



**Trumbull Conservation Commission Meeting
Wednesday March 30, 2022
7:00 pm
Long Hill Conference Room**

AGENDA

Call to Order

Past Minutes

Approval of Conservation Commission Virtual Meeting from February 23, 2022

**Special Guests: Richard White from Land Aquisitions Committee
Sustainable Trumbull Team members**

New Business:

Letter sent to P&Z to request inclusion on their next agenda to discuss zoning upgrades (attached): Mel

Update on Town Survey: Sara

Native Plant Recommendations for Trumbull: Pam

A Thousand Trees for Trumbull w/ Sustainable Trumbull Team: Outreach, mailings, funding

Old Business:

Updates on IWWC applications: Richard Post, Tree removal applications

Pollinator Pathway updates

Adjournment

Next meeting: April 27, 2022

Dear Rob,

Since our joint zoom meeting in late 2021 highlighting the new Connecticut State Law 21-29 that includes action steps by municipalities to implement Riparian Corridor Protections, The Trumbull Conservation Commission has been working to pinpoint the specific updates to our current zoning regulations that would help to enhance protections of our landscape and by extension, protections for the Long Island Sound. The new law mandates that all 169 municipalities update their zoning regulations to include stronger protections. In light of the recent flooding and runoff events experienced by what has become fairly regular storms of high volume, moisture, and intensity, it is even more prudent to implement these upgrades to zoning regulations as soon as possible.

Based on the recommendations not only of the State of Connecticut but also multiple Town of Trumbull documents including:

- Trumbull POCD 2006
- Trumbull POCD 20 14
- Pequonnock River Watershed Based Plan 2011
- Trumbull Tree Management Policy
- MetroCOG Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan
- Town of Trumbull Natural Resource Inventory 2020

The below updates are perpetually recommended by these documents but not yet added to our zoning regulations.

To that end the Trumbull Conservation Commission would like to present the proposal to add simple updates to our zoning regulations that would meet the mandate of PA 21-29 but more importantly protect the health, safety, and welfare of our residents from the impact of uninformed land uses. It is our opinion that these regulations not only apply to new applications but also to activities on municipal properties.

1. Retain and maintain a maximum amount of natural vegetation on slopes of 15% or greater.
2. Require tree inventory, tree preservation plan, and native plant restoration landscape plan that will be reviewed by the Conservation Commission and Tree Warden.
3. Prevent clearcutting or tree removal beyond the established limits of disturbance. Conserve trees during the construction project, where reasonable, based on the evaluation of the building envelope and impact on watershed. Mature trees add multiple benefits to the site value and broader ecological function
4. Adopt local riparian buffer regulations, including application process, management practices, and enforcement mechanisms.
5. Establish no-build setback areas from wetlands and watercourses for new development of structures, pools, septic systems, etc.
6. Revise zoning, subdivision, inland wetland regulations to incentivize greater emphasis on Low Impact Development (LID) practices including reduction of impervious surfaces and increased use of natural systems to manage storm water on site.

The Conservation Commission would respectfully ask to be placed on the agenda of the next Planning and Zoning Commission meeting so that we can open discussions with you into the best way to move forward enhancing the current regulations.

Sincerely,
Mary Ellen Lemay
Chairwoman, Trumbull Conservation Commission