



Chelmsford Conservation Commission  
Town Offices  
50 Billerica Road  
Chelmsford, MA 01824-3162

**3 Conservation Land Management**

3.1 Land Use Regulations Adopted: October 23, 2007/Amended: July 28, 2009 and July 9, 2013

**I. Use Restrictions.**

Pursuant to Mass General Laws, Chapter 40, Section 8C, the Conservation Commission (“Commission”) hereby adopts the following regulations and restrictions (the “Land Use Regulations”) which shall be applicable to all land under the jurisdiction of the Commission, including, but not limited to, Town Reservations. (The locations of Conservation Land and Reservations can be found on the Town of Chelmsford’s website or by contacting the Commission.)

- A. Reservations are open to the public during daylight hours (dawn to dusk) only, except as otherwise noticed or posted.
- B. No person may build a fire for any purpose without written permission from the Commission and Fire Department.
- C. No alcoholic beverages are permitted.
- D. Cutting, mutilating, removing, or taking away of trees, shrubs, and flowers or wood is prohibited unless authorized by the Commission or its Agent with prior written permission.
- E. Disorderly conduct or obscene or indecent behavior is prohibited.
- F. No person may remove or deface any sign or property or remove barriers on roads or erect any structures.
- G. Persons using Town reservations do so at their own risk and must observe any reasonable request made by the Commission or its duly authorized agent.
- H. No person shall carry on any business or commercial activity or trade or sell or otherwise deal in commodities or merchandise without the Commission’s prior written permission.
- I. No hunting or trapping is permitted without the Commission’s prior written permission.
- J. No person shall carry or discharge weapons, except duly authorized law enforcement personnel.
- K. The use of any motorized vehicles, except those authorized by the Commission or those used by the Police and/or Fire Department, is prohibited.
- L. No person may camp or remain overnight on conservation land without the prior written consent of the Conservation Commission.
- M. No dumping or leaving of any materials of any kind is permitted.
- N. Dogs must be leashed at all times.

In accordance with Section 1-2 of the General Code, G.L. c.40, §21D and G.L. c.40, §8C, and Section 187-13, Enforcement, of the Bylaw the Commission may enforce the above Land Use Regulations through the use of Non-Criminal Disposition Notices of Violation Citations (“Citations”) in the manner set forth below. The employment of the enforcement method set forth below may be used exclusively or in conjunction with any other manner of enforcement authorized by law.

1. The Fire Department’s Fire Explosives Investigator, Commission’s Agent or designee of the Commission, a Police Officer or any other officer having police powers shall document observed or reported violations and make a written report to the Commission or Commission’s Agent of said violation as soon as is practicable thereafter.
2. If, upon review of said report, the Commission or the Commission’s Agent finds that a violation of the Land Use Restrictions occurred or is occurring the Commission’s Agent shall deliver by first class and certified mail a Citation, not exceeding a fine of one hundred dollars, along with a Cover Letter to the violator within fifteen (15) days of when the violation was reported. A copy of the Citation must be retained by the Commission, and a copy must be delivered to the District Court by the end of the next business day following its issuance.
3. In accordance with G.L. c.40, §21D, a person issued a Citation and notified to appear before the Clerk of a District Court may so appear and confess the offense charged, either personally or through a duly authorized agent or by mailing the payment to the Town Clerk together with the citation. Such payment shall, if mailed, be made only by postal note, money order or check.
4. If any person so notified to appear desires to contest the violation alleged in the Citation and also to avail him/herself of the procedure established pursuant to G.L. c.40, §21D, he/she may, within twenty-one (21) days after the date of the Citation, request a hearing in writing addressed to the District Court and Commission.