

HUGHES ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING

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March 14, 2025

Fred Zackon, Acting Chairman
Amesbury Conservation Commission
City of Amesbury
39 S Hunt Road
Amesbury, MA 01913

Re: 12 Pinewood Road RDA

Dear Chairman Zackon and members of the Commission:

Attached you will find an RDA filed for 12 Pinewood Road. The RDA is filed in response to the requirements of an Emergency Certificate issued for Tree Removal and includes mitigative plantings, as well as a few small projects proposed for the applicant's new home.

The residential property consists of a single-family home, with associated driveway, walkways, patio and landscaping. To the rear of the property there is an perennial stream with an associated floodplain wetland. Hughes Environmental Consulting delineated the wetlands prior to the latest snow storm consistent with the state methodology. The area of the wetlands is pretty clearly located at the toe of slope where there is a marked change in vegetation and signs of hydrology. Soils remain fairly bright in the edges of the wetland area, but the vegetative community and the flood shelf topography were sufficient to determine the wetland boundary conservatively. It is conceivable that a spring or summer delineation might move the boundary towards the stream slightly. Within the wetlands the vegetative community was dominated by red maple, winterberry, sensitive fern and other wetland species. The slope was vegetated with lawn grasses, red oak, and rhododendron. The wetland line was flagged a little high due to the winter conditions as a precaution.

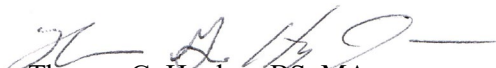
The stream channel is well defined with a clearly incised bank. The Riverfront boundary has been drawn from the Mean High Water/Bank locations.

The attached sketch shows the wetland flags with 25 foot, 35 foot and 100 foot buffer lines. It also shows the inner and outer riparian lines. The flags were located with an RTK GPS unit with accuracy under a tenth of a foot. Additionally the proposed work was similarly located with the GPS unit and is shown. There is also a sketch showing proposed planting locations and the project items over the original house permit plan.

The deck extension off the existing rear deck is the closest work proposed. This will involve installation of sonotubes within an area where there is currently a concrete paver patio.

I look forward to discussing our proposed revision with the Commission at the upcoming meeting.

Sincerely,


Thomas G. Hughes, BS, MA