



CARVEL PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT
Pine Plains and Milan,
Dutchess County, New York

APPENDIX 9.6 – NYSDEC WETLAND
CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM

January 11, 2008

Prepared for:

1133 Taconic, LLC
1155 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10036
&
Landmark Land Company, Inc.
2817 Crain Highway
Upper Marlboro, MD 20774

Prepared by:

Matthew D. Rudikoff Associates, Inc.
427 Main Street, Suite 201
Beacon, NY 12508
(845) 831-1182
www.rudikoff.com

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Towns of Pine Plains and Milan, Dutchess County, New York

NYSDEC WETLAND CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM

PREPARED FOR

**1133 TACONIC, LLC
1155 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10036-2711**

and

**LANDMARK LAND COMPANY, INC.
2817 CRAIN HIGHWAY
UPPER MARLBORO, MARYLAND 20773**

PREPARED BY

**MATTHEW D. RUDIKOFF ASSOCIATES, INC.
BEACON BUILDING
427 MAIN STREET • SUITE 201
BEACON, NEW YORK 12508
TEL (845) 831-1182 • FAX (845) 831-2696
www.rudikoff.com**

JUNE 28, 2005

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APPENDIX 9.6 NYSDEC WETLAND CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION RULES AND REGULATIONS FRESHWATER: WETLAND MAPS AND CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM

CLASS I WETLANDS

A wetland shall be a Class I wetland if it has any of the following seven enumerated characteristics:

Ecological Associations

- It is a classic kettlehole bog.

Special Features

- It is resident habitat of an endangered or threatened animal species.
- It contains an endangered or threatened plant species.
- It supports an animal species in abundance or diversity unusual for the state or for the major region of the state in which it is found.

Hydrological and Pollution Control Features

- It is tributary to a body of water, which could subject a substantially developed area to significant damage from flooding or from additional flooding should the wetland be modified, filled, or drained.
- It is adjacent or contiguous to a reservoir or other body of water that is used primarily for public water supply, or it is hydraulically connected to an aquifer, which is used for public water supply.

Other

- It contains four or more of the enumerated Class II characteristics. The department may, however, determine that some of the characteristics are duplicative of each other, therefore do not indicate enhanced benefits, and so do not warrant Class I classification.

CLASS II WETLANDS

A wetland shall be a Class II wetland if it has any of the following seventeen enumerated characteristics:

Covertime

- It is an emergent marsh in which purple loosestrife and/or reed (*Phragmites* sp.) constitutes less than two-thirds of the covertime.

Ecological Association

- It contains two or more wetland structural groups.
- It is contiguous to a tidal wetland.
- It is associated with permanent open water outside the wetland.
- It is adjacent or contiguous to streams classified C(t) or higher under article 15 of the environmental conservation law.

Special Features

- It is traditional migration habitat of an endangered or threatened animal species.
- It is resident habitat of an animal species vulnerable in the state.
- It contains a plant species vulnerable in the state.
- It supports an animal species in abundance or diversity unusual for the county in which it is found.
- It has demonstrable archaeological or paleontological significance as a wetland.
- It contains, is part of, owes its existence to, or is ecologically associated with, an unusual geological feature, which is an excellent representation of its type.

Hydrological and Pollution Control Features

- It is tributary to a body of water which could subject a lightly developed area, an area used for growing crops for harvest, or an area planned for development by a local planning authority, to significant damage from flooding or from additional flooding should the wetland be modified, filled, or drained.

- It is hydraulically connected to an aquifer, which has been identified by a government agency as a potentially useful water supply.
- It acts in a tertiary treatment capacity for a sewage disposal system.

Distribution and Location

- It is within an urbanized area.
- It is one of the three largest wetlands within a city, town, or New York City borough.
- It is within a publicly owned recreation area.

CLASS III WETLANDS

A wetland shall be a Class III wetland if it has any of the following fifteen enumerated characteristics:

Covertypes

- It is an emergent marsh in which purple loosestrife and/or reed (*Phragmites* sp.) constitutes two-thirds or more of the coertype.
- It is a deciduous swamp.
- It is a shrub swamp.
- It consists of floating and/or submergent vegetation.
- It consists of wetland open water.

Ecological Associations

- It contains an island with an area or height above the wetland adequate to provide one or more of the benefits described in section.

Special Features

- It has a total alkalinity of at least 50 parts per million.
- It is adjacent to fertile upland.

- It is resident habitat of an animal species vulnerable in the major region of the state in which it is found, or it is traditional migration habitat of an animal species vulnerable in the state or in the major region of the state in which it is found.
- It contains a plant species vulnerable in the major region of the state in which it is found.

Hydrological and Pollution Control Features

- It is part of a surface water system with permanent open water and it receives significant pollution of a type amenable to amelioration by wetlands.

Distribution and Location

- It is visible from an interstate highway, a parkway, a designated scenic highway, or a passenger railroad and serves a valuable aesthetic or open space function.
- It is one of the three largest wetlands of the same coertype within a town.
- It is in a town in which wetland acreage is less than one percent of the total acreage.
- It is on publicly owned land that is open to the public.

CLASS IV WETLANDS

A wetland shall be a Class IV wetland if it does not have any of the characteristics listed as criteria for Class I, II or III wetlands. Class IV wetlands will include wet meadows and coniferous swamps which lack other characteristics justifying a higher classification.

Source: <http://www.dec.state.ny.us/website/regs/part664.html>