

Christopher Environmental Associates

252 Fort Pond Inn Road, Lancaster, MA 01523 (508) 331-4889 FAX (978) 728-4544 Email: tom.christopher@comcast.net

March 8, 2021

Mr. David Koonce, Administrator
Lancaster Conservation Commission
Prescott Building
701 Main Street Suite #4
Lancaster, Massachusetts 01523

RE: Tree Removal in Buffer Zone

Dear Mr. Koonce:

The Griffin Family Trust requests a “*Negative Determination of Applicability*” for the removal of a dangerous storm-damage tree on property owned by the Trust at 252 Fort Pond Inn Road. The tree is identified as a 19-inch (DBH) white pine approximately 75-80 in height. The tree was snapped off approximately 20 feet from the base of the trunk by wind shear in a recent storm. Further, the trunk was split and diseased prior to this event.

As a sequence of construction:

- (1) Silt fencing will be installed at the base of the slope approximately 25 feet from the tree;
- (2) The top of the tree and hanging trunk will be anchored by rope guide lines by tree climbers;
- (3) The tree will be cut into sections and lowered to the ground where they will be cut one more time into smaller pieces;
- (4) The smaller pieces and limbs will be hand loaded into the bucket of a tracked Bobcat that has access to the area just above the granite stone stairway;
- (5) All logs and debris will be removed from the site and the remaining stump will be left intact.
- (6) There will be no excavation and the silt fence will be removed once work is completed.

[REDACTED]

If you have any questions, please call me at (508) 331-4889.

Sincerely,

Thomas J. Christopher

CEA Principal & Griffin Family Trust Trustee

CC: MA-DEP Central Region

Attch: CEA Check # 1563



Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection

Bureau of Resource Protection - Wetlands

G

City/Town

WPA Form 1- Request for Determination of Applicability

Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act M.G.L. c. 131, §40

A. General Information

Important:

When filling out forms on the computer, use only the tab key to move your cursor - do not use the return key.



1. Applicant:

Griffin Family Trust

Name

None

E-Mail Address

252 Fort Pond Inn Road

Mailing Address

Lancaster

City/Town

MA

State

01523

Zip Code

(508) 331-4889

Phone Number

None

Fax Number (if applicable)

2. Representative (if any):

Christopher Environmental Associate

Firm

Tom Christopher

Contact Name

tom.christopher@comcast.net

E-Mail Address

252 Fort Pond Inn Road

Mailing Address

Lancaster

City/Town

MA

State

01523

Zip Code

(508) 331-4889

Phone Number

(978) 728-4544

Fax Number (if applicable)

B. Determinations

1. I request the Lancaster make the following determination(s). Check any that apply:
Conservation Commission

- ☒ a. whether the **area** depicted on plan(s) and/or map(s) referenced below is an area subject to jurisdiction of the Wetlands Protection Act.
- ☒ b. whether the **boundaries** of resource area(s) depicted on plan(s) and/or map(s) referenced below are accurately delineated.
- ☒ c. whether the **work** depicted on plan(s) referenced below is subject to the Wetlands Protection Act.
- ☒ d. whether the area and/or work depicted on plan(s) referenced below is subject to the jurisdiction of any **municipal wetlands ordinance** or **bylaw** of:

Lancaster

Name of Municipality

- ☐ e. whether the following **scope of alternatives** is adequate for work in the Riverfront Area as depicted on referenced plan(s).



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C. Project Description

1. a. Project Location (use maps and plans to identify the location of the area subject to this request):

252 Fort Pond In Road

Street Address

Lancaster

City/Town

147/005.0-0000-005

Assessors Map/Plat Number

5-5

Parcel/Lot Number

- b. Area Description (use additional paper, if necessary):

Residential single-family home along the shoreline of Fort Pond

- c. Plan and/or Map Reference(s):

Griffin Family Trust Parcel & Access Road by CEA

Title

3/4/09

Date

Sketch for Tree Removal by CEA

Title

3/7/21

Date

Griffin Trust Tree Removals by CEA

Title

3/6/21

Date

2. a. Work Description (use additional paper and/or provide plan(s) of work, if necessary):

Request for a negative "Determination of Applicability" for the removal of a storm-damage 19-inch white pine in the 100 ft. buffer zone located 41 ft. from the edge of Fort Pond.



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C. Project Description (cont.)

b. Identify provisions of the Wetlands Protection Act or regulations which may exempt the applicant from having to file a Notice of Intent for all or part of the described work (use additional paper, if necessary).

310 CMR 1058 (6)(b)(7) "activities that are temporary in nature with negligible impacts."

3. a. If this application is a Request for Determination of Scope of Alternatives for work in the Riverfront Area, indicate the one classification below that best describes the project.

- ☐ Single family house on a lot recorded on or before 8/1/96
- ☐ Single family house on a lot recorded after 8/1/96
- ☐ Expansion of an existing structure on a lot recorded after 8/1/96
- ☐ Project, other than a single-family house or public project, where the applicant owned the lot before 8/7/96
- ☐ New agriculture or aquaculture project
- ☐ Public project where funds were appropriated prior to 8/7/96
- ☐ Project on a lot shown on an approved, definitive subdivision plan where there is a recorded deed restriction limiting total alteration of the Riverfront Area for the entire subdivision
- ☐ Residential subdivision; institutional, industrial, or commercial project
- ☐ Municipal project
- ☐ District, county, state, or federal government project
- ☐ Project required to evaluate off-site alternatives in more than one municipality in an Environmental Impact Report under MEPA or in an alternatives analysis pursuant to an application for a 404 permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers or 401 Water Quality Certification from the Department of Environmental Protection.

b. Provide evidence (e.g., record of date subdivision lot was recorded) supporting the classification above (use additional paper and/or attach appropriate documents, if necessary.)



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D. Signatures and Submittal Requirements

I hereby certify under the penalties of perjury that the foregoing Request for Determination of Applicability and accompanying plans, documents, and supporting data are true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

I further certify that the property owner, if different from the applicant, and the appropriate DEP Regional Office were sent a complete copy of this Request (including all appropriate documentation) simultaneously with the submittal of this Request to the Conservation Commission.

Failure by the applicant to send copies in a timely manner may result in dismissal of the Request for Determination of Applicability.

Name and address of the property owner:

Griffin Family Trust

Name

252 Fort Pond Inn Road

Mailing Address

Lancaster

City/Town

MA

State

01523

Zip Code

Signatures:

I also understand that notification of this Request will be placed in a local newspaper at my expense in accordance with Section 10.05(3)(b)(1) of the Wetlands Protection Act regulations.

Thomas J. Christopher, Trustee

Signature of Applicant

3/7/21

Date

Thomas J. Christopher

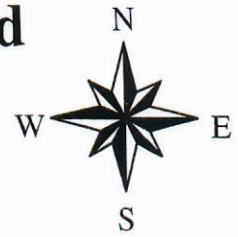
Signature of Representative (if any)

3/7/21

Date

Griffin Family Trust Parcel & Access Road



Griffin Family Trust
P.O. Box 1333
Shirley, MA 01464
April 4, 2009



GIS information from MassGIS - Massachusetts Office of Geographic and Environmental Information

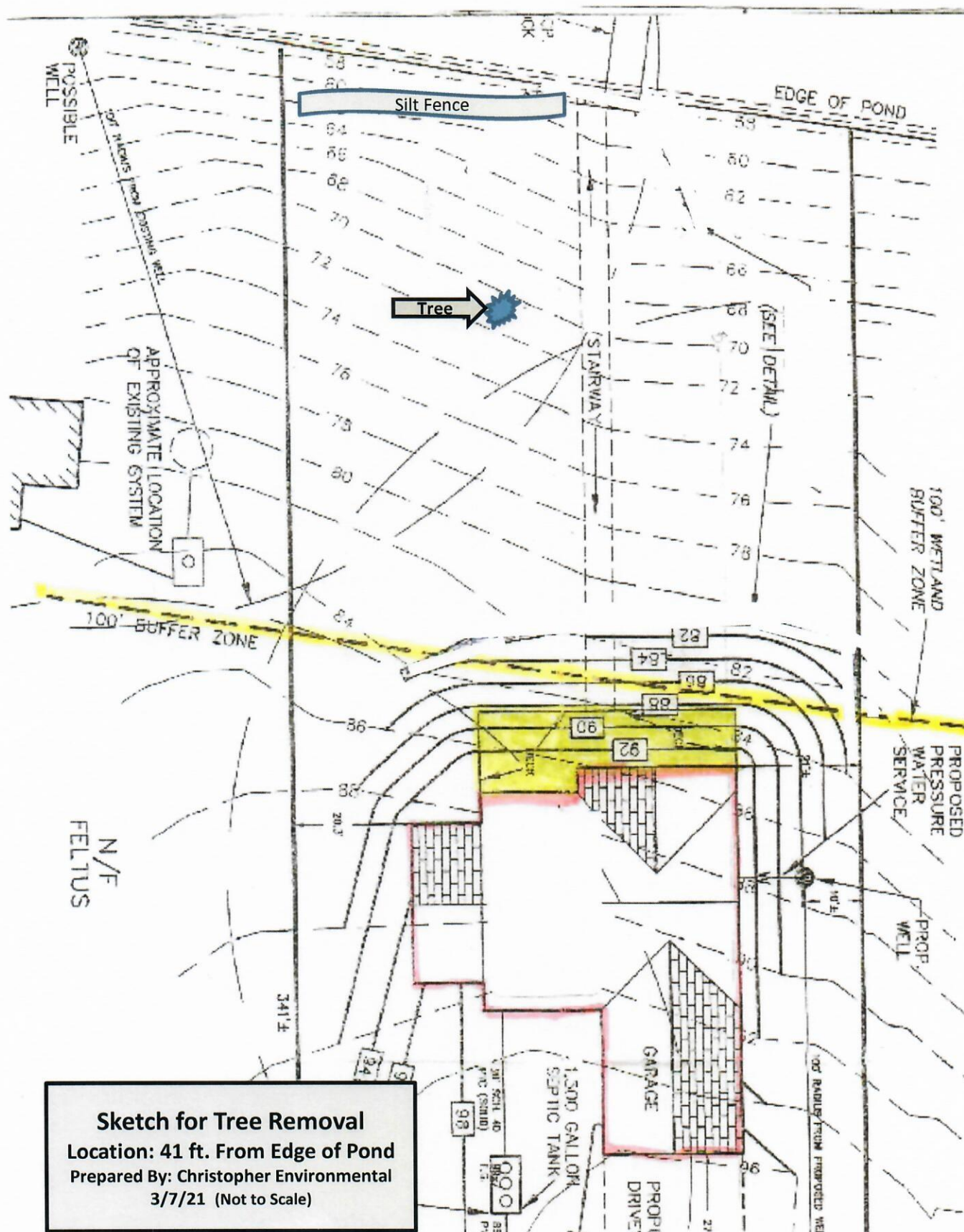
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Legend

-  Fort Pond Inn Road
-  Assessors Owner Parcels
-  Griffin Trust Parcel

1000 0 1000 2000 Feet



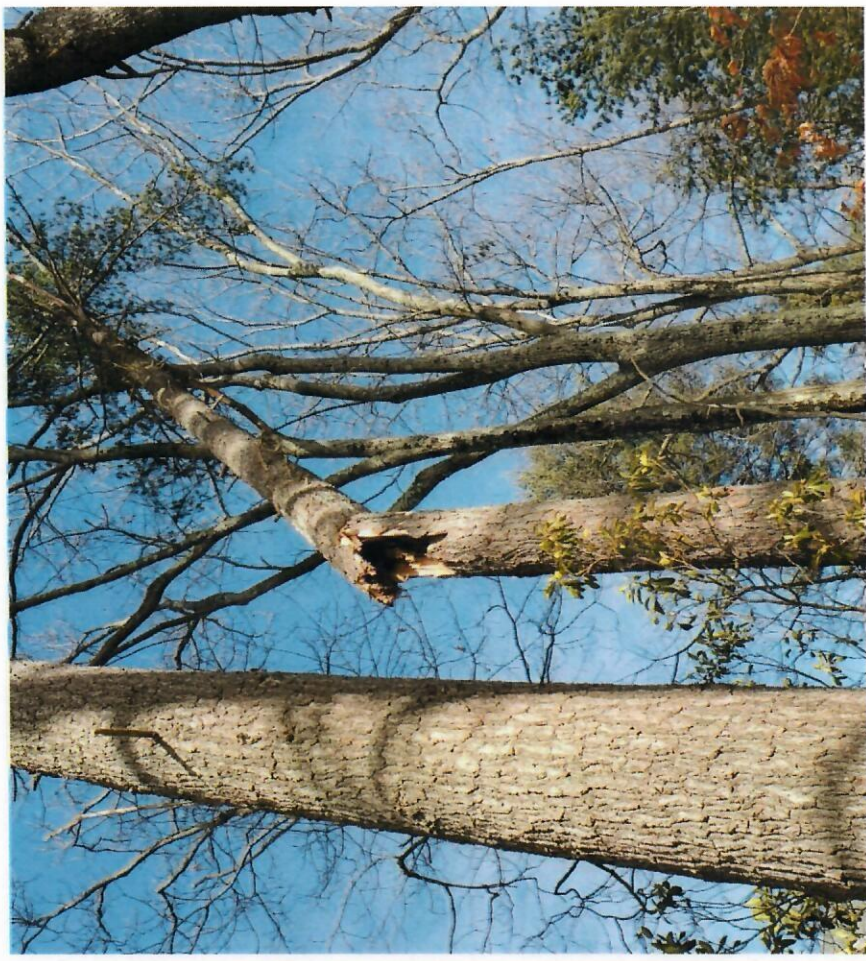


Sketch for Tree Removal
 Location: 41 ft. From Edge of Pond
 Prepared By: Christopher Environmental
 3/7/21 (Not to Scale)

Griffin Trust Tree Removal



#1 S. View of Trunk Shear 3/6/21

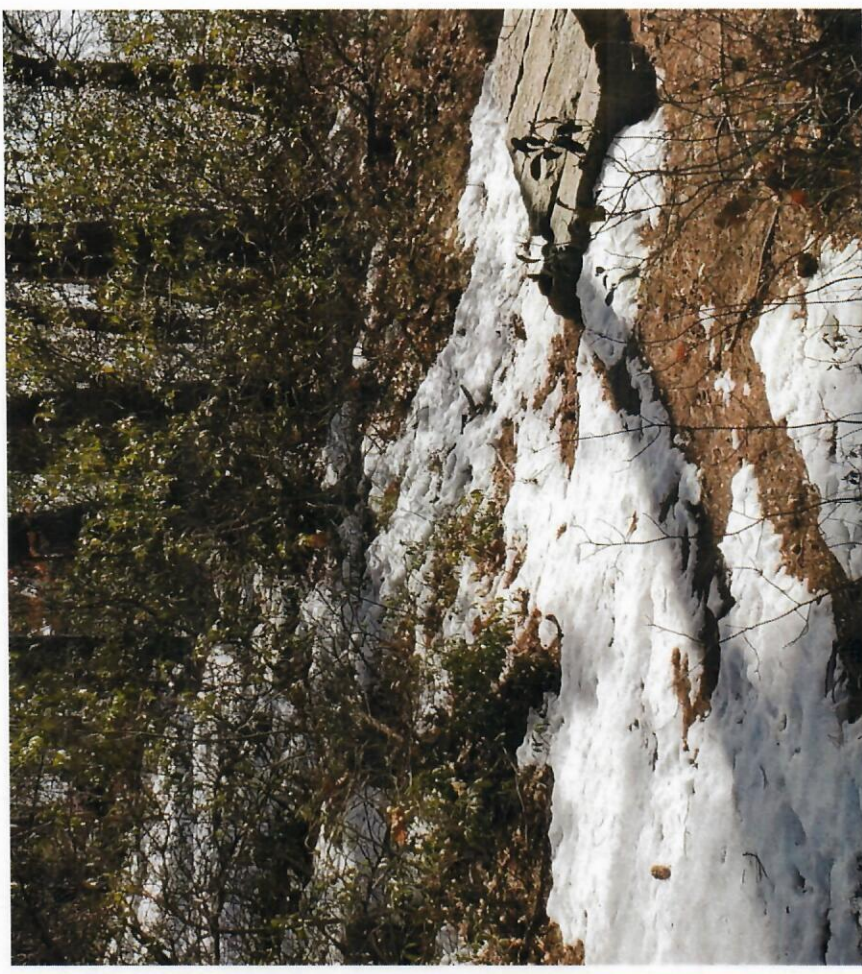


#2 E. View of Trunk Shear 3/6/21

Griffin Trust Tree Removal



#3 Split & Rotted Trunk 3/6/21



#4 S. View of Access Point Above
Granite Steps 3/6/21