



Town of New London

PLANNING BOARD

375 Main Street
New London, NH 03257

Guidelines for tree cutting in the Shore Land Overlay District Waterfront Buffer

The New London Planning Board offers the following procedural guidelines for shorefront residents seeking approval to cut trees within the 50' Waterfront Buffer.

A waterfront plan and inventory, along with a cutting and planting plan, must be prepared for, submitted to, and approved by the New London Planning Board before cutting or felling any tree within the Waterfront Buffer, including dead trees.

The New London Zoning Ordinance (Article XVI G. 2. c (3)). states:

“If the total tree and sapling score in any 50 by 50 foot segment exceeds 50 points, then the Planning Board may authorize the removal of trees, saplings and shrubs as long as the score for the remaining trees, saplings and shrubs in that segment does not total less than 50 points....”

To facilitate the implementation of this ordinance please observe the following steps:

1. A tree-cutting request shall include a plot plan of the site showing all existing trees and saplings in each 50' by 50' segment within 50' of the reference line, clearly indicating the points for each tree or sapling and the total points for the segment, which trees the property owner intends to remove and their points and the resulting points for each segment if the trees were removed (see over for a detailed explanation and sample plot). This plan shall also indicate the type, points, and location of replacement plantings if needed. New plantings shall be native species, such as white pine, hemlock, high- bush blueberries, etc.
2. A representative of the Town must visit the site to verify plan conditions (contact Peter Stanley, Zoning Administrator at 526-4821 x16, zoning@nl-nh.com to arrange a site inspection). Based on this visit, the Town representative makes a recommendation to the Planning Board on the proposed tree-cutting plan. This step is very important because the Planning Board is inclined to follow the recommendations of the Town representative.
3. No cutting shall occur until *after* the Planning Board has approved the plan and the property owner has been notified of the approval and conditions thereof, if any.

Prop. Owner: _____ Date: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____ Email: _____

Contractor: _____ Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Map/Lot: _____ - _____ - _____ Street Address: _____

Visited By: _____ Date of Site Visit: _____

Planning Board Review Date: _____ Approved: _____ Denied: _____

Excerpt from Article XVI G. 2. C of the New London Zoning Ordinance March 10, 2009

2.c. Starting from the northerly or easterly boundary of the property, and working along the shoreline, the Waterfront Buffer shall be divided into 50 by 50 foot segments. Within each segment a minimum combined tree and sapling score of at least 50 points shall be maintained. If for any reason there is insufficient area for a full segment, the number of points required to be maintained in that partial segment shall be proportioned to that required for a full segment.

(1) Tree and sapling diameters shall be measured at 4½ feet above ground and are scored as follows:

Diameter Score:

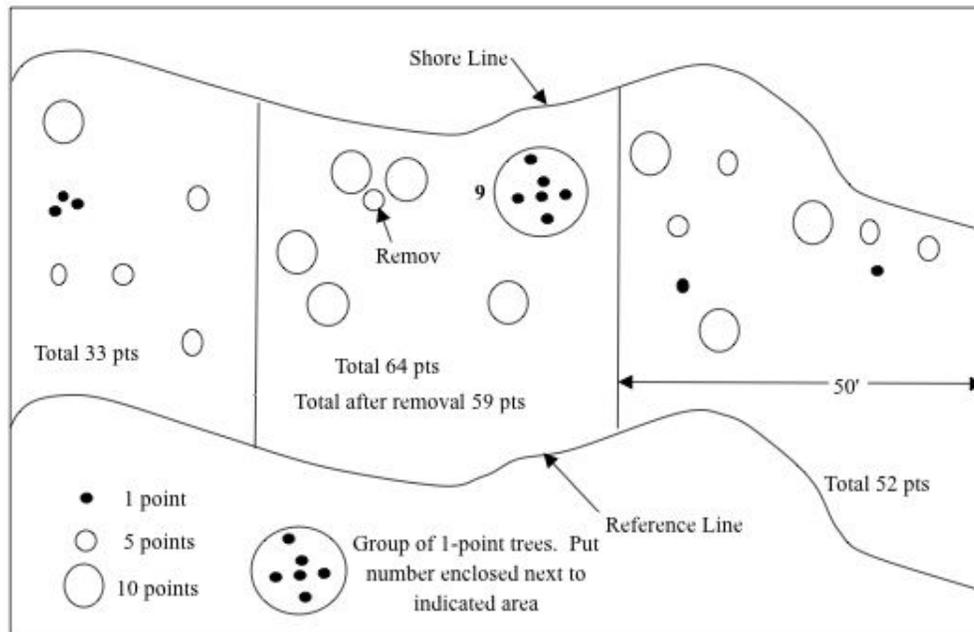
- **1 inch to 6 inches: 1 point**
- **Greater than 6 inches to 12 inches: 5 points**
- **Greater than 12 inches: 10 points**

(2) Dead, diseased, or unsafe trees or saplings (as determined by the Planning Board) shall not be included in scoring.

(3) If the total tree and sapling score in any 50 by 50 foot segment exceeds 50 points, then the Planning Board may authorize the removal of trees, saplings and shrubs as long as the score for the remaining trees, saplings and shrubs in that segment does not total less than 50 points. The remaining scores in partial segments shall be treated similarly.

(4) The Planning Board may authorize the removal of trees and saplings on a segment of a property having less than the required minimum score of 50 points, as long as trees, saplings and shrubs are replanted in sufficient quantity to equal or exceed the score that existed prior to the removal activity. The Planning Board shall not approve a cutting request that results in less than the required minimum score of 50 points or less than the score that existed prior to the request being filed.

Sample plot plan with 50' by 50' segments (tree cells) and trees identified by points





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