

**Article 79A of the Town of Natick By-Laws:
Stormwater Management and Erosion Control**

Section 1 Purpose

A. Increased volumes of Stormwater, contaminated Runoff from Impervious Surfaces, and Soil Erosion and Sedimentation are major causes of:

- 1) impairment of water quality and flow in lakes, ponds, streams, rivers, wetlands and groundwater;
- 2) contamination of drinking water supplies;
- 3) Erosion of stream channels;
- 4) alteration or destruction of aquatic and wildlife habitat;
- 5) flooding; and,
- 6) overloading or clogging of municipal catch basins and storm drainage systems.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency has identified Sedimentation from Land Disturbance activities and polluted Runoff from land development and redevelopment as major sources of water pollution, impacting drinking water supplies, natural habitats, and recreational resources. Regulation of activities that result in the Disturbance of Land and the creation of Runoff is necessary for the protection of the water bodies and groundwater resources within the Town of Natick, to safeguard the health, safety, and welfare of the general public and protect the natural resources of the Town.

B. The objectives of this By-Law are to:

- 1) protect water resources;
- 2) require practices that minimize or eliminate Erosion and Sedimentation and maintain Sediment on construction sites;
- 3) control the volume and rate of Stormwater resulting from Land Disturbance Activities in order to minimize potential impacts of flooding;
- 4) require practices to manage and treat Runoff generated from new development and redevelopment, with a preference for Low Impact Development techniques;
- 5) promote infiltration and the recharge of groundwater;
- 6) maximize recharge of groundwater in the Natick Aquifer Protection District as defined by Section III-A.5 of the Natick Zoning By-Law;
- 7) ensure that Erosion, Sedimentation, and Runoff are minimized through Site planning, design and implementation;
- 8) ensure adequate long-term operation and maintenance of Best Management Practices;
- 9) require practices to control Construction and Waste Materials that may cause adverse impacts to water quality;
- 10) comply with state and federal statutes and regulations, including the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit, relating to Stormwater discharges; and
- 11) establish the Town of Natick's legal authority to ensure compliance with the provisions of this By-Law through inspection, monitoring and enforcement.

Section 2 Definitions

For the purposes of this By-Law, the following shall mean:

ALTERATION OF DRAINAGE CHARACTERISTICS: Any activity on an area of land that changes the water quality, or the force, quantity, direction, timing or location of Runoff flowing from the area. Such changes include: change from distributed Runoff to confined, discrete discharge; change in the volume of Runoff from the area; change in the peak rate of Runoff from the area; and change in the recharge to groundwater on the area.

APPLICANT: Any Person requesting a Stormwater and Erosion Control Permit.

APPLICATION: A standard form for application as issued by the Conservation Commission and any other documentation, which shall include, but shall not be limited to, plans, charts, drawings, specifications, narratives, or any other documents or pieces of information required by applicable federal, state or local laws, rules and/or regulations, submitted in connection with a Stormwater and Erosion Control Permit, as applicable, and as defined in the regulations promulgated by the Conservation Commission in support of this By-Law.

AUTHORIZED ENFORCEMENT AGENCY: Conservation Commission and its employees or Designated Agent.

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICE (BMP): Structural, non-structural and managerial techniques that are recognized to be the most effective and practical means to prevent or reduce the quantity of, or improve the quality of Runoff.

CONSTRUCTION AND WASTE MATERIALS: Excess or discarded building or Site materials, including but not limited to concrete truck washout, chemicals, litter and sanitary waste at a construction Site.

CLEARING: Any activity that removes the vegetative surface cover.

DESIGNATED AGENT: The Conservation Agent or any person or entity designated by the Conservation Commission to assist in the administration, implementation and enforcement of this By-Law and its regulations. The designation of a person or entity other than the Conservation Agent shall be made in writing upon a majority vote of the Conservation Commission.

DRAINAGE FACILITY: Any constructed or engineered feature that collects, conveys, stores, treats, or otherwise manages Stormwater or surface water, or any land and improvements thereon, if altered for the purpose of conveyance, storage or infiltration.

ENVIRONMENTAL SITE MONITOR: A registered and professional engineer (P.E.) or other trained professional selected by the Conservation Commission and retained by the holder of a Stormwater and Erosion Control Permit to periodically inspect the work and report to the Conservation Commission or Designated Agent, as applicable.

EROSION: The wearing away of the ground surface by natural or artificial forces and the subsequent detachment and transportation of Soil.

GRADING: Changing the level or shape of the ground surface.

GRUBBING: The act of Clearing ground surface by digging or grinding up roots and stumps.

IMPERVIOUS SURFACE: Any material or structure on or above the ground that prevents water infiltrating the underlying ground. Impervious Surface includes, without limitation, roads, paved

parking lots, sidewalks, and rooftops. Impervious Surface also includes Soils, gravel driveways, and similar surfaces with a Runoff coefficient (Rational Method) greater than 85.

LAND-DISTURBING ACTIVITY or LAND DISTURBANCE: Any activity, including, without limitation, clearing, grubbing, grading, digging, cutting, removal of vegetation or trees, excavation, placement of fill, resurfacing and construction that causes a change in the position or location of Soil or a change in the patterns of drainage and/or infiltration of water. This may include the demolition of existing structures and site features, along with any site prep required for new construction.

LOW IMPACT DEVELOPMENT (LID): A comprehensive land planning and engineering design strategy that seeks to maintain a Site's pre-development ecological and hydrological function through the protection, enhancement, or mimicry of natural processes. LID systems and practices emphasize reduction of effective imperviousness and conservation and use of existing natural Site features integrated with distributed small-scale Stormwater controls to result in the treatment, infiltration, evapotranspiration, and/or use of Stormwater close to its source.

LOT: A single parcel of land held in identical ownership throughout and defined by metes, bounds, or boundary lines in a recorded deed or on a recorded plan.

MASSACHUSETTS STORMWATER MANAGEMENT STANDARDS: The Standards issued by the Department of Environmental Protection, as amended, that coordinates the requirements prescribed by state regulations promulgated under the authority of the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act M.G.L. c. 131 §40 and the Massachusetts Clean Waters Act M.G.L. c. 21, §§ 23-56, and any successor statutory provision.

MUNICIPAL STORM DRAIN SYSTEM or MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEM (MS4): The system of conveyances designed or used for collecting or conveying Stormwater, including, without limitation, any road with a drainage system, street, gutter, curb, inlet, piped storm drain, pumping facility, retention or detention basin, natural or man-made or altered drainage channel, reservoir, and other drainage structure that together comprise the storm drainage system owned or operated by the Town.

OWNER: A Person with a legal or equitable interest in property.

PERMITTEE: The Person who holds a Stormwater and Erosion Control Permit.

PERSON: An individual, partnership, association, firm, company, trust, corporation, agency, authority, department or political subdivision of the Commonwealth or the federal government, to the extent permitted by law, and any officer, employee, or agent of such person.

POINT SOURCE: Any discernible, confined, and discrete means of conveyance, including but not limited to, any pipe, ditch, channel, tunnel, conduit, well, discrete fissure, or container from which pollutants are or may be discharged.

PRE-CONSTRUCTION: All activity in preparation for construction.

RESPONSIBLE PARTIES: Owner(s), Persons with financial responsibility, Persons with operational responsibility, or Persons with administrative responsibility.

RUNOFF: Rainfall, snowmelt or irrigation water flowing over the ground surface.

SEDIMENT: Mineral or organic Soil material that is transported by wind or water, from its origin to another location; the product of Erosion processes.

SEDIMENTATION: The process or act of deposition of Sediment.

SITE: Any lot or parcel of land or area of property where Land-Disturbing Activities are, were, or will be performed.

SOIL: Any earth, sand, rock, stone, gravel, loam, clay, sod, fill, mineral products, eroded matter or similar material.

STABILIZATION: The use, singly or in combination, of mechanical, structural, or vegetative methods, to prevent or slow down Erosion.

STORMWATER: Runoff from precipitation, snowmelt or drainage.

STORMWATER AND EROSION CONTROL PERMIT: A Major Stormwater and Erosion Control Permit or a Minor Stormwater and Erosion Control Permit issued by the Authorized Enforcement Agency, after review and approval of an Application, which is designed to protect the environment of the Town from the effects of uncontrolled and untreated Runoff, as defined in Section 4 herein.

WETLANDS: Freshwater wetland, marsh, bog, wet meadow and swamp as defined in M.G.L. c. 131, §40, the Town of Natick Wetland Protection By-Law, or any successor statutory provision.

Section 3 Authority

This By-Law is adopted under authority granted by the Home Rule Amendment of the Massachusetts Constitution, the Home Rule statutes, and the regulations of the Federal Clean Water Act (found at 40 CFR 122.34 published in the Federal Register on December 8, 1999, as amended). No change to the aforementioned regulations should affect the validity of this By-Law.

Section 4 Applicability

A. This By-Law shall apply to any Land-Disturbing Activity within the jurisdiction of the Town, including, but not limited to, any activities that require permits through the Town. The Conservation Commission retains the right to oversee and review all matters relating to Land-Disturbing Activities within the Town of Natick, and may promulgate and enforce guidelines, regulations and standards relevant thereto.

B. This By-Law shall apply to land or parcels of land held in common ownership (including, but not limited to, ownership by related or jointly-controlled Persons or entities), if the total Land-Disturbing Activities on said land or parcels, considered as a whole, would presently or ultimately exceed the minimum thresholds in Section 4.C and are not exempted by Section 4.D, and no such activity, including demolition, shall commence until a Stormwater and Erosion Control Permit under this By-Law has been issued. Land Disturbing Activities shall not be segmented or phased in a manner to avoid compliance with this By-Law. Any changes to proposed work that occur in the field must be reviewed and approved by Town Staff prior to implementation to ensure no amendments are required to the permit.

C. **Permit Thresholds** - A Stormwater and Erosion Control Permit shall be required for any of the following, except for an activity exempt per Section 4.D:

- 1) Administrative Approval Permit
 - (a) Any single-family home project consisting of new construction on previously undeveloped land, or reconstruction (involving the demolition of an existing structure and construction of a new structure) must provide stormwater infiltration for the first (1) inch of runoff from all impervious areas.
- 2) Minor Stormwater and Erosion Control Permit
 - (a) For projects other than those described in Section 4.C.1, any Land Disturbance greater than 3,000 square feet, but not exceeding 20,000 square feet.
 - (b) The construction of a new Drainage Facility or alteration of an existing Drainage Facility greater than 3,000 square feet, but not exceeding 20,000 square feet.
 - (c) The addition, on-Site redistribution or export of fill, greater than or equal to 250 cubic yards, but not exceeding 999 cubic yards, of Soil, and not associated with projects described in Section 4.C.1.
- 3) Major Stormwater and Erosion Control Permit
 - (a) For projects other than those described in Section 4.C.1, any Land Disturbance greater than 20,000 square feet.
 - (b) The construction of a new Drainage Facility or alteration of an existing Drainage Facility greater than 20,000 square feet.
 - (c) The addition, on-site redistribution, or export of fill greater than or equal to 1000 cubic yards of Soil, and not associated with projects described in Section 4.C.1.

D. **Exempt Activities** - The following activities are exempt from the requirements of this By-Law, provided that appropriate Best Management Practices are used:

- 1) Normal maintenance and improvement of land in agricultural use as defined by the Wetland Protection Act 310 CMR 10.00 and G.L.c. 40A, §3, and any successor regulatory or statutory provision.
- 2) Reasonable and ordinary maintenance of existing lawn, landscaping, or gardens areas, provided such maintenance does not include the addition of more than -250 cubic yards of soil material, construction of walls greater than one foot in height, alteration of existing grades by more than one foot in elevation, or alteration of drainage patterns.
- 3) Repair or replacement of damaged roofs
- 4) Renovation of a single-family dwelling that does not expand beyond the dwelling's existing footprint.
- 5) Repair of septic systems when required by the Board of Health.
- 6) Construction of fencing that will not alter existing terrain or drainage patterns.
- 7) Construction of utilities other than drainage (gas, water, electric, telephone, etc.) that will not alter terrain, ground cover or drainage patterns.
- 8) Projects wholly within the jurisdiction of the Conservation Commission and require an Order of Conditions, which will still be subject to the stormwater management and erosion control practices required under the Regulations.
- 9) Any logging that is consistent with a Forest Cutting Plan approved under the Forest Cutting Practices Act by the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation.

- 10) The maintenance or reconstruction of any public way, in accordance with Town policy developed by the Natick Board of Selectmen and Conservation Commission.
- 11) The temporary stockpiling of Soil by a landscaper, excavator, or similar commercial enterprise for reuse elsewhere, so long as erosion and sediment control BMPs are used.

Section 5 Administration

- A. The Conservation Commission shall administer, implement and enforce this By-Law. Any powers granted to or duties imposed upon the Conservation Commission through this By-Law, to the extent allowed by law, may be delegated in writing to its Designated Agent.
- B. Stormwater and Erosion Control Permits shall be issued as follows:
- 1) Administrative approvals for single-family home projects shall be issued as part of the Engineering Division review of building permit applications, but shall require consultation with the Designated Agent of the Conservation Commission.
 - 2) Minor Stormwater and Erosion Control Permits shall be issued by the Designated Agent of the Conservation Commission. Review by the Conservation Commission is not required.
 - (a) The Applicant shall submit an Application, fees, and any other permit submission requirements, as specified in this By-Law or the regulations of this By-Law, and shall also comply with any requirements of the Designated Agent.
 - (b) The Designated Agent shall review the submittal for compliance with this By-Law and the By-Law's regulations. The Designated Agent shall take an Action as specified in Section 7.H. of this By-Law.
 - (c) Additional permit procedures and requirements shall be defined and included as part of any rules and regulations promulgated under Section 6 of this By-Law.
 - 3) Major Stormwater and Erosion Control Permits shall be reviewed and issued by the Conservation Commission.
 - (a) The Applicant shall submit an Application, fees, and any permit submission requirements, specified in this By-Law or the regulations for this By-Law, and shall also comply with any requirements of the Conservation Commission.
 - (b) The Conservation Commission shall review the submittal for compliance with this By-Law and the By-Law's regulations as part of the Conservation Commission's public hearing process on the proposed project. The Conservation Commission shall take an Action as specified in Section 7.H. of this By-Law.
 - (c) Additional permit procedures and requirements shall be defined and included as part of any rules and regulations promulgated under Section 6 of this By-Law.

Section 6 Regulations

The Conservation Commission may adopt, and periodically amend rules and regulations to effectuate the purposes of this By-Law. Failure by the Conservation Commission to promulgate such rules and regulations shall not have the effect of suspending or invalidating this By-Law.

Section 7 Permits

Permit issuance or project approval is required prior to any work described in Section 4.C and 4.D., or as otherwise specified in this By-Law. The Site Owner or his agent shall apply for the permit with the Conservation Commission when necessary, or include the appropriate materials with the Building Permit application. While an Application may be submitted by a representative, the Permittee must be the Owner of the Site.

A. **Applications** - An Application shall be made to the Conservation Commission in a form and containing information as specified in this By-Law and in the regulations adopted by the Conservation Commission. Applications for Major Stormwater and Erosion Control permits also require distribution to the Department of Public Works, and the Board of Health for review and comment, and shall be accompanied by certification of delivery to these Town entities when submitted to the Conservation Commission.

B. **Fees** - Fees shall be established by the Conservation Commission to cover expenses connected with public notice, Application review, and monitoring permit compliance. The fee shall be sufficient to also cover professional review. The Conservation Commission or Designated Agent is authorized to retain a registered professional engineer or other professional consultant to advise the Commission on any or all aspects of these plans. Applicants must pay review fees before the review process may begin. The Applicant for a Stormwater and Erosion Control Permit may be required to cover the costs of the consultant through an account established pursuant to M.G.L. c. 44, §53G, and any successor statutory provision.

C. **Information Requests** - The Conservation Commission or Designated Agent may request such additional information as is necessary to determine whether the proposed Land-Disturbing Activity will protect water resources and comply with the requirements of this By-Law.

D. **Determination of Completeness** - The Conservation Commission or Designated Agent shall make a determination as to the completeness of the Application and adequacy of the materials submitted. No review shall take place until the Application has been found to be complete.

E. **Coordination with Other Town Entities** – Applications for Major Stormwater and Erosion Control permits require distribution to the Department of Public Works and the Board of Health as noted in Section 7.A. These Town entities shall, in their discretion, investigate the case and report their recommendations to the Conservation Commission. The Conservation Commission shall not hold a hearing on the Major Stormwater and Erosion Control Permit until 1) receipt of reports from Town entities or 2) twenty (20) calendar days after the distribution of the Major Stormwater and Erosion Control Permit Application, whichever occurs first.

F. **Entry** - Filing an Application for a Stormwater and Erosion Control Permit grants the Conservation Commission or Designated Agent permission to enter the Site to verify the information in the Application and to inspect for compliance with permit conditions, to the extent permitted by law.

G. **Hearing** - Within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt of a complete Application for a Major Stormwater and Erosion Control Permit, the Conservation Commission shall hold a public hearing. Notice of the public hearing shall, at least seven (7) calendar days prior to said hearing, be given by publication in a paper of general circulation serving the Town of Natick, and by posting the notice at the Town Hall. The Conservation Commission shall be responsible for such public notice as described above. The Conservation Commission shall make the Application available for inspection by the public during business hours at the Town of Natick's Conservation Office.

H. **Action and Appeal Process**

1) **Administrative Approval Permit**

- (a) **Action** – The approval permit for single-family home projects must coincide with the approval timeline for building permits, with any comments or information requests communicated to the applicant within ten (10) business days (Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays excluded) of the application submission.
- i. The stormwater management features (e.g., site grading, surface and subsurface infiltration features, etc.) and proposed calculations demonstrating volume capacity must be included on plans submitted for the building permit application, at which point Engineering Division staff will approve or reject the stormwater management features as part of the building permit review performed.

2) **Minor Stormwater and Erosion Control Permit**

- (a) **Action** – The Application for a Minor Stormwater and Erosion Control Permit shall be acted upon within ten (15) business days (Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays excluded) of the date the Designated Agent determines the Application is complete, unless such Application has been withdrawn from consideration. The Designated Agent may:
- i. **Approve the Application and issue a permit** if it finds the proposed plan meets the objectives of and complies with the requirements of this By-Law;
 - ii. **Approve the Application and issue a permit with conditions, modifications and/or restrictions** that the Designated Agent determines are required to ensure the project will meet the objectives of and comply with the requirements of this By-Law;
 - iii. **Disapprove the Application and deny a permit** if the Designated Agent finds that the proposed plan fails to meet the objectives of or to comply with the requirements of this By-Law or if the Designated Agent finds that the Applicant has submitted insufficient information to confirm the proposed plan meets the objectives of and complies with the requirements of this By-Law; or
 - iv. **Determine that a Minor Stormwater and Erosion Control Permit is inappropriate and require a different permit, approval, or no permit** in accordance with the permit thresholds listed in Section 4.C.

(b) **Appeal of Disapproved Applications**

- i. The Applicant may modify the Application to meet the objectives of and comply with the requirements of this By-Law and resubmit it to the Designated Agent.
- ii. The Applicant may appeal a permit denial by the Designated Agent by requesting the Conservation Commission review the Application. Such review shall take place with a public hearing as described in Section 7.G. and shall be subject to any review fees or additional submittal requirements as specified in the regulations for this By-Law.

3) **Major Stormwater and Erosion Control Permit**

- (a) **Action** – The Conservation Commission shall take action on a Major Stormwater and Erosion Control Permit within thirty (30) calendar days from the close of a public hearing as described in Section 7.G, unless such time is extended by agreement between the

Applicant and the Conservation Commission. The Conservation Commission shall take one of the following actions:

- i. **Approve the Application and issue a permit** if it finds that the proposed plan will meet the objectives of and complies with the requirements of this By-Law;
- ii. **Approve the Application and issue a permit with conditions, modifications and/or restrictions** that the Conservation Commission determines are required to ensure that the project will meet the objectives of and comply with the requirements of this By-Law;
- iii. **Disapprove the Application and deny a permit** if it finds that the proposed plan fails to meet the objectives of or to comply with the requirements of this By-Law or that the Applicant has submitted insufficient information to confirm the proposed Application meets the objectives of and complies with the requirements of this By-Law; or
- iv. **Determine that a Major Stormwater and Erosion Control Permit is inappropriate and require a different permit or no permit** in accordance with the permit thresholds listed in Section 4.C.

The Permittee, or his or her agent, must notify the Conservation Commission or Designated Agent in writing of any change or alteration of a Land-Disturbing Activity before the change or alteration occurs. If the Conservation Commission or Designated Agent determines that the change or alteration is significant, based on the design requirements listed in the regulations adopted by the Conservation Commission under this By-Law, the Conservation Commission or Designated Agent may require that an amended Application or a full Application be filed in accordance with Section 7. If any change or alteration from the Stormwater and Erosion Control Permit occurs during Land-Disturbing Activities, the Conservation Commission or Designated Agent may require the installation of interim Erosion and Sedimentation control measures before approving the change or alteration. This shall not affect any other obligations the Applicant shall have under M.G.L. c. 121, §40, the Natick Wetlands Protection By-Law, or any other regulation pertinent, or any successor statutory or regulatory provision.

Section 8 Plans

Regulations promulgated by the Conservation Commission shall set forth the types of plans required by a Minor Stormwater and Erosion Control Permit and a Major Stormwater and Erosion Control Permit, including, but not limited to, the provisions of Sections 8A - 8D below. The information required in Section 8A-8C below may be incorporated onto a single plan sheet, but information required by Section 8D must be provided in a stand-alone document. Further requirements, including, but not limited to, circumstances in which plans must be prepared by a registered professional engineer (P.E.) or a registered professional land surveyor (PLS), may be specified by the Conservation Commission or Designated Agent; the provisions herein are not intended to be an exhaustive clarification on the specific details of plan requirements.

A. The **Erosion and Sedimentation Control Plan** shall contain sufficient information to describe the nature and purpose of the proposed Land Disturbing Activity, pertinent conditions of the Site and the adjacent areas, and proposed Erosion and Sedimentation controls to be used during pre-construction and construction. The Erosion and Sedimentation Control Plan shall fully describe the project in drawings and narrative. The Applicant shall submit such material as is necessary to show that the proposed Land Disturbing Activity will comply with the design standards and contain the information listed in the regulations adopted by the Conservation Commission for administration of this By-Law.

B. The **Low Impact Development (LID) Plan** shall contain sufficient information for the Conservation Commission or Designated Agent to evaluate the acceptability of: the Site planning process; the anticipated impacts of the proposed Land Disturbing Activity on the ecological and hydrological functions of the Site, including documenting any and all necessary tree removal; or any measures proposed by the Applicant to maintain ecological and hydrological functions of the Site. The LID Plan shall fully describe the project in drawings, narrative, and calculations, if applicable. The Applicant shall submit such material as is required by the regulations adopted by the Conservation Commission for the administration of this By-Law. The LID plan shall be designed to comply, to the maximum extent practicable, with all standards for LID set forth by the regulations adopted by the Conservation Commission for the administration of this By-Law.

C. The **Stormwater Management Plan** shall contain sufficient information to describe the nature and purpose of the proposed Land Disturbing Activity, pertinent conditions of the Site and the adjacent areas, and proposed BMPs for the permanent management and treatment of Stormwater. The Stormwater Management Plan shall contain sufficient information for the Conservation Commission or Designated Agent to evaluate the environmental impact, effectiveness, and acceptability of the measures proposed by the Applicant for reducing adverse impacts from Stormwater. The Plan shall be designed to meet the Massachusetts Stormwater Management Standards set forth in the Massachusetts Stormwater Management Standards and DEP Stormwater Management Handbook Volumes I and II, and any other Stormwater standards set forth in the regulations adopted by the Conservation Commission for the administration of this By-Law. The Stormwater Management Plan shall fully describe the project in drawings and narrative. The Applicant shall submit such material as is required by the regulations adopted by the Conservation Commission for the administration of this By-Law.

D. An **Operation and Maintenance Plan - (O&M Plan)** for the permanent Stormwater management system is required at the time of application for all Stormwater and Erosion Control Permits. The maintenance plan shall be designed to ensure compliance with this By-Law and that the Massachusetts Surface Water Quality Standards contained in 314 CMR 4.00 or any successor regulations are met in all seasons and throughout the life of the system. The O&M Plan shall include any requirements deemed necessary by the Conservation Commission or Designated Agent. The Conservation Commission or Designated Agent shall determine what maintenance option is appropriate in a given situation. The Conservation Commission or Designated Agent will consider natural features, proximity of Site to water bodies and Wetlands, extent of Impervious Surfaces, the size of the Site, the types of Stormwater management structures, BMPs, and the potential need for ongoing maintenance when making this decision. Once approved by the Conservation Commission or Designated Agent, the O&M Plan shall be recorded at the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Middlesex South Registry of Deeds by the Permittee, shall run with the land, shall remain on file with the Conservation Commission, and shall be an ongoing requirement. The O&M Plan shall conform to the requirements listed in the regulations adopted by the Conservation Commission for the administration of this By-Law. Stormwater management easements shall be provided by the property Owner(s) in areas and as necessary to carry out the required maintenance.

1) **Changes to Operation and Maintenance Plans**

- (a) The Owner(s) of the Stormwater management system must notify the Conservation Commission or Designated Agent of changes in ownership or assignment of financial responsibility.
- (b) The maintenance schedule in the O&M Plan may be amended to achieve the purposes of this By-Law by mutual agreement of the Conservation Commission and the Responsible Parties. Amendments must be in writing and signed by all Responsible Parties. Once the amended Plan is signed, the Conservation Commission shall file it at the Commonwealth

of Massachusetts Middlesex South Registry of Deeds at the expense of the current Owner(s).

Section 9 Inspection and Site Supervision for Stormwater and Erosion Control Permits

Regulations promulgated by the Conservation Commission for the administration of this By-Law shall set forth the inspection and site supervision requirements required for a Stormwater and Erosion Control Permit, including, but not limited to, the provisions of Sections 9A – 9D.

A. **Pre-Construction Meeting** - Prior to the commencement of any Land Disturbing Activity requiring a Stormwater and Erosion Control Permit, a pre-construction meeting may be required as specified in the regulations promulgated by the Conservation Commission for the administration of this By-Law. If required, the Applicant, the Applicant's technical representative, the general contractor, pertinent subcontractors, and any Person with authority to make changes to the project, shall meet with the Conservation Commission or Designated Agent to review the permitted plans and proposed implementation.

B. **Inspection** – For all projects requiring an Administrative Approval Permit under this By-Law, inspections shall occur as they would for a standard building permit process with additional required inspections of excavations for stormwater systems and installed stormwater systems prior to backfill.

For all projects requiring a Stormwater and Erosion Control Permit, the Conservation Commission or Designated Agent shall make inspections as required by the regulations promulgated by the Conservation Commission for the administration of this By-Law. The Conservation Commission or Designated Agent shall either approve that portion of the work completed or shall notify the Permittee if the work fails to comply with the approved plans and require any modifications to the work to ensure full compliance with the permit. One copy of the approved plans and conditions of approval, signed by the Conservation Commission or Designated Agent, as applicable, shall be maintained at the Site during the progress of the work. The Permittee shall notify the Conservation Commission or Designated Agent at least three (3) business days (Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays excluded) before each of the following events:

- 1) Erosion and Sedimentation control and tree protection measures are in place and stabilized;
- 2) Site Clearing and rough Grading have been substantially completed;
- 3) Final Grading has been substantially completed;
- 4) Bury Inspection: prior to backfilling of any underground drainage or Stormwater conveyance structures;
- 5) Close of the Construction Season; and
- 6) Final landscaping (permanent Stabilization) and project final completion.

C. **Permittee Inspections** - The Permittee or the Permittee's agent shall conduct and document inspections of all control measures as required in the regulations promulgated by the Conservation Commission for the administration of this By-Law, and prior to and following anticipated storm events. The purpose of inspections will be to determine the overall effectiveness of the Erosion and Sedimentation Control plan, and the need for maintenance or additional control measures. The Permittee or the Permittee's agent shall submit reports to the Conservation Commission or Designated Agent in a frequency and format required by the regulations promulgated by the Conservation Commission for the administration of this By-Law. The Conservation Commission or Designated Agent may require, as a condition of approval, that an Environmental Site Monitor, approved by the Conservation Commission or Designated Agent, be retained by the Applicant to conduct such inspections and prepare and submit such reports to the Conservation Commission or Designated Agent.

D. **Access Permission** - To the extent permitted by law, or if authorized by the Owner or other party in control of the property, the Conservation Commission, its agents, officers, and employees may enter upon privately owned property for the purpose of performing their duties under this By-Law and may make or cause to be made such examinations, surveys or sampling as the Conservation Commission or Designated Agent deems reasonably necessary to determine compliance with the permit.

Section 10 Surety for Stormwater and Erosion Control Permits

The Conservation Commission or Designated Agent may require the Permittee to post before the start of the Land-Disturbing Activity subject to a Stormwater and Erosion Control Permit, a surety bond, irrevocable letter of credit, cash, or other acceptable security. The form of the bond shall be approved by town counsel, and be in an amount deemed sufficient by the Conservation Commission to ensure that the work will be completed in accordance with the permit. If the project is phased, the Conservation Commission may release part of the bond, as a proportion of the completed phase(s), but the bond may not be fully released until the Conservation Commission has received the final report as required by Section 12 and issued a certificate of compliance pursuant to Section 14.

Section 11 Peer Review for Stormwater and Erosion Control Permits

The Commission, or its Designated Agent, at the commencement of its process hereunder, or at any time during a hearing may require an applicant to pay a fee for the reasonable costs and expenses incurred or to be incurred by the Commission for specific expert engineering and other consultant services that the Commission deems are necessary to enable it, or its Designated Agent, to reach a final decision on the application. The exercise of discretion by the Commission in determining whether to require the payment of fees shall be based on a reasonable finding that additional information, acquirable only through outside consultants, is necessary for the making of an informed, objective decision. The specific consultant services may include, but are not limited to, performing additional or verifying the accuracy of submitted drainage analyses; performing additional soil testing; and researching environmental, land use or other law. Any applicant aggrieved by the selection of a consultant, may appeal according to the provisions of the Mass. Gen. Laws Chp 44 Section 53G.

Section 12 Final Reports for Stormwater and Erosion Control Permits

Upon completion of the work under a Minor or Major Stormwater and Erosion Control Permit, the Permittee shall submit a report certifying that all Erosion and Sedimentation control devices, elements of the Application, and approved changes and modifications, have been completed in accordance with the conditions of the approved permit. Any discrepancies should be noted in the cover letter. In addition, the final report for Minor and Major Stormwater and Erosion Control permits shall include certified as-built construction plans from a registered professional engineer (P.E.) or registered professional land surveyor.

Section 13 Enforcement

A. The Conservation Commission retains the right to oversee and review all matters relating to Land-Disturbing Activities within the Town of Natick. The Conservation Commission or Designated Agent shall enforce this By-Law, regulations, orders, violation notices, and enforcement orders, and may pursue all civil and criminal remedies for such violations.

B. Orders

- 1) The Conservation Commission or Designated Agent may issue a written order to enforce the provisions of this By-Law or the regulations thereunder, which may include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - (a) a requirement to cease and desist from the Land-Disturbing Activity until there is compliance with the By-Law and/or the provisions of the Stormwater and Erosion Control Permit;
 - (b) maintenance, installation or performance of additional Erosion and Sedimentation control measures;
 - (c) monitoring, analyses, and reporting; and/or
 - (d) remediation of Erosion and Sedimentation resulting directly or indirectly from the Land-Disturbing Activity.
- 2) If the Conservation Commission or Designated Agent determines that abatement or remediation of Erosion and Sedimentation is required, the order shall set forth a deadline by which such abatement or remediation must be completed. Said order shall further advise that, should the violator or Owner fail to abate or perform remediation within the specified deadline, the Town of Natick may, at its option, undertake such work, and the Owner shall reimburse the Town for its expenses.
- 3) Within thirty (30) calendar days after completing all measures necessary to abate the violation or to perform remediation, the violator and the Owner shall be notified of the costs incurred by the Town of Natick, including administrative costs. The violator or Owner may file an appeal objecting to the amount or basis of costs with the Conservation Commission within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt of the notification of the costs incurred. If the amount due is not received by the expiration of the time in which to file an appeal within thirty (30) calendar days following a decision of the Conservation Commission affirming or reducing the costs, or from a final decision of a court of competent jurisdiction, the costs shall become a special assessment against the Owner and shall constitute a lien on the Owner's property for the amount of such costs. Interest shall begin to accrue on any unpaid costs at the statutory rate, as provided in M.G.L. c. 59, §57, or any other successor statute, after the thirty-first calendar day following the calendar day on which the costs were due.

C. **Criminal Penalty** - Any Person who violates any provision of this By-Law, regulation, order or permit issued thereunder, shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$300.00 for each offense. Each calendar day that such violation occurs or continues shall constitute a separate offense.

D. **Non-Criminal Disposition** - As an alternative to criminal prosecution or civil action, the Town of Natick may elect to utilize the non-criminal disposition procedure set forth in G.L. Ch.. 40, §21D in which case the Conservation Commission or Designated Agent shall be the Authorized Enforcement Agency. The penalty for each violation shall be \$300.00. Each calendar day that such violation occurs or continues shall constitute a separate offense.

E. **Appeals** - All decisions or orders of the Conservation Commission shall be final. Further relief shall be to a court of competent jurisdiction.

F. **Remedies Not Exclusive** - The remedies listed in this By-Law are not exclusive of any other remedies available under any applicable federal, state or local law.

Section 14 Certificate of Stormwater and Erosion Control Permit Compliance

For Major Stormwater and Erosion Control Permits, the Permittee shall request the Conservation Commission to issue a Stormwater and Erosion Permit Certificate of Compliance upon receipt and approval of the final reports and/or upon otherwise determining that all work of the permit has been satisfactorily completed in conformance with this By-Law.

Section 15 Severability

If any provision, paragraph, sentence, or clause of this By-Law or the application thereof to any Person, establishment or circumstance shall be held invalid for any reason, all other provisions, to the maximum extent permitted by law, shall continue in full force and effect.