

Lake Pocotopaug Upland Review Area

Information for Residents

Introduction

The Lake Pocotopaug Watershed Protection Zone was developed by the East Hampton Planning and Zoning Commission as a tool to better protect the sensitive nature of the lake through the Zoning Regulations. In an effort to mimic those protections, the East Hampton Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency has developed a new Upland Review Area within the watershed and is asking for your support. This sheet has been developed to provide you with information regarding this change.

What is an Upland Review Area

An Upland Review Area is a defined area outside of and adjacent to wetlands and watercourses designed to assist the agency better protect the wetland or watercourse. The intention is to ensure that Best Management Practices are used during construction projects so that silt, sediments, nutrients, and other debris is kept from entering these natural resources.

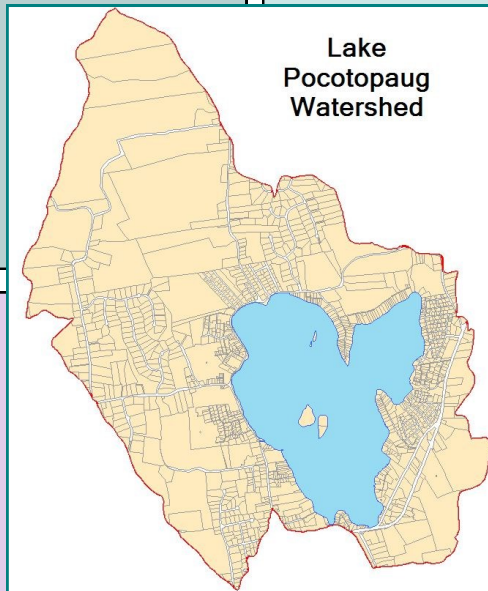
How Did the IWWA Come Up This Area

The Town of East Hampton hired a consultant to develop a Nine Point Watershed Plan in order to guide the watershed clean up process in an effort to protect the Lake. This includes sediment and nutrient load reductions, reduction in impervious coverage (where practical) and increased infiltration of stormwater.

The IWWA has determined that in keeping with the goals of the Plan, ensuring that more construction in the watershed is adhering to the best management practices for the health of the Lake would be beneficial.

What Does it Mean for Me?

If your property is affected by the change, you will need to apply for a wetland permit for activities on your property which require soil excavation or installing an impervious surface on the property. There are no specific exclusions from what you can do on your property, but the IWWA will ensure that you are using the best possible techniques during construction to protect the health of our wetlands, watercourses, the Lake and surrounding property values. More information will be available at the Land Use Office.



Benefits

1. Increased Water Infiltration.
2. Decreased nutrient loading.
3. Decreased sediment loading.
4. Increased public awareness.
5. Potential to work with existing lake associations and Friends groups.
6. Many property options are minimal cost solutions.



NOTICE

INLAND WETLAND AND WATERCOURSES AGENCY

Notice of Changes to the Wetlands Regulations

- ⇒ Beginning on February 1, 2018, all properties within the Lake Pocotopaug Watershed will be subject to a 200 foot Upland Review Area.
- ⇒ Any project within 200 feet of a wetland or watercourse within the Lake Watershed will be subject to the requirements of the Wetland Regulation.
- ⇒ The goal is to better protect the health of Lake Pocotopaug by ensuring the use of best practices throughout a larger portion of the watershed.

