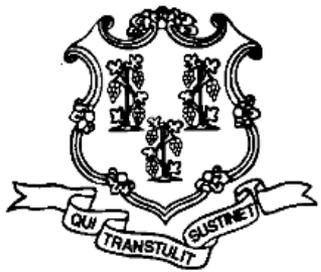


Wetlands, Watercourses Enfield & You

An informative power point
brought to you by the Inland
Wetland and Watercourses
Agency of Enfield



What are Wetlands and Watercourses ?



WETLANDS

The State of Connecticut defines a wetland as soils that are very poorly or poorly drained, alluvial or floodplain soil. Just because a land looks dry, it may be considered a wetland.

Wetlands are important because they act as the earth's kidneys, wetlands clean the surface water which we depend on to drink and grow our food with. They provide areas for flood water storage to aid in reducing flooding in developed areas.

Wetlands also act as the home for many species of plants and animals. Wetlands are often located between watercourses and uplands. This configuration and others boasts for a diverse population of wildlife.

WATERCOURSES

Watercourses in Connecticut are very broadly defined.

Rivers, streams, brooks, waterways, lakes, ponds, marshes, swamps, bogs and all other bodies of water, natural or artificial, vernal or intermittent, public or private are considered watercourses in Connecticut.

Although the state defines wetlands and watercourses separately, they occasionally may represent the same area on a map as in the case of a marsh or swamp.

Watercourses tend to do two major things for us, move and hold our regions fresh water supply. They also provide habitat for wildlife and are esthetically pleasing.

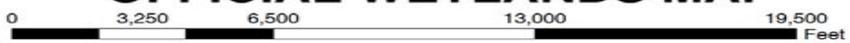
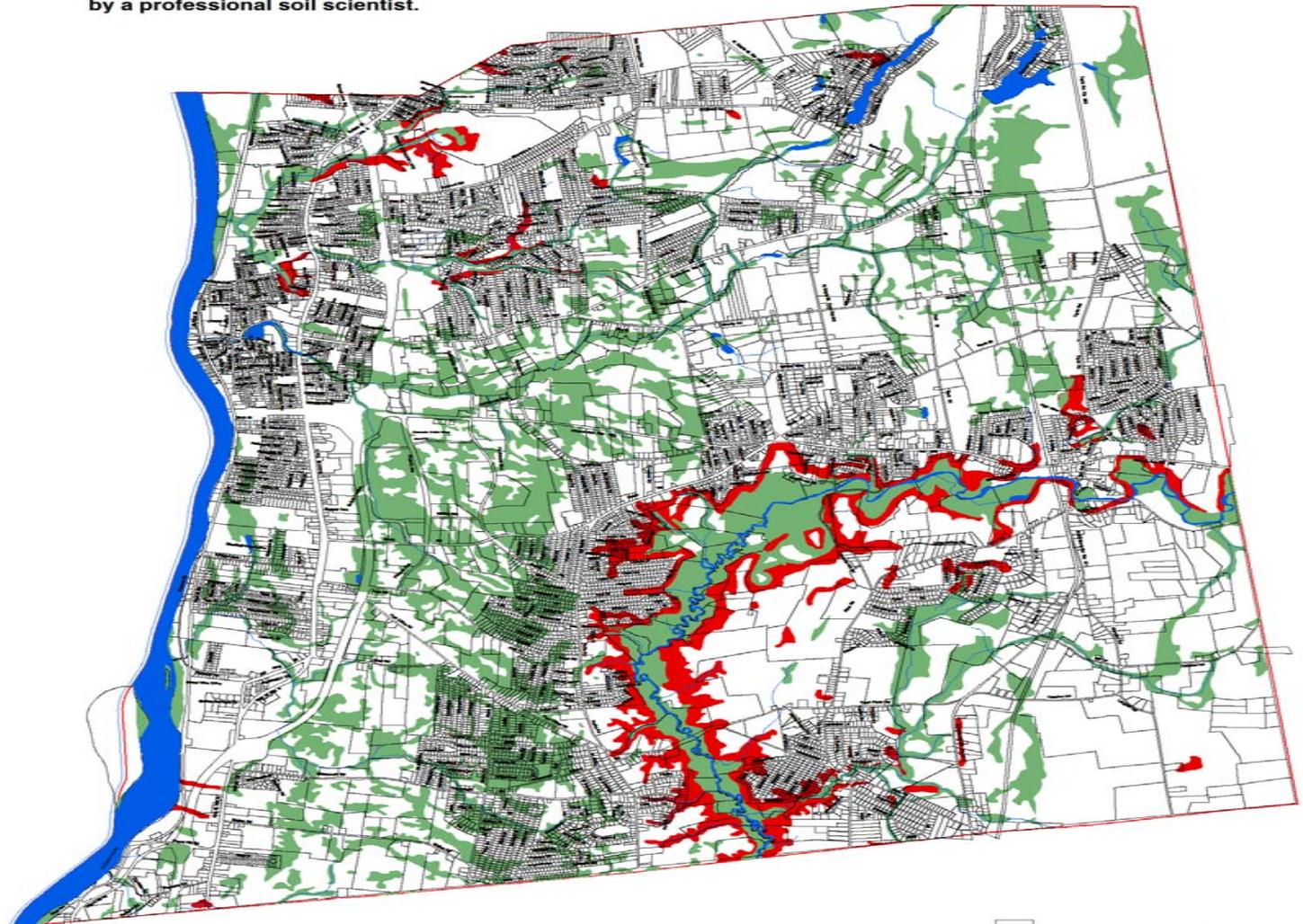
Enfield's Wetlands and Watercourses

In Enfield, approximately 5,160 acres (or 23% of the town) are classified as inland wetlands or watercourses.

To protect Enfield's wetlands, a buffer zone of 100-200 feet from the edge of the wetland or watercourse has been established. Several of Enfield's watercourses need more protection, these watercourses have a 200 foot buffer review zone. This buffer zone is meant to ensure that any new development is reviewed prior to being built so that it does not harm our collective resource. A buffer on these resources act to filter pollutants, regulate the ecology and chemistry of the resource and overall limit the disturbance to wetlands and watercourses.

The Inland Wetlands and Watercourse Agency "IWWA" reviews any development which falls within a wetland, watercourse or its associated buffer zone.

Actual wetland and watercourse boundaries must be verified by a professional soil scientist.



Approximate Scale: 1" = 2200'

-  Parcel Boundaries
-  Wetland Soils
-  Watercourses
-  Terrace Escarpment Soils
-  Town Boundary

Base Map Source: Parcel boundaries taken from the Town of Enfield Assessors Maps digitized by Harrah-Michalowski Associates, Inc. and Diocese-Bentley Engineers, Inc. June 1998.
Soil and Water Features: Soil Map Units are from the Connecticut Soil Survey Database (Hartford County Soil Survey, 1962). Water features selected from U.S. Geological Survey Digital Line Graph Source Material (1960-1984) and 1990 aerial photo interpretation.
Geographical representations may not be exact.
Adopted by the Enfield Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency on April 19, 2005. Effective Date May 1, 2005. Signed: _____, Secretary, Enfield Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency

5 Things You Can Do To Protect Wetlands & Watercourses



1

Find out if your property has or borders wetlands or a watercourse. You can do this by using the towns GIS Mapping system simply go to www.enfield-ct.gov



2

Don't dump your yard clippings in an area you suspect of being a wetland. Instead, place yard waste in a brown tipper barrel (obtained from Enfield Public Works) for curbside pick-up on Fridays, or bring it directly to the Town Transfer Station located on Town Farm Road.



3

If your property borders a watercourse try to leave a strip of vegetation on the watercourse's bank. This will aid in absorbing flood waters, reduce soil erosion and improve wildlife habitat.



4

Clean your car in a more eco friendly way, everything you put on the ground or a catch basin eventually goes into a wetland or watercourse. Chemicals can be toxic to aquatic environments, even a slight change in pH can cause detrimental effects.



5

Educate and Enjoy with Others!



The Town of Enfield encourages you to enjoy the many benefits
our wetlands and watercourses have to offer!



Thank you for your time!