

ANNUAL REPORT 2005-2006

The inland wetland and watercourses of the State of Connecticut are an indispensable and irreplaceable but fragile natural resource with which the citizens of the state have been endowed. These wetlands and watercourses are an interrelated web of nature essential to an adequate supply of surface and underground water; to the hydrological stability and control of flooding and erosion; to the recharging and purification of groundwater; and to the existence of many forms of animal, aquatic and plant life.

The Pomfret Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission is the governing agency appointed to protect the wetlands and watercourses of the Town of Pomfret. Any person wishing to conduct a regulated activity within a watercourse or within the upland review area adjacent to a wetland and/or wishing to conduct an activity which requires a Pomfret Building Permit must first obtain an Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Permit for such activity from the Pomfret Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission.

The Pomfret Inlands Wetlands and Watercourses Commission has made a conscious effort to educate the Pomfret residents about the importance of our Wetlands resources. We have published monthly articles in the *Pomfret Times*, called Wetlands Demystified, which touches on various facets of Wetlands and their importance. In addition, we hosted a joint commission forum on land use issues in March, which was attended by well over fifty residents.

Fiscal year 2005-2006 saw a 45% increase in applications over the preceding fiscal year. The number of applications by category for the present and preceding four fiscal years are as follows:

	2000-2001	2001-2002	2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006
Single Family Homes:	34	27	16	8	14
Out Buildings:	21	25	12	0	2
Additions, Decks, Porches:	17	17	17	2	1
Pools:	13	15	6	0	1
Subdivisions:	2	3	3	6	4
Commercial Buildings:	6	4	0	0	0
Pipes, Culvert Activity:	1	1	0	1	3
Ponds, Tree Harvests:	1	4	3	7	8
Miscellaneous:	26	16	20	7	12
Totals:	167	121	112	31	45

Of the 45 applications for the fiscal year 2005-2006, thirty-nine (39) were approved, four (4) were withdrawn and two (2) were denied.

Members of the Pomfret Inlands and Wetlands and Watercourses Commission as of January 1, 2006 are:, David St. Martin, Chairman, Paul Safin, Vice Chairman, Paul Hennen, Secretary, John Folsom, Marshall Eaton , Joseph Stoddard, Joseph Travinski, James Rowley, Alternate & Katarina Rutkowski, Alternate. Staff: Ryan Brais, Wetlands Enforcement Officer, James Rabbitt, AICP Designated Agent and Town Planner, Donald Aubrey, Town Engineer and Betty Morin, Clerk.

The Commission meets the first Wed. of each month at 7:00 pm in the Pomfret Town Hall Conference Room . The Clerk's hours are Mon. 12:00 – 3:00 PM, Wed.3:00 – 6:00 PM & Fri.10:00 AM – 1:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

David W. St. Martin
Chairman