

TOWN OF FREEDOM
HEALTHY TREE
REMOVAL APPLICATION

Property Owner _____ Date _____

Map # _____ Lot # _____ Lot Size _____ Zoning District _____

Local Address: _____ Phone # _____

Permanent Address: _____ Phone # _____

E-mail Address: _____ Cell # _____

What is the present use of the property? _____

Describe the Proposed Project: _____

What is your purpose for cutting: _____

Is the property 10 acres or more? Yes / No

Is there any wet area on this plot? _____ Where? _____

Boundary distances: (water frontage at bottom of a diagram)

Lot frontage: _____ Right boundary: _____

Left boundary: _____ Rear boundary: _____

Use plan to show lot boundaries.

- Attach a plot plan according to Article 3 Section 304.6.5 of the Freedom Zoning Ordinance. Also show the location of the tree(s) to be cut with the distance from water body and abutters. Include owner name, address, proposed date of project, boundary distances, name and map/lot number.
- Take pictures before and after and be prepared to show where tree(s) were prior to cutting. Measure distances to objects for reference purposes.
- Be aware that there is a 30-day appeal period. Any tree removal before that 30 days is at your own risk.
- If stumps are removed, fill in with pervious material, new trees, or natural vegetation. Protect the water body while and following removal.
- Within five (5) days of issuing an approval, the Zoning Officer shall mail notice of the approval to all abutters. The property owner or his authorized agent shall provide a complete list of abutters, and pay the cost of noticing abutter of the decision by certified mail.
- The fee for notification is \$8.00 per abutter. Check made payable to Town of Freedom.

Will you allow access to your property for inspection regarding this proposed work? _____

THE UNDERSIGNED OWNER HEREBY REQUESTS A ZONING PERMIT FOR THE ABOVE USE, TO BE ISSUED ON THE BASIS OF THE REPRESENTATIONS CONTAINED HEREIN. PERMIT IS VOID IN THE EVENT OF MISREPRESENTATION AND/OR NOT BEING IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE ZONING ORDINANCE, SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS (IF APPLICABLE) AND OTHER APPLICABLE STATE AND TOWN LAWS AND REGULATIONS.

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____
PROPERTY OWNER

PLEASE READ AND, IF APPLICABLE, SIGN THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT IF YOU, AS OWNER, DESIGNATE AN AGENT (CO-APPLICANT) TO ACT ON YOUR BEHALF.

I DESIGNATE THE PERSON LISTED BELOW AS MY AGENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROCURING THE NECESSARY LOCAL PERMITS FOR THE PROPOSED WORK AS DESCRIBED HEREIN. REPRESENTATIONS MADE BY MY AGENT MAY BE ACCEPTED AS THOUGH MADE BY ME PERSONALLY, AND I UNDERSTAND THAT I AM BOUND BY ANY OFFICIAL DECISION MADE ON THE BASIS OF SUCH REPRESENTATIONS.

AGENT _____ TEL# _____
ADDRESS _____
OWNER'S SIGNATURE _____

THIS APPLICATION MUST MEET THE TERMS OF ARTICLE 19 SECTION 1901.1 THROUGH SECTION 1901.7 OF THE FREEDOM ZONING ORDINANCE.

ISSUED _____ DATE _____ EXPIRATION DATE _____

DENIED _____ DATE _____ ZONING ADMINISTRATOR _____

REASON FOR DENIAL _____

304.6.5 Special Exception Standards for Cutting and Removal of Trees and Natural Vegetation in the Shorefront District:

- 304.6.5.1 Intent: The Legislature of the State of NH has found that the shorelands of the state are among its most valuable and fragile natural resources and their protection is essential to maintain the integrity of public waters. The intent of this provision of the Town of Freedom's zoning ordinance is to protect Freedom's water bodies via the Town's authority under RSA 674:16.
- 304.6.5.2 Any cutting or clearing of trees within seventy five (75) feet of the reference line in the shorefront district shall require a special exception from the Zoning Board of Adjustment. The applicant shall provide a cutting plan that conforms to the following shoreland protection standards:
- 304.6.5.2 (a) Maintenance of a Waterfront Buffer.
- (1) The waterfront buffer shall be those protected shorelands within 75 feet of the reference line. The purpose of this buffer is to protect the quality of public waters while allowing homeowner discretion with regard to water access, safety, viewscape maintenance, and lot design.
 - (2) Within the waterfront buffer all of the following prohibitions and limitations shall apply:
 - (A) No chemicals, including pesticides or herbicides of any kind, shall be applied to ground, turf, or established vegetation except if applied by horticultural professionals who have a pesticide application license issued by the department of agriculture or as allowed under special permit issued by the division of pesticide control under rules adopted by the pesticide control board under RSA 541-A, or fertilizers of any kind except those specified in RSA 483-B:9, II(d).
 - (B) Rocks and stumps and their root systems shall be left intact in the ground unless removal is specifically approved by the ZBA pursuant to RSA 482-A or RSA 483-B:11, II or unless rocks are removed to improve runoff control or the planting in the waterfront buffer, and stumps that are removed are replaced with pervious surfaces, new trees, or other woody vegetation.
 - (C) No natural ground cover shall be removed except as necessary for a foot path to water and access ways as provided under section 304.6.5.5 of this ordinance for normal maintenance, to protect the waterfront buffer, cutting those portions that have grown over 3 feet in height for the purpose of providing a view, to provide access to natural areas or shoreline.
 - (D) Starting from the northerly or easterly boundary of the property, and working along the shoreline, the waterfront buffer shall be divided into segments 50 foot (along the shore) by 75 foot (parallel to the property line). Owners of land within the waterfront buffer shall measure, calculate, and maintain the tree, sapling, shrub, and groundcover point score in each of these segments in accordance with the methods and standards described in subparagraphs (i) through (ix).
 - (i) Tree and sapling diameters shall be measured at 4 1/2 feet above the ground for existing trees and saplings, or by caliper at a height consistent with established nursery industry standards when nursery stock is to be used, and are scored as follows:

Diameter or Caliper--	Score
1 to 3 inches--	1
Greater than 3 and including 6 inches--	5
Greater than 6 and including 12 inches--	10
Greater than 12 inches--	15

- (ii) For the purpose of planting under RSA 483-B:9, V(g)(3), shrubs and groundcover plants shall be scored as follows:
 - Four square feet of shrub area-- 1 point.
 - Ground cover, not including mowed lawn--1 point for every 50 square feet.
 - Shrub and groundcover shall count for at least 15 points and not more than 25 points in each full segment.
- (iii) Dead, diseased, or unsafe trees or saplings shall not be included in scoring.
- (iv) If the total tree and sapling score in any 75 foot by 50 foot segment exceeds 100 points, then trees, saplings, and shrubs over 3 feet in height may be removed as long as the sum of the scores for the remaining trees and saplings in that segment does not total less than 100 points. If for any reason there is insufficient area for a full segment, or the segment contains areas incapable of supporting trees and saplings, such as areas of rock, ledge, or beaches, the point score requirement for the remaining vegetation in that partial segment shall be reduced proportionally to that required of a full segment. Vegetation shall not be removed from any segment which fails to meet the minimum point score for that segment. Owners are encouraged to take efforts to plan the maintenance of their waterfront buffer areas including the planting of additional non-invasive vegetation to increase point scores within segments, thus providing sufficient points to allow the future removal of vegetation as may become necessary while still meeting the requirements of this paragraph.

304.6.5.3 Permits granted by the zoning officer

- (a) A shorefront resident who wishes to remove four or fewer trees in a segment, may apply to the zoning officer for approval of the cutting plan as described above, which follows the same standards and methodology as listed above, as long as the resulting points still meet the 100 point requirement.
- (b) The zoning officer's approval will be effective thirty (30) days after his decision is made.
- (c) Within five (5) days of issuing an approval, the Zoning Officer shall mail notice of the approval to all abutters. The property owner or his authorized agent shall provide a complete list of abutters, and pay the costs of noticing abutters of the decision by certified mail.

304.6.5.4 For lots in the floodplain or lots sloping toward the lake at greater than a 12.5% grade, any cutting between seventy-five (75) and three hundred (300) feet of the reference line shall also require a cutting or clearing plan.

TREE REMOVAL POINT PLOT

"Body of Water"

N or E ←

