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WETLANDS, WETLAND REGULATIONS, AND THE MCP

October 8, 2026 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM ET at Boxborough Regency, Boxborough, MA

COURSE OUTLINE:

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|--------------------------|--|
| 8:00–8:10 AM | WELCOME/OVERVIEW OF WETLANDS, RIVERS & WETLAND REGULATIONS <i>(10 minutes, LSPA proctor and an instructor)</i> |
| 8:10–9:30 AM | WETLAND VEGETATION & SOILS <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wetland Vegetation <i>(45 minutes, Alicia Geilen, Wetlands Circuit Rider, Northeast Regional Office (NERO), MassDEP)</i>• Hydric Soils <i>(35 minutes, Scott Morrison, Senior Environmental Scientist, EcoTec, Inc)</i> |
| 9:30–10:15 AM | MASSACHUSETTS & FEDERAL WETLAND REGULATIONS PERTINENT TO THE MCP, INCLUDING RECENT REGULATORY CHANGES <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Massachusetts Regulations, including Determination of Applicability, Notice of Intent, Emergency Certification, Riverfront Issues <i>(45 minutes, Mia McDonald, Wetlands Circuit Rider, Central Regional Office (CERO), MassDEP)</i> |
| 10:15 – 10:30 | BREAK |
| 10:30–11:30 AM | MASSACHUSETTS & FEDERAL WETLAND REGULATIONS PERTINENT TO THE MCP, INCLUDING RECENT REGULATORY CHANGES <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Federal Regulations/401 & 404 Programs <i>(20 minutes, Tyler Franklin, Esq., Rubin and Rudman, LLP)</i>• Environmental Risk Characterization and Soil vs. Sediment under the MCP <i>(30 minutes, Paul McManus, LSP, EcoTec, Inc.)</i>• Discussion and Questions <i>(10 minutes, instructors)</i> |
| 11:30 AM–12:15 PM | CASE STUDIES/LESSONS LEARNED: PRACTICAL & LEGAL LESSONS |

- Discussion of actual site situations where the MCP and wetland regulations intersected *(45 minutes, Paul McManus and Tyler Franklin)*

12:15–1:15 PM

LUNCH

1:15–3:30 PM

OFF SITE FIELD WORK/REGULATORY REVIEW, IDENTIFICATION OF BUFFER ZONES, WETLAND RESOURCE AREAS, AND MCP RESPONSE ACTIONS

The class will break into five small groups, led by instructors and their colleagues, for the field portion of the course. Time includes walking and discussion time at each of the five stations. *(135 minutes, instructors, including: Scott Jordan, John Rockwood, Kate Wilkens, and Dave Gorden)*

3:30–3:45 PM

BREAK

3:45–5:00 PM

CASE STUDIES (Back in Classroom)

The class will break into small groups, led by instructors, to discuss case studies that will introduce numerous examples of work at various sites where wetland issues arise.

1. Work in buffer zones of bordering vegetated wetland (BVW) and riverfront areas;
2. Work in industrial areas, and potential impacts to riverfront;
3. Regulations pertaining to MCP response actions;
4. Emergency Certifications and Immediate Response Action (IRAs);
5. Effects of wetland regulations on Release Abatement Measures (RAMs); or
6. Phase I and Phase II investigations and environmental risk characterizations, including state-listed rare and endangered wetlands wildlife and vegetation.