, Fire Chief John Pokorny, Police Chief Ed Henion, EMS Chief Michael Schlechter, Dispatch Director Larry Roberts, Bernadette Kingsley, Marketing Committee Chair Andrew Palladino, Chris Faulkner from VHB and Nicole Sullivan from WestCOG.
2. **Moment of Silence in remembrance of Mike Zegers:** First Selectwoman Nestor read some words by paying tribute to Mike Zegers followed by a moment of silence.
3. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Bernadette Kingsley recited the Pledge of Allegiance
4. **Appointment of Bernadette Kingsley to the Board of Education for a term to end November 8, 2021:** Selectman Grozinger to appoint Bernadette Kingsley to the Board of Education for a term to end November 8, 2021. Selectman Mohabeer seconded this. The motion carried unanimously.
5. **Discussion/ Decision to accept the resignation of Carla Jegan Senior Center Program Coordinator effective October 22, 2021:** Selectman Mohabeer moved to accept the resignation of Carla Jegan Senior Center Program Coordinator effective October 22, 2021. Selectman Grozinger seconded this. First Selectwoman Nestor thanked Carla for all of her hard work at the senior center. Motion carried unanimously.
6. **Discussion/decision to approve a supplemental appropriation of \$5,000 for enhanced staffing in the Assessor's Office and a supplemental appropriation of \$5,000 for enhanced inspection services in the Assessor's Office:** First Selectwoman Nestor asked Town Administrator Jonathan Luiz and Tax Assessor Denise Hames to provide more information about this. Ms. Hames noted that many homes have had improvements and renovations done that have not been permitted. These updates need to be assessed – she mentioned that this along with processing new motor vehicles being registered and the time required to perform these tasks is compounding already present issues and these are being further exacerbated by the volume of home sales. There was much discussion between the Board of Selectmen on the approvals process. Selectman Mohabeer moved to approve a supplemental appropriation of \$5000 for enhanced staffing for the Assessor's office. This was seconded by First Selectwoman Nestor. The motion carried 2-1 with Selectman Grozinger not in favor. Selectman Mohabeer moved to approve a supplemental appropriation for enhanced inspection services in the Assessor's office. First Selectwoman Nestor seconded this. The motion carried 2-1 with Selectman Grozinger not in favor.
7. **Discussion/decision to approve a supplemental appropriation of \$522 for marketing materials:** First Selectwoman Nestor asked Marketing Committee chair Andrew Palladino to speak to the expense. Mr. Palladino said that this cost was for the initial print run of the maps that were designed for the Town of Weston. There was discussion around reimbursements for other out of pocket expenses – this will be addressed in an upcoming meeting. Selectman Grozinger moved to approve a supplemental appropriation of \$522 for marketing materials. Selectman Mohabeer seconded this. The motion carried unanimously.
8. **Discussion/ decision concerning the Federal Transportation Alternatives Sidewalks Grant:** Mr. Luiz introduced Chris Falkner from VHB an engineering company, which works on behalf of the Connecticut Department of Transportation. VHB would oversee the project, keep it on track and help to expedite the project. Mr. Luiz gave a brief overview of the project. Mr. Falkner explained the preliminary design phase and process. Once this is approved to move forward the next step would be to advertise for a consultant to design the project.

Selectman Grozinger moved that the Town of Weston move forward with the preliminary design phase of the Weston Town Center improvements project funded in part with federal grant dollars provided from the Transportation Alternatives Program. Selectman Mohabeer seconded this. The motion carried unanimously.

9. **Discussion/ decision concerning the WestCOG multi jurisdiction hazard mitigation plan update for 2021- 2026:** Mr. Luiz introduced Nicole Sullivan the Project Manager for the Hazard Mitigation Plan at WestCOG to provide an overview. Ms. Sullivan explained that this is the requirement from FEMA. This will be Weston's 4th time approving a Hazzard Mitigation Plan. The Board of Selectmen will review and vote whether or not to approve the plan in the next meeting.
10. **Discussion/ decision to contract with a Land Mobile Radio consultant and to authorize the expenditure of \$38,250 from the Tower Fund to pay for the consulting services:** First Selectwoman Nestor introduced Dispatch Director Larry Roberts, EMS Chief Michael Schlechter, Fire Chief John Pokorny and Police Chief Ed Henion. Mr. Roberts explained the current state of Weston's radio infrastructure and system as well as the RFP and vendor selection process. He went on to say that they had unanimously selected New England Radio based on price and the company's experience with Region 1 communications, and our surrounding towns' communications, many of whom are our mutual aid partners. Chiefs Pokorny, Henion and Schlechter echoed each others' sentiments that the system is currently old and antiquated. Selectman Mohabeer moved to authorize the First Selectwoman to sign a Town Attorney drafted contract with New England Radio LLC for Land Mobile Radio Consultant Services, and that \$38,250 be utilized from the Tower Fund to pay for contract expenses. Selectman Grozinger seconded this. The motion carried unanimously.
11. **Discussion/ decision concerning American Rescue Plan funding available to the Town:** This item was tabled.
12. **Discussion/ decision about establishing a Public Hearing on the subject of pesticide and herbicide use by Eversource:** First Selectwoman explained that she and the Town Administrator had received over 30 emails, visits and phone calls from concerned residents over the use of pesticide and herbicide by Eversource. She proposed a public hearing for Eversource to come forward and address the issue with Town residents. Selectmen Mohabeer and Grozinger expressed their support. Selectman Grozinger moved to establish a public hearing on September 14, 2021 at 7:30 pm on the subject of pesticide and herbicide use by Eversource. Selectman Mohabeer seconded this. The motion carried unanimously.
13. **Discussion/decision to hold a public hearing on a proposed ordinance concerning the support service fee for Land Use:** Mr. Luiz explained the ordinance (70-2 of the Weston Town Code) was adopted on July 1, 2006 and that it allows the town to have a land use applicant cover costs that will be incurred by the Town on behalf of the applicant. The first step to renew the ordinance is to establish a public hearing for re-adoption of this ordinance. Selectman Mohabeer moved to hold a public hearing September 14, 2021 at 7:30 pm on a proposed ordinance concerning the support service fee for Land Use. Selectman Grozinger seconded this. There was further discussion on the date with the Board of Selectmen settling on October 7th, 2021. Selectman Grozinger moved to amend the meeting date to October 7, 2021. Selectman Mohabeer seconded this. The revised motion carried unanimously.
14. **Food Truck update:** First Selectwoman Nestor provided an update on the statues on Food Trucks in Town. On Monday nights Tony's Napolitan Pizza will be outside library. A start date is to be determined. Granola Bar is interested in doing a day time and breakfast truck; they are currently in discussions on whether this will be on weekends or weekdays at Bisceglie Park.
15. **Approval of Tax Refunds totaling \$11,013.63:** Selectman Mohabeer moved to approve Tax refunds totaling \$11,013.63, as presented. Selectman Grozinger seconded this. The motion carried unanimously.
16. Selectman Grozinger made a motion to add open items to the agenda. Selectman Mohabeer seconded this. The

motion carried unanimously: Selectman Grozinger mentioned two issues that he would like to discuss before the end of his term in the next two months: The Civilian Review Board and the placement of the Dog Park. He would like to opportunity to discuss potentially moving the dark park to Biscelgie which requires less construction. First Selectwoman Nestor said that with regards to the Civilian Review Board she would like to hold a public hearing and potentially a workshop with experts in the field in order to educate the public and themselves on the subject. She expressed concerns about the Dog Park proposal, as there has already been a Town vote on the location as well as money spent on the design etc. Selectman Grozinger said that we would most likely have to have a second vote and it would make sense to discuss the pros and cons of this. First Selectwoman Nestor said that she was open to discussing this after they have the revised dog park plan and budget back from the engineers.

- 17. Approval of Minutes from the Board of Selectman Regular Meeting on August 19, 2021:** Selectman Grozinger moved to approve unapproved minutes from the Board of Selectman Regular Meeting on August 19, 2021. Selectman Mohabeer seconded this. The motion carried unanimously.
- 18. Adjournment:** Selectman Grozinger moved to adjourn 9.10pm. Selectman Mohabeer seconded this. The motion carried unanimously.

Minutes submitted by: Sara Beer, Executive Administrative Assistant

**Board of Selectmen
Special Meeting Minutes
September 14, 2021 at 7.30 pm
Meeting held remotely due to COVID 19**

1. **Call to order:** First Selectwoman Samantha Nestor called the meeting to order at 7.30pm. Also in attendance were Selectman Stephan Grozinger, Selectman Martin Mohabeer, Town Administrator Jonathan Luiz, WWHD Director Mark Cooper.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** WWHD Director Mark Cooper recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **Establishment of a Public Workshop on the subject of Pesticide and Herbicide use by Eversource and the Connecticut Department of Transportation:** First Selectwoman Nestor briefly explained the reasoning of a tentative date. She said this would be a workshop in order to enable back and forth engagement with the public. October 7th
4. **COVID 19 update from Westport Weston Health Director Mark Cooper:** First Selectwoman Nestor introduced Mark Cooper, Director of Westport Weston Health District. Mr. Cooper provided an overview of numbers specific to Weston. He went into detail on preventative measures like mask wearing, social distancing and getting vaccinated. Mr. Cooper answered questions from the Board of Selectmen.
5. **Reappointment of Elizabeth Zeppernick to the Lachat Town Farm Commission for a term to end June 30, 2024:** Selectman Mohabeer moved to reappoint Elizabeth Zeppernick to the Lachat Town Farm Commission for a term to end June 30, 2024. Selectman Grozinger seconded this. The motion carried unanimously.
6. **Reappointment of Katherine McConnaughey the Lachat Town Farm Commission for a term to end June 30, 2024:** Selectman Grozinger moved to reappoint Katherine McConnaughey the Lachat Town Farm Commission for a term to end June 30, 2024. Selectman Mohabeer seconded this. The motion carried unanimously.
7. **Discussion/ Decision to approve a supplemental appropriation for reimbursements for marketing expenses:** Selectman Mohabeer moved to approve a supplemental appropriation of \$520 for reimbursement of marketing expenses. Selectman Grozinger seconded this. The motion carried unanimously.
8. **Proclamation for the Weston Arts Student Artists:** This item has been tabled.
9. **Proclamation for Nancy Lincoln:** First Selectwoman Nestor read the proclamation for Nancy Lincoln. Library Director, Karen Tatarka gave an overview to the many years of service Nancy Lincoln has given the Weston Library.
10. **Discussion/ decision regarding American Rescue Plan Act grant dollars:** First Selectwoman Nestor introduced Town Administrator Jonathan Luiz and asked that he provide more detail into what this grant entails. Mr. Luiz briefly explained that the Town has received a breakdown of how the funds can be spent. He said the Board of Finance has been briefed on this as well. He mentioned that the Town has several years to spend the money. First Selectwoman Nestor asked a number of questions which Mr. Luiz answered.
11. **Discussion about the Work from Home Survey:** First Selectwoman Nestor explained that this is a part 2 to the survey that the Town put out in 2018. This survey will help see if numbers of work from home/ commuting residents etc. and how the Economic Vitality Committee can potentially help those working from home. The Board of Selectmen were all in favor of sending a notification of the survey out using the Town Everbridge system.

- 12. Discussion/ decision to adopt a resolution approving the WestCOG Multi-Jurisdiction Hazard Mitigation Plan Update 2021-2026:** There was a brief discussion on approving the resolution with all members of the Board of Selectmen in favor. Selectman Grozinger moved to adopt a resolution approving the WestCOG Multi-Jurisdiction Hazard Mitigation Plan Update 2021-2026, as presented. Selectman Mohabeer seconded this. The motion carried unanimously.
- 13. Reminder about machine ballot vote for the sale of the Fromson- Strassler Property:** Selectman Grozinger recapped the date, time and purpose of the vote on Saturday September 18, 2021. First Selectwoman Nestor thanked Selectman Grozinger for all of his work leading up to the potential sale.
- 14. Executive Session to discuss pending litigation:** Selectman Mohabeer moved to enter into exec session at 8.21pm. Town Administrator Jonathan Luiz was invited to participate. Selectman Grozinger seconded this. The motion carried unanimously. The Executive session ended at 8.40pm.
- 15. Adjournment:** Selectman Mohabeer moved to adjourn at 8.41pm. This was seconded by Selctman Grozinger. The motion carried unanimously.

Minutes submitted by: Sara Beer, Executive Administrative Assistant

CERTIFICATE OF ADOPTION
TOWN OF WESTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

**A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE WESTERN CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
MULTI-JURISDICTION HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE, 2021-2026**

WHEREAS, the Town of Weston has historically experienced severe damage from natural hazards and it continues to be vulnerable to the effects of those natural hazards profiled in the plan (e.g. *flooding, high wind, thunderstorms, winter storms, earthquakes, droughts, dam failure, and wildfires*), resulting in loss of property and life, economic hardship, and threats to public health and safety; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Weston Board of Selectmen approved the previous version of the Plan in 2016; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Weston and Western Connecticut Council of Governments developed and received conditional approval from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for the Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan Update, 2021-2026 under the requirements of 44 CFR 201.6; and

WHEREAS, public and committee meetings were held and public input was sought in 2020 and 2021 regarding the development and review of the Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan Update, 2021-2026; and

WHEREAS, the Plan specifically addresses hazard mitigation strategies and Plan maintenance procedure for the Town of Weston; and

WHEREAS, the Plan recommends several hazard mitigation actions/projects that will provide mitigation for specific natural hazards that impact the Town of Weston, with the effect of protecting people and property from loss associated with those hazards; and

WHEREAS, adoption of this Plan will make the Town of Weston eligible for funding to alleviate the impacts of future hazards; now therefore be it

RESOLVED by the Board of Selectmen:

1. The Plan is hereby adopted as an official plan of the Town of Weston;
2. The respective officials identified in the mitigation strategy of the Plan are hereby directed to pursue implementation of the recommended actions assigned to them;
3. Future revisions and Plan maintenance required by 44 CFR 201.6 and FEMA are hereby adopted as a part of this resolution for a period of five (5) years from the date of this resolution.
4. An annual report on the progress of the implementation elements of the Plan shall be presented to the Board of Selectmen.

Adopted this _____ day of _____, 2021 by the Board of Selectmen of Town of Weston, Connecticut

First Selectman

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has affixed his/her signature and the corporate seal of the Town of Weston this _____ day of _____, 2021.

Town Clerk

**Board of Selectmen
Special Meeting Minutes
September 23, 2021 1:30 PM
The meeting was held remotely due to Covid**

1. Call to order: **First Selectwoman Samantha Nestor called the meeting to order at 1:34 pm. Also present were Selectman Stephan Grozinger and Selectman Martin Mohabeer. Town Administrator Jonathan Luiz was also present.**
2. Discussion/ Decision to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing a pending legal claim relating to the use of the Lachat Town Farm property : **Selectman Grozinger moved and Selectman Mohabeer seconded to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing pending legal claim relating to the use of the Lachat Town Farm property with the following people invited to join the executive session: Jonathan Luiz, Ira Bloom, Peter Gelderman Elizabeth Zeppernick, Carol Baldwin, David Allon, and Eric Bernheim. The motion carried unanimously. The executive session ended at 2:30 pm.**
3. Adjournment: Selectman Mohabeer moved and Selectman Grozinger seconded to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.

Meeting minutes recorded by Jonathan Luiz.

**Board of Selectmen
Special Meeting Minutes
September 30, 2021 12:00 PM
The meeting was held remotely via Zoom due to Covid**

1. Call to order: **First Selectwoman Samantha Nestor called the meeting to order at 12:07 pm. Also present were Selectman Stephan Grozinger and Selectman Martin Mohabeer. Town Administrator Jonathan Luiz was also present, along with Land Use Director Tracy Kulikowski.**
2. Discussion/Decision to approve a revised job description entitled "Administrative Assistant Land Use Department:" Jonathan Luiz and Tracy Kulikowski explained the need to revise the job description at this time. **Selectman Grozinger moved and Selectman Mohabeer seconded to approve a revised job description entitled "Administrative Assistant Land Use Department." The motion carried unanimously.**
3. Discussion/Decision to approve a supplemental appropriation request of \$1,500 for part-time Salaries at the Library: **Library Director Karen Tatarka provided a review of the pressing staffing needs at the Library. Selectman Mohabeer moved to approve a supplemental appropriation request of \$1,500 for part-time Salaries at the Library. Selectman Grozinger seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried unanimously.**
4. Discussion/ Decision to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing a pending legal claim relating to the use of the Lachat Town Farm property: **Selectman Grozinger moved and Selectman Mohabeer seconded to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing a pending legal claim relating to the use of the Lachat Town Farm property, and to invite Town Attorney Ira Bloom and Jonathan Luiz. All were in favor and the motion carried unanimously. Executive Session ended at 1:05 pm.**
5. Adjournment: **Selectman Mohabeer moved and Selectman Grozinger seconded to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.**

Meeting minutes recorded by Jonathan Luiz.