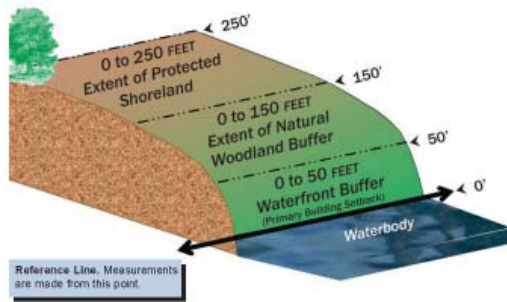


Comprehensive Shoreland Protection Act



The **Comprehensive Shoreland Protection Act** (CSPA) was enacted in 1991 to protect the water quality of larger water bodies by setting minimum requirements for the development and use of all land within 250 feet of the **Reference Line**. Within this area, or Protected Shoreland, there are setbacks and restricted use areas. Effective **April 1, 2008, a state shoreland permit is required** prior to any construction, excavation or filling activities within the protected shoreland.

Note: on-going projects meeting certain conditions **may** be exempted from the permit requirement.

The CSPA allows development within the protected shoreland while assuring that vegetated areas remain to help keep water clean.

Waterfront Buffer – 0'-50'

- All new primary structures must be set back 50' from the reference line. Towns may have a greater set back – but not a lesser one.
- A 50' waterfront buffer must be maintained. Within the waterfront buffer, tree coverage is managed with a 50'x 50' grid and points system. Cutting is allowed as long as the sum of points for remaining trees and saplings equals 50 points or more per 50'x 50' grid.
- Natural ground cover, including leaf litter, must not be removed. No cutting or removal of vegetation below 3' in height (excluding lawns) is allowed except for a footpath to the water (up to 6' wide) that does not concentrate stormwater or cause erosion.
- Stumps, roots and rocks must remain intact in

and on the ground.

- Pesticides and herbicides are prohibited.
- No fertilizer except limestone can be applied within 25' of the reference line.

Natural Woodland Buffer – 0'-150'

- A percentage of the area of the lot not covered by impervious surfaces shall remain in an undisturbed state.
- Strict restrictions apply to the types of fertilizer that can be used.

The Protected Shoreland – 0'-250'

- Impervious surfaces are limited to 20 percent or up to 30 percent with runoff protections.
- New lots must have subdivision approval by DES.
- Strict restrictions apply to the types of fertilizer that can be used.
- All new septic systems are subject to setback requirements of 75', 100' or 125', depending on soils.
- Minimum frontage requirements apply for new lots.

Impervious Surface

Modified surfaces that cannot absorb water, such as roofs, decks, patios, paved and gravel driveways (excluding bedrock).

Non-Conforming Structures

Those structures that do not conform to the provisions of the CSPA. (May be repaired, renovated, or replaced in kind, as long as the repairs or replacements result in no expansion of the footprint.)

Undisturbed State

Native vegetation left to grow without interference.

Grid and Points System

The waterfront buffer is divided into 50'x50' segments. The trees in each segment are given points according to their diameter at 4½' off the ground.

Fifty points must be maintained in each segment. You may cut trees or saplings as long as the sum of the points of the remaining trees and sap-

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continued from page 4

Maintenance preserves the investment and prevents costly rehabilitation.

- **Roadway surfaces:** blade and shape; patch; resurface; dust control; and snow and ice removal.
- **Drainage:** clean and repair culverts, and ditches.
- **Roadside:** cut bushes; trees and grass; repair and prevent roadside erosion.
- **Bridges:** clear channels; repair rails, decks and structure; clean and paint.
- **Traffic services:** sign maintenance, and cut vegetation.
- **Special projects:** restore or improve, emergency work such repairing washouts, and retaining walls.

10. Keep good records

Good records makes roadwork easier. Good records make budgeting easier. Record work as it done.

Source:

10 Basic Tips to Help Maintain and Keep Your Roads in Good Shape, The Link, KTC, Tech Transfer Center, Vol. 24, No. 1, Spring 2008, p. 5-7, 10

continued from page 5

lings for that segment is at least 50 points.

If your property has one or more grid segments that did not have 50 points of April 1, 2008, you are not required to plant trees to achieve 50 points. However, you may not cut any existing trees or saplings in those segments.

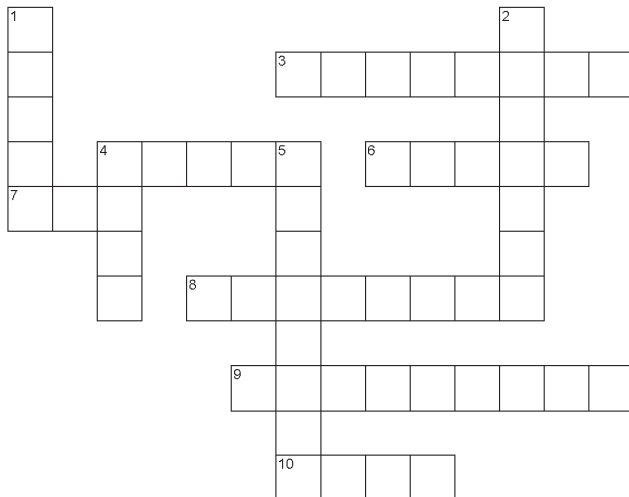
This is a summary of the CSPA's major provisions. Before planning or undertaking any construction, excavation or filling within the protected shoreland, contact the DES Wetlands Bureau at: **(603) 271-2147 www.des.nh.gov/cspa**.

Source:

http://www.des.nh.gov/news/envnews_archives/news032008.pdf accessed 6/5/08 pages 4-5

Crossword

Test your knowledge, items from this newsletter.



www.CrosswordWeaver.com

Across:

3. A dust control product.
4. Governor _____ welcomed the Mutual Aid Conference.
6. This document is expected in 2008.
7. When signs are over 50 sq. ft. use ___ post(s).
8. An issue on asphalt roads
9. This sign support enhances roadside safety.
10. Enacted to protect water quality

Down:

1. Signs should be placed on the _____ side of the road.
2. Carries water away from the road.
4. Before correcting a problem _____ at the cause.
5. A Section 106 review is for _____ resources.