

TOWN OF WINCHENDON



Board of Health

Telephone (978) 297-3537
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109 Front Street
Winchendon, Massachusetts 01475-1758

APPLICATION FOR BEAVER DAM MODIFICATION PERMIT

The Winchendon Board of Health requires the following information before any permit to modify a beaver dam is granted:

- 1) A letter stating that one or more of the following situations exist because of beaver or muskrat caused flooding.
 - (A) Beaver or muskrat occupancy of a public water supply.
 - (B) Beaver or muskrat-caused flooding of drinking water wells, well fields or water pumping stations.
 - (C) Beaver or muskrat-caused flooding of sewage beds, septic systems or sewage pumping stations.
 - (D) Beaver or muskrat-caused flooding of a public or private way, driveway, railway or airport runway or taxiway.
 - (E) Beaver or muskrat-caused flooding of electrical or gas generation plants or transmission or distribution structures or facilities, telephone or other communications facilities or other public utilities.
 - (F) Beaver or muskrat-caused flooding affecting the public use of hospitals, emergency clinics, nursing homes, homes for the elderly, or fire stations.
 - (G) Beaver or muskrat-caused flooding affecting hazardous waste sites or facilities, incineration or resource recovery plants, or other structures or facilities whereby flooding may result in the release or escape of hazardous or noxious materials or substances.
 - (H) The gnawing, chewing, entering or damage to electrical or gas generating or transmission equipment, cables, alarm systems, or facilities by any beaver or muskrat.
 - (I) Beaver or muskrat-caused flooding or structural instability on property owned by the applicant if such animal problem poses an imminent threat of substantial property damage or income loss, which shall be limited to:
 1. Flooding of residential, commercial, industrial buildings or facilities.
 2. Flooding of or access to commercial agricultural lands which prevents normal agricultural practices from being conducted on such lands.
 3. Reduction in the production of an agricultural crop caused by flooding or compromised structural stability of commercial agricultural lands.

4. Flooding or residential lands in which the municipal board of health, it's chair or agent or state or federal department of health has determined a threat to human health and safety exists.
- 2) A written statement from the owner of the land that the beaver dam is located on (if not your land) permitting you or your agent access if this permit is granted by the Winchendon Board of Health.
The issuance of a permit to a private individual does not authorize that individual to trespass upon private property to use that permit.
- 3) You must notify The Winchendon Conservation Commission that you are applying for an emergency Beaver Dam Modification Permit from the Board of Health.

For information on resolving beaver situations that do not involve a threat to human health you may contact the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife Central Wildlife District office at (508) 835-3607.