

Dear Members of the Franklin Conservation Commission,

We, Dick and Alicia Karas, are requesting permission to renovate our back yard and garden to achieve 2 main goals: accessibility and sustainability.

Accessibility.

We have enjoyed living in this house since for the past 30 years! Dick was an avid canoer and kayaker and enjoyed the access from his property to Lake Populatic since moving there in 1993. In 2013, a catastrophic accident left him a quadriplegic, and he faced life in a motorized wheelchair. Miraculously, after 5 months residential treatment at Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital, the ensuing decade of ongoing physical therapy and strengthening activities, he has regained the ability to walk, drive and paddle. He has chronic right sided weakness and balance issues and is technically disabled for life. His access to the lake and his kayak by means of the current path down the bank is hazardous, so he is unable to make use of the benefit kayaking provides for his physical and mental state. A permanent set of slip proof stairs with railings would enable him (and his wife as she ages) to make use of this activity in the home they plan on living in forever. He is seeking approval to install a set of stairs to the lake, so he and his family are able to independently and safely access his kayak and floating dock. In addition, we would like to make the patio areas and walkways accessible for us for the coming years as well. Currently, much of the walkways are uneven and steeply sloped making walking difficult and potentially unsafe.

Sustainability.

As an important component of our re-design, we want to create a garden that is more sustainable from an ecological/environmental perspective, and also to make it easier to care for as we get older. Toward that goal, we want to remove all of the grass/lawn that we currently have to reduce water usage and care requirements. We also want to plant more perennial plants that will also require less water and care. Finally, we hope to remove as many of the invasive plants that are currently growing on the property as controlling them requires significant effort.

Thank you for your consideration.

Dick and Alicia Karas

**Town of Franklin Conservation Commission**

**PROPERTY ACCESS SIGNATURE FORM**

I hereby request that the Franklin Conservation Commission review this NOI/RDA/ANRAD application. I (we) grant authority to the Franklin Conservation Commission members and agents to go onto my (our) property solely for purposes directly related to the inspection and approval of this application and for follow-up compliance with the permit conditions.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Property Owner

9-28-23  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## Town of Franklin Conservation Commission

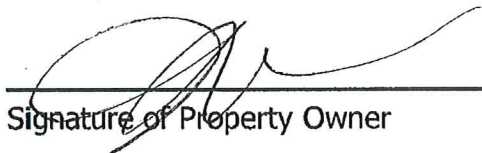
### APPLICATION PROCESS SIGNATURE FORM

There are three different applications that can be submitted to undertake work in a jurisdictional area: a Notice of Intent (NOI), a Request for Determination (RDA) and a Minor Buffer Zone Activity (MBZA). All three applications have different criteria for submission and approval and the NOI and RDA are governed by both the state law and the local bylaw. The MBZA is issued under the local bylaw only.

When a potential applicant requests advice from the Conservation Agent on which application to file, the opinion of the Agent is based on the information given by the potential applicant and any other information available to the Agent, e.g. the town's GIS system. The Agent has no legal right to go onto private property at any time until after an application is filed or permission of the property owner is given.

It is important that all applicants understand that after an application is filed, additional information may come to light e.g. via a field inspection or a review of the application, that may impact the scope of the submitted application and the approval process. **Therefore, it is the ultimate responsibility of the applicant to decide which application to file.**

In light of the above, please sign below indicating an understanding of this policy and submit it with the application.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Property Owner

9-28-23  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Town of Franklin Conservation Commission**

**LOCAL FILING FEE CALCULATION WORKSHEET**

**1. NOTICE OF INTENT (NOI)**

**1.1. New Individual Single Family Home (SFH)** \$200.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
This includes all projects associated with a SFH

**1.2. Work Associated with Existing Residential Property**  
\$50.00 \$50.00  
Above-ground pools, fences or other incidental projects  
involving land disturbance that are not covered by the MBZA

**1.3. Control of Nuisance Vegetation** \$50.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
This category shall not apply to any non-natural  
deposition of material e.g. vegetative debris

**1.4. Subdivisions**

Base Fee \$600.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
Infrastructure in Buffer Zone **or** Resource Area  
Roads \_\_\_\_\_ linear feet x \$2.00 = \_\_\_\_\_  
\*Drainage Structures \_\_\_\_\_ X \$10.00 each = \_\_\_\_\_  
Wetland Resource Area Disturbed \_\_\_\_\_ square feet x \$0.50= \_\_\_\_\_

(If single family homes are proposed as part of a subdivision  
application, for each house in jurisdiction, individual NOI fees will apply.)

**1.5. Multifamily Dwellings, including Condominium Units:**  
\_\_\_\_\_ MFDU x \$100.00 \_\_\_\_\_

**1.6. Commercial/Industrial**

Base Fee \$600.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
Infrastructure in Buffer Zone **or** Resource Area

Roads	___ linear feet x \$2.00	=	_____
*Drainage Structures	___ X \$10.00 each	=	_____
Wetland Resource Area Disturbed	___ square feet x \$0.50	=	_____
Buildings	___ X \$125 each	=	_____
All Accessory Improvements	\$100.00	=	_____

**2. REQUEST FOR DETERMINATION (RDA)** \$100.00

**3. MINOR BUFFER ZONE ACTIVITY (MBZA)** \$50.00

**4. ABBREVIATED NOTICE OF RESOURCE AREA DETERMINATION (ANRAD)**

\$0.50/foot/resource area: = \_\_\_\_\_

**5. OTHER PERMITS/SERVICES**

Order of Conditions Extension	\$50.00	_____
Certificate of Compliance Request	\$50.00	_____
Certificate Re-Inspection	\$50.00	_____
Status Letter for Financial Institution	\$100.00	_____
Permit Amendment	\$100.00	_____

**6. FILING FEE CALCULATION**

**Town Share of State Fees** (See NOI Wetland Fee Transmittal Form) \$ 67.50 \_\_\_\_\_

**Local Filing Fee Calculated Above** \$ 50.00

**TOTAL Due Town of Franklin (Check No.1)** \$ 117.50

**State Share of Filing Fee** (See NOI Wetland Fee Transmittal Form)

**TOTAL Due DEP (Check No. 2)** \$ 42.50

**7. ADVERTISING FEE (Check No. 3)** **TBD**

The fee will be the exact amount the newspaper charges for that specific advertisement. Once the advertisement is placed with the paper, by the Conservation Commission, the applicant will be notified of the cost and will be expected to submit a check for that exact amount, payable to the Town of Franklin, to the Conservation Department prior to the first hearing.

\*Drainage structures: catch basins, manholes, leaching basins, gutter inlet or any other man-made structure (other than a pipe) for purposes of controlling drainage.