

**PROPOSED REVISIONS**  
**Commercial Timber Harvesting Ordinance**  
**1405A**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

All Commercial Timber Harvesting in the Town of Washington shall require approval from the Inland Wetlands Commission and a permit from the First Selectman. "Commercial Timber Harvesting" is defined for the purposes of this Ordinance as the logging of forest products for commercial purposes and does not include the cutting of wood by the owner of the property for:

- a) Personal use;
- b) The routine maintenance of roads, pastures, rights-of-way and clearing of farm fence lines;
- c) The clearing of a home site for which a building permit has been obtained;
- d) Christmas tree culture;
- e) Clearing of approved subdivision roads and public utility easements.

**I. Application:** Prior to commencing any commercial timber harvesting operation, an application for a permit shall be made by the landowner to the First Selectman on a form prescribed by him. Such application shall include:

- a) Name, address, telephone number and signature of the land owner;
- b) Name, address, telephone number, certification number and signature of any Certified Forest Practitioner aiding the landowner in the design, managing or conducting of the harvest;
- c) Name, address, telephone number, certification number and signature of the Certified Forest Harvester;
- d) Starting date;
- e) Estimated completion date;
- f) Street location of logging operation;
- g) Brief description of the route proposed to be taken by logging trucks over any of the town-maintained roads in the Town of Washington;
- h) Written declaratory ruling by the Inland Wetlands Commission, or its agent, indicating there will be no negative impact or a copy of an approved Inland Wetlands Commission permit to perform the activity;
- i) In the case of any commercial forest practices, as defined by CGS 23-65f, a copy of authorization issued by the D.E.P. (This is defined as practices that yield "in excess of fifty cords, one hundred fifty tons, or twenty-five thousand board feet, whichever measure is appropriate, in a twelve-month period.")
- j) Sketch (which need not be to scale) of the proposed logging area, indicating the approximate acreage to be logged, all wetlands and watercourses within 100 ft. of the area to be logged or affected by logging transport, the approximate location of skid trail, yarding and landing areas, and the name and location of adjacent town roads to which access is to be provided to the logging area. In addition, all points of access to any town road shall be located, indicating distances from physical monuments (e.g., telephone poles, existing driveways, intersections).

**II. Accessways:** All Logging Roads providing access to town-maintained roads shall be designed:

- a) To minimize damage to town road surfaces and shoulders;
- b) To minimize damage and to prevent blockage of existing drainage systems;

- c) To minimize the erosion of soils from the logging area and roads onto town roads or into existing drainage systems.

Prior to issuing a permit the First Selectman shall approve the proposed access points.

**III. Log Truck Route:** Having regard to the character of the roads, residential character of the neighborhood and use of the roads as school bus routes, the First Selectman shall have the authority to modify the proposed truck route over town-maintained roads where, in his opinion, the use of the proposed route will create undue hazards or noise.

**IV. Property Lines:** The owner of the land or his agent shall be responsible for the demarcation of the proposed logging areas where said logging area is adjacent to the property lines.

**V. Notification:** The landowner shall post a temporary sign in conformance with Zoning Regulations to announce the timber harvesting activity that is to take place at least 14 days before operations begin.

**VI. Inspection:** Application for a permit to conduct timber harvesting shall constitute the granting of permission to the First Selectman and members of the Inland Wetlands Commission and/or its Enforcement Officer to enter into the logging area for the purpose of inspecting the same to determine compliance with this ordinance.

**VII. Bond:** The First Selectman shall require the owner to post a \$1,000 cash bond to insure that the construction and maintenance of the logging access roads will comply with the requirements of paragraph II hereof, both during and after the completion of the logging operation. The bond shall remain in effect until the First Selectman receives written notification from the owner or his agent indicating that the timber harvesting operation has been terminated and until the First Selectman determines that the purposes for which the bond was required have been met. In the event that the purposes for which the bond was required have not been met, the First Selectman shall notify the owner and the logger. If the non-compliance is not corrected, the bond shall be forfeited in the amount thereof and used by the Town of Washington to correct the non-compliance condition.

A performance bond may also be required by the Inland Wetlands Commission.

**VIII. Permit:** If the application for a timber harvesting permit indicates compliance with all the terms of this ordinance, a permit shall be granted by the First Selectman within ten days after receipt of the completed application. **THE PERMIT SHALL REMAIN IN EFFECT FOR ONE YEAR FROM DATE OF ISSUANCE. IT MAY BE EXTENDED FOR A PERIOD UP TO AN ADDITIONAL SIX MONTHS BY WRITTEN REQUEST OF THE PROPERTY OWNER.** The granting of a timber-harvesting permit pursuant to this ordinance does not constitute approval of the timber harvesting operation by any other board or commission of the Town of Washington, nor any department of the State of Connecticut.

**IX. Effective Date:** This ordinance shall become effective November 1, 2003.

This Ordinance supersedes Ordinance #1405, Timber Harvesting.