



Plant Healthcare Consultants, Inc.

American Society of Consulting Arborist ▪ International Society of Arboriculture
Massachusetts Arborist Association ▪ Massachusetts Tree Wardens and Foresters Association
TREE INVENTORIES ▪ APPRAISALS ▪ DIAGNOSIS ▪ TREE RISK ASSESSMENTS



Tree Planting – Final Condition Report 160 Edgewater Drive, Needham, MA MASS DEP File #234-893

Prepared for:

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Prepared by:

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November 20, 2024

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Summary

On November 18, 2024, I performed a monitoring inspection of the planted trees and shrubs at 160 Edgewater Drive, Needham MA. This inspection was conducted to satisfy the Order of Conditions issued January 24, 2023. The conditions required mitigation planting in accordance with my report title *Assessment of Trees within Wetland Resource/Buffer Zone* dated September 20, 2022, that accompanied the NOI MassDEP #234-893 filed on November 16, 2022.

I have found that all the trees and shrubs, installed during the last two weeks of April 2023, are in accordance with the mitigation plan. I also determined that the current survivability rate at the time of my inspection to be 89%. Fifty-eight of the sixty-five trees and shrubs have at least 85% live wood.

Introduction

Background & History

The applicant renovated a single-family home at 160 Edgewater Drive, Needham, MA – MASS DEP# 234-893. Per the Order of Conditions, issued January 24, 2023, mitigation plantings must be monitored annually for a period of two years. To be in accordance with the Order of Conditions survivability rates are to be determined. For a plant to be considered alive it must have 85% live wood throughout the plant. The findings of this inspection are to be submitted in annual reports.

On November 12, 2024, the applicant contacted my office requesting that I perform the final inspection of the mitigation plantings installed the last two weeks of April 2023. I scheduled a site visit for November 18, 2024, at 12:30 pm to inspect the plantings.

Assignment

The scope of this assignment was to inspect and assess the condition of the newly planted, mitigation trees and shrubs at 160 Edgewater Drive and compile my findings in this report.

I was also to confirm the installation of the Wetland markers signs/placards.

Limits of Assignment

The recommendations and conclusions provided in this report are based on my visual observations only. I did not examine the plant's interiors, nor did I collect soil or plant tissue samples for laboratory testing.

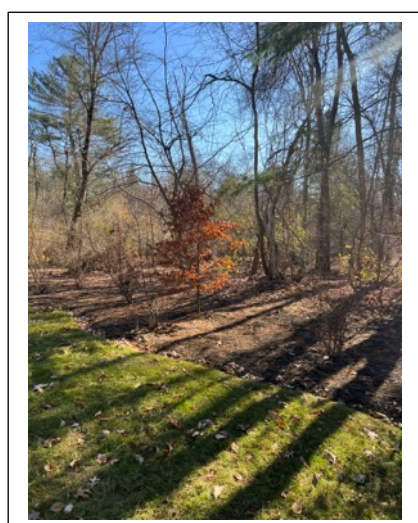
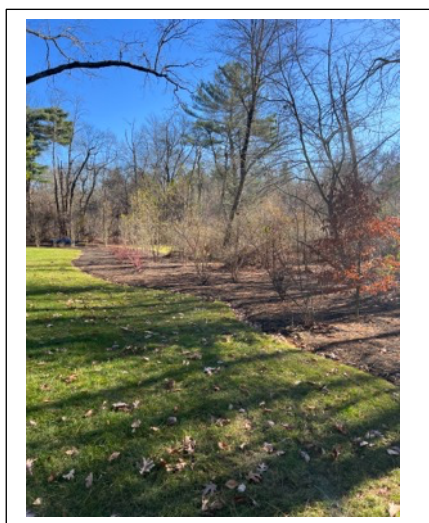
Purpose and Use of Report

The purpose of this report is to satisfy the Order of Conditions for MASS DEP# 234-893 by reporting on the compliance of plantings per the mitigation plan and the survival rate of the newly planted trees and shrubs.

Observations

On November 18, 2024, I performed a site visit to 160 Edgewater Drive, Needham, MA. I identified the planted trees and shrubs, installed within the 100' Buffer Zone, most of which within the 25' No Disturb Zone, per the Order of Conditions.

I assessed all trees to determine the condition and to insure that are alive, as determined by the Order of Conditions (85% live wood). I took photographs representative of the tree population as seen below:





Discussion

Per my inspection and assessment, I have determined that 58 of the 65 trees and shrubs are alive – per the Order of Conditions specification of 85% live wood - yielding an 89% survivability rate. All the trees and shrubs are planted properly and in accordance with the approved mitigation plan and appear to be well established. The applicant has secured a vendor to provide deer control to minimize damage in the future.

The applicant also manually removed the small section of buckthorn at the corner of the BVW.

Below is a table indicating the plantings that were installed. It is consistent with the original, approved planting plan. On the following pages are plans with the approximate plant locations.

Indicator Status	Native	ID Key	Plant Type/ Name	Qty.	Size
FACW	Yes	Bn	Tree - Betula nigra - multi stem	13	2 -25" cal. B#B
FACU	Yes	Fg	Tree - Fagus grandifolia	3	2 -25" cal. B#B
FACU	Yes	Tc	Tree - Tilia americana	3	2 - 25" cal. B#B
FACW	Yes	Qb	Tree - Quercus bicolor	3	2 - 25" cal. B#B
OBL	Yes	Sn	Tree - Salix nigra	3	2 - 25" cal. B#B
FAC	Yes	Ac	Tree - Amelanchier canadensis - multi stem	8	2 - 25" cal. B#B
FACU	Yes	Pv	Tree - Prunus virginiana	3	2 - 25" cal. B#B
FACW	Yes	Ha	Shrub - Clethra alnifolia	8	5 gal. CN
FACW	Yes	Iv	Shrub - Ilex verticillata	5	5 gal. CN
FACW	Yes	Cc	Shrub - Cornus sericea	7	5 gal. CN
	Yes	Rt	Shrub - Rhus typhina	3	5 gal. CN
	Yes	Sc	Shrub - Sambucus canadensis	3	5 gal. CN
FACW	Yes	Rv	Shrub - Rhododendron viscosum	3	5 gal. CN

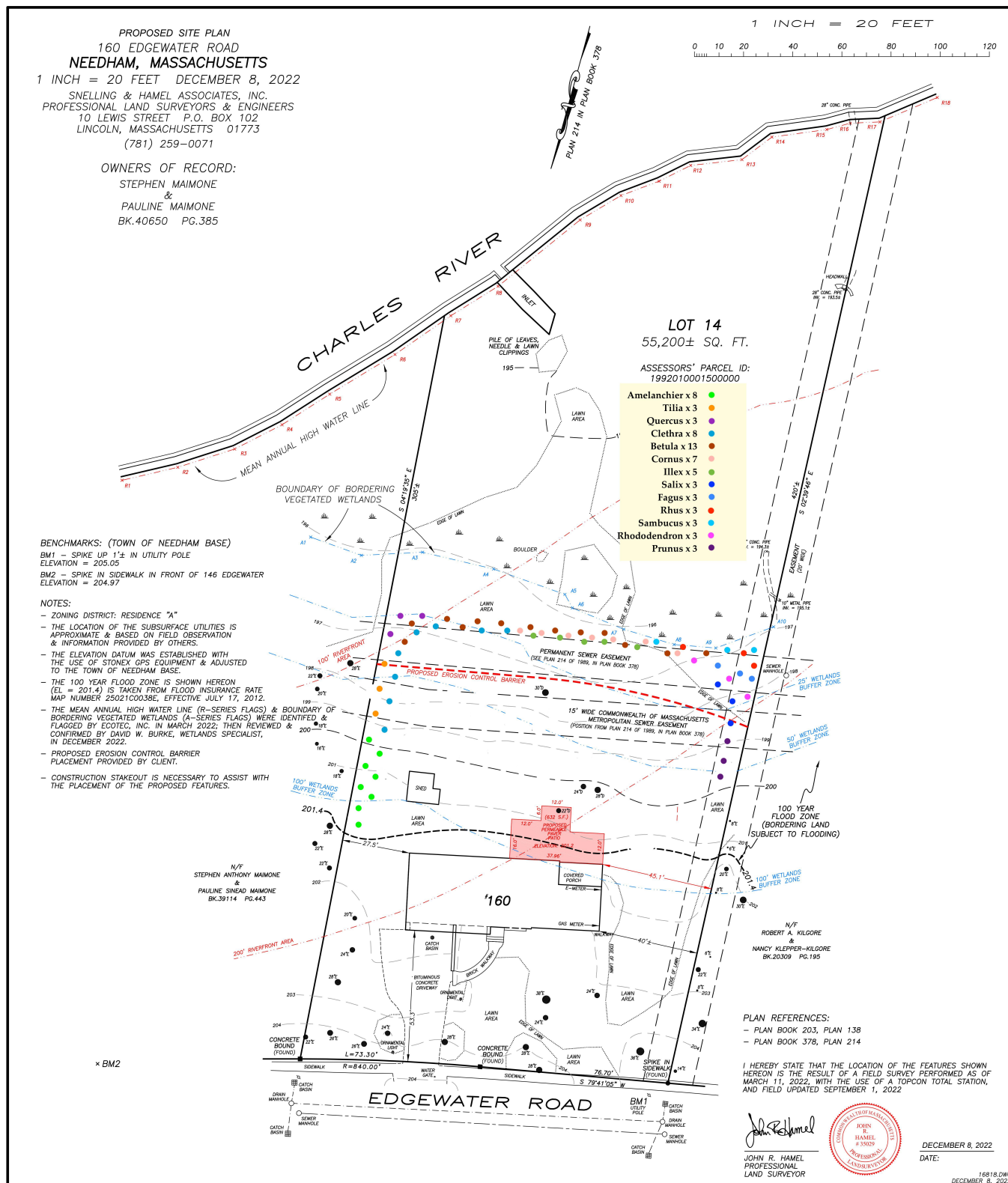
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Planting Plans

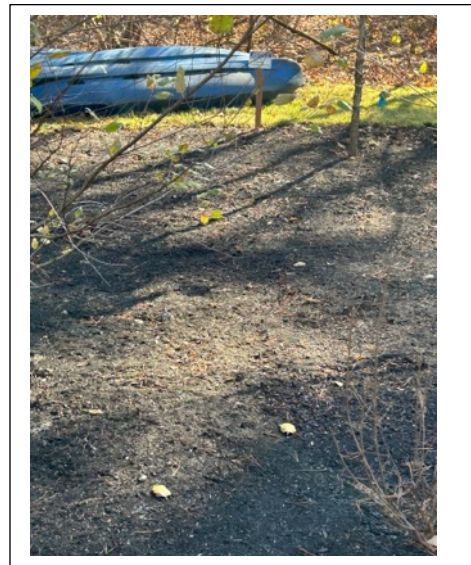




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Additional Conditions

In addition to the mitigation plantings there is an order to install three placard/signs denoting the protected wetland boundary. The signs have been installed on the property in the established locations.



Conclusion

Based on my education, training, and years of experience in the field of arboriculture it is my professional opinion that the mitigation plantings and installation of the wetland markers on 160 Edgewater Drive meets the Order of Conditions for MASS DEP#234-893.

Glossary of Terms

ASCA	American Society of Consulting Arborists, professional association of arborist specializing in arboricultural consulting
Branch Union	The structural union of a lateral branch to the tree stem.
Canopy	The part of the crown composed of leaves and small twigs.
Certified Arborist	A professional arborist possessing current certification issued by the Massachusetts Arborists Association (MAA) and/or the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA)
Clinometer	A device used to measure the height of an object
Co-dominant	Stems or branches, equal in size and relative importance usually associated with either the trunk/stems or scaffold limbs/ branches in the crown.
Crown	The upper part of a tree, measured from the lowest branch, including all the branches and foliage
DBH	Stands for Diameter Breast Height. The diameter of a tree measured at 4.5 feet above the ground.
Dripline	Perimeter of the area under a tree including the branches and leaves
Establishment	The process of a tree becoming acclimated to a new environment, usually correlating the new root development that can sustain normal biological functions of the tree
Included Bark	An inherent weak point where two or more stems grow independently pressing on one another
ISA	International Society of Arborists, a global, professional association of arborist
Level II Tree Risk	A visual assessment only. The tree is inspected from the Assessment ground only and diagnostic tools used
Level III Tree Risk Assessment	I more intensive inspection of the tree using diagnostic tool, such as a Resistograph and may also include inspection in the tree canopy
Parity	The time, usually in years, that it takes for a replacement tree to provide similar attributes and benefits of a removed tree
Pruning	Systematic removal of branches of a plant usually a woody perennial
RCA	Registered Consulting Arborist, a credential issued by ASCA to an arborist that has demonstrated higher skills in certain technical areas related to trees and tree care, providing objective, independent opinions, with training for higher communication, presentation, and/or report writing skills.

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Appendix A - Assumptions and Limited Conditions

1. It is assumed that any property is not in violation of any applicable codes, ordinances, statutes, or other governmental regulations.
2. Care has been taken to obtain all information from reliable sources. All data has been verified insofar as possible; however, the consultant can neither guarantee nor be responsible for the accuracy of information provided by others.
3. The consultant shall not be required to give testimony or to attend court by reason of this report unless subsequent contractual arrangements are made, including payment of an additional fee for such services as described in the fee schedule and contract of engagement.
4. Unless required by law, otherwise, possession of this report or a copy thereof does not imply right of publication or use for any purpose by any other than the person to whom it is addressed, without the prior expressed written or verbal consent of the consultant.
5. Unless required by law, neither all nor any part of the contents of this report, nor copy thereof, shall be conveyed by anyone, including the client, to the public through advertising, public relations, news, sales or other media, without the prior expressed written or verbal consent of the consultant-particularly as to value conclusions, identity of the consultant, or any reference to any professional society or institute or to any initialed designation conferred upon the consultant as stated in his qualifications.
6. This report expressed herein represent the opinion of the consultant, and the consultant's fee is in no way contingent upon the reporting of a specified value, a stipulated result, the occurrence of a subsequent event, nor upon any finding to be reported.
7. Sketches, drawings, and photographs in this report, being intended as visual aids, are not necessarily to scale and should not be construed as engineering or architectural reports or surveys unless expressed otherwise. The reproduction of any information generated by architects, engineers, or other consultants on any sketches, drawings, or photographs is for the express purpose of coordination and ease of reference only. Inclusion of said information on any drawings or other documents does not constitute a representation by *Plant Healthcare Consultants, Inc.* as to the sufficiency or accuracy of said information.
8. Unless expressed otherwise: 1) information contained in this report covers only those items that were examined and reflects the condition of those items at the time of inspection; and 2) the inspection is limited to visual examination of accessible items without dissection, excavation, probing, or coring unless otherwise specified. There is no warranty or guarantee, expressed or implied, that problems or deficiencies of the plants or property in question may not arise in the future.
9. Loss or alteration of any part of this report invalidates the entire report.

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Appendix B - Certification of Performance

Plant Healthcare Consultants, Inc. certify that:

1. We have personally inspected the tree and property referred to in this report and have stated our findings accurately.
2. We have no current or prospective interest in the trees or the property that is the subject of this report and have no personal interest or bias with respect to the parties involved.
3. The analysis, opinions and conclusions stated herein are our own and are based on current scientific procedures and facts.
4. Our analysis, opinions and conclusions were developed, and this report has been prepared according to commonly accepted arboricultural practices.
5. No one provided significant professional assistance to us, except as indicated within the report.
6. Our compensation is not contingent upon the reporting of a predetermined conclusion that favors the cause of the client or any other party or upon the results of the assessment, the attainment of stipulated results, or the occurrence of any subsequent events.

We further certify that Plant Healthcare Consultants, Inc. is a member in good standing of the Massachusetts Arborist Association, American Society of Consulting Arborists, the International Society of Arboriculture and Massachusetts Tree Wardens and Foresters Association. We have been involved in the field of Arboriculture for over 30 years.



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ASCA Registered Consulting Arborist® #766
ISA Board Certified Master Arborist® #TX-1357BM
ISA Certified Municipal Specialist
ISA Tree Risk Assessment Qualified®
Massachusetts Certified Arborist #41801
Massachusetts Qualified Tree Warden #1097