DRAFT Revision in RED 12.1.22

Town of Glastonbury Conservation Commission Guidance Document

The Town of Glastonbury Conservation Commission (Commission) provides review and recommendation to the Town Plan and Zoning Commission (TPZ) for land use development projects. In the role of providing technical review and support to the TPZ the Commission has identified key elements to be included in application for permit.

Solar and Geothermal Energy

The applicant should document to the Commission that solar and geothermal energy were considered and evaluated for the proposed project. New developments should make all reasonable efforts to include alternative energy sources.

Electric Vehicle Charging Capability

CT Public Act 22-25 requires EV charging infrastructure in new commercial and multifamily residential developments. Plans shall include the required charging infrastructure in accordance with the state statute.

On and after January 1, 2023, a municipality shall require each new construction of a commercial building or multiunit residential building with thirty or more designated parking spaces for cars or light duty trucks to include electric vehicle charging infrastructure that is capable of supporting level two electric vehicle charging stations or direct current fast charging stations in at least ten per cent of such parking spaces. A municipality may, through its legislative body, require any such commercial building or multiunit residential building to include such electric vehicle charging infrastructure in more than ten per cent of such parking spaces.

Native Plants

The Town of Glastonbury Conservation Commission (Commission) recognizes the ecological importance of native plants within town landscapes. Native plants help preserve animal biodiversity, contribute to healthy soil and water in Glastonbury's urban and rural areas, and reduce maintenance costs to the home/landowner.

Adapted to local growing conditions, native plants require less fertilizer, less pesticides, and less water than non-native plants. Foundational to the food web, native plants fuel the mutually beneficial relationships with surrounding indigenous wildlife, from insect to top-of-chain predator. Native plants provide fuel in the form of nectar, fruit, and seeds on which locals species of insects and animals depend, particularly pollinator and migratory animals. Large areas of native flora reduce erosion, provide cover for both small and large wildlife, support nesting animal species, and contribute to thriving native animal populations through habitat connectivity. Non-native plants are stressors to wetland ecosystems; wetland regions require native plants to remain productive.

For all landscaping plans presented to the Commission, the vast majority of all proposed trees, shrubs, flowering plants, and grasses within Glastonbury boundaries must be native, to the satisfaction of this Commission.