



**City of Fall River  
Massachusetts  
Planning Department**

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**Notice of Adoption of Policies Regarding Buffer Zones**

On February 1, 2021, the Fall River Conservation Commission adopted the following policies with respect to review of projects involving Buffer Zones to resource areas under the protection of the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act:

- 1) In reviewing projects located in buffer zones, the Commission will, in addition to other sources, be guided by Section 3 of the MACC Buffer Zone Guidebook.
- 2) In reviewing projects located in buffer zones, the Commission will require applicants to establish to the Commission's satisfaction that proposed work in the buffer zone will not significantly impair the proper functioning of the buffer zone in support of adjoining resource areas, and the Commission may require, at the applicant's expense, a review and determination by an outside expert of whether the proposed activity should or should not be allowed, or should be allowed, but with conditions.
- 3) The Commission shall establish, as a matter of policy a 25-foot "no-disturb" zone parallel to and 25' distant from the boundary of all wetland resource areas in which natural vegetation shall remain undisturbed to the maximum extent possible, and the boundary of which shall be marked with permanent boundary markers..