



Williamsburg Conservation Commission
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Meeting Minutes
October 27, 2022
via Zoom

Commissioners present – Marci Caplis, Mary Dudek, Andrew MacLachlan, Melinda McCall, Joe Rogers

Members of the public present – Myron Ritrosky, Brian Hart

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

NOI, 74 Village Hill Road:

Myron Ritrosky of Eco-Genesis Corp. presented information concerning the clean up of hazardous materials at 74 Village Hill Road. Soil samples were collected and tested in 2021 in response to a potential sale of the property. The results of these samples indicated the presence of lead and fuel oil contaminants on the property. The especially high levels of lead triggered mandatory Mass DEP oversight for remediation.

There are two different projects with release tracking numbers (RTNs.) One is for remediating a soil berm that had been used as a weapons shooting target and is contaminated with lead shot. The other is for removing surface soil impacted by heating oil that leaked when an old tank was removed from a nearby cabin and dragged up the driveway. A temporary fence has been erected around the impacted areas to restrict access. Remediation for both lead and fuel projects involve excavating soil and taking it off site for disposal.

The goal is to reach the highest standard of clean-up: unrestricted use. There are two steps to achieving that goal. First is eliminate the immediate exposure hazards posed by the lead contaminated soil. Then address remaining contamination issues.

Wetlands have been flagged and delineated in the field by a wetlands scientist and show that the planned excavation areas are upland of the wetland delineation limits. However,

portions of the work areas are within 100 foot wetland buffer zone, and riverfront boundary of the West Branch of the Mill River, and/or the 100 year flood plain. Eco-Genesis is still collecting data to thoroughly map the contamination, but has filed the Wetlands Protection Act NOI to cover disturbance from the sampling as well as the actual remediation which is expected to occur in the following areas:

- Large sections of the berm are likely to be excavated, along with soil in some areas of the adjacent field to a depth of several inches between the berm and the shooters station about 250' away. Some removal of trees and brush will be required.
- Four monitoring wells have been installed, and will be sampled in the coming week, as will surface water.
- Testing at the unused cabin found spots of petroleum contamination along the driveway where an old heating oil tank was dragged for about 50 feet. The tank had been previously disposed of by the owners. Shallow excavation of the soil in this area is expected.

Highest lead contamination is in the berm itself. This soil will be treated and disposed of off-site where it will be sifted to remove lead shot fragments and stabilized with a calcium solution.. The less contaminated soil may be remediated on-site prior to reclamation depending on soil test results.

Erosion controls (silt socks and/or fencing) will be installed around the areas to be excavated to prevent silt from going into the riverfront area and the associated wetlands. The erosion controls will remain in place until the site has completely stabilized, following completion of the excavation and restoration. Upon completion of work all disturbed areas will be back filled with like soils, graded to original contours, and seeded with local native plants.

A separate area of possible work near a wetland is at an existing bridge over a stream along the driveway from Village Hill Road. The bridge is narrow and may not be as stable as desired for a heavy vehicles. Contractors may cover that bridge with steel plates to distribute weight, but will not disturb the surrounding soil or brook below.

Commissioners requested the following conditions:

- Since the work schedule is in flux the commission would like to be notified by email of the beginning of each stage of work and how long each stage of work will take.
- If work begins in the fall, the installation of more robust erosion controls that

- would last through two seasons should be used.
- A robust filter sock should be placed between the river and the berm as soon as possible. Covering the berm with a tarp was also suggested.
- A pre-work site visit will be scheduled.

A motion was made and accepted unanimously to approve the project as described with the forthcoming special conditions.

Follow-up on 200 Main Street:

Commissioners made a site visit to the house at 200 Main Street that is to be demolished. They determined that any water in the basement was not part of a wetlands and therefore not in the purview of the Wetlands Protection Act.

Minutes from October 13 were approved as amended.

Next Meeting: November 10

Meeting was adjourned at 8:37.

Respectfully submitted,
Melinda McCall
Secretary - Williamsburg Conservation Commission