

Tree Removal Application

Holland Conservation Commission

(413) 245-7108 ext. 111

Landowners must obtain prior approval from the Holland Conservation Commission (HCC) before work of any kind, including tree removal, takes place within our areas of jurisdiction. Site visits by HCC will need to be made prior to granting approval for tree cutting requests, so applicants are asked to mark or otherwise identify any trees to be cut down. When applicable, HCC may require mitigation for the planned work. Unless otherwise indicated, stumps and roots are to be left in place. Depending on the scope of the proposed tree cutting project and its possible impact on areas within our jurisdiction, HCC may require an additional permit (RDA or NOI) be obtained by the applicant before proceeding.

The preservation of the tree canopy and the planting of replacement trees is intended to enhance the quality of life and the environment of the Town of Holland. Preservation of the tree canopy serves many purposes:

- It reduces topsoil erosion and storm water runoff.
- It protects air quality.
- It reduces energy consumption.
- It baffles noise.
- It provides habitat for wildlife.
- It protects property values.
- It preserves the rural character of Holland by maintaining wooded and natural areas.

This tree removal policy document was developed for the following purposes:

- To expedite the approval process for tree cutting requests.
- To provide consistent implementation of the Commission's policy under its wetland regulatory authority.
- To recognize the ecological value of natural wooded areas close to wetlands, streams, and waterways.
- To protect the ecological functions trees provide in jurisdictional areas.
- To allow landowners to maintain their property for safety and enjoyment.

The Holland Conservation Commission has jurisdiction over the following areas:

- Wetland Resource Areas, defined as 100-year flood zones, wetlands, streams, ponds, and marshes
- Riverfront Areas (land within 200 feet of a perennial stream)
- Buffer Zones - Land within 100 feet of a Wetland Resource Area

Date: _____

Project Address: _____

Property Owner(s): _____

Email: _____ Phone Number: _____

Mailing Address (if different): _____

Contractor (if applicable): _____

Number of Trees to be removed: _____ Number of trees to be replaced: _____

Reason for tree removal:

Indicate the size, species and location of trees to be removed. Attach plan if applicable.

Tree Mitigation Requirements and Conditions:

The loss of trees cut in a jurisdictional area shall be mitigated, when judged applicable by the HCC. The following are examples of possible mitigation measures. HCC may require additional plantings and/or mitigation upon review of site conditions. Mitigation needs to happen within 6 months.

1. Large trees (>20" diameter at breast height (DBH)): The owner shall plant a minimum of one native tree sapling (or a minimum of 2 native shrubs) for each large tree cut.
2. Medium trees (6"-20" DBH): For every 3 (or subset of 3) medium trees proposed to be cut. The owner shall plant a minimum of one native tree sapling or a minimum of two native shrubs.
3. A list of native trees/shrubs can be obtained at the MA DEP webpage: <https://www.mass.gov/guides/native-shrubs-for-plantings-as-wildlife-food>.

THE BELOW IS TO BE COMPLETED BY HOLLAND CONSERVATION COMMISSION:

Date site visit completed: _____ Completed by: _____

Required Mitigation:

HCC Comments:

		Approved	Denied
Signature _____	Date: _____	_____	_____
Signature _____	Date: _____	_____	_____
Signature _____	Date: _____	_____	_____