

SECTION 1. Title and Authority

- (a) Aquifers are an essential natural resource and a major source of public drinking water for the State of Connecticut. Use of groundwater will increase as the population grows and opportunities for new surface water supplies diminish due to the rising cost of land and increasingly intense development. At the same time, numerous drinking water wells have been contaminated by certain land use activities, and others are now threatened. To address this problem, Connecticut has established the Aquifer Protection Area Program (Connecticut General Statutes §22a-354a to §22a-354bb) to identify critical water supply aquifers and to protect them from pollution by managing land use. Protection requires coordinated responsibilities shared by the state, municipality and water companies to ensure a plentiful supply of public drinking water for present and future generations. It is therefore the purpose of these regulations to protect aquifer protection areas within the Town of New Milford by making provisions for:
- (1) implementing regulations consistent with state regulations and An Act Concerning Aquifer Protection Areas, Connecticut General Statutes §22a-354a to §22a-354bb ("the Act");
 - (2) delineating aquifer protection areas on the Town of New Milford Zoning Map;
 - (3) regulating land use activity within the aquifer protection area including: prohibiting certain new activities; registering existing regulated activities; and issuing permits for new regulated activities at registered facilities; and
 - (4) administering and enforcing these regulations.
- (b) These regulations shall be known as the Aquifer Protection Area Regulations (the "APA Regulations") of the Town of New Milford.
- (c) These regulations were adopted and may be amended, from time to time, in accordance with the provisions of §22a-354p of An Act Concerning Aquifer Protection Areas, the Connecticut General Statutes §22a-354a to §22a-354bb and the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies §22a-354i-1 through §22a-354i-10.
- (d) The Inland Wetlands and Watercourse Commission of the Town of New Milford is established as the Aquifer Protection Agency (the "Agency") in accordance with the "Ordinance for the Designation of Inland Wetlands and Watercourse Commission as the New Milford Aquifer Protection Agency," (the "APA Ordinance") effective November 2, 2007, revised June 25, 2012 and April 22, 2019 and shall implement the purposes and provisions of the APA Ordinance and the Act. (*Revision Date April 22, 2019 – Inland Wetlands and Watercourse Commission designated as the Agency, effective date: May 24, 2019*)
- (e) The Agency shall administer all provisions of the Act and shall approve or deny registrations, issue permits, issue permits with terms, conditions, limitations or modifications, or deny permits for all regulated activities in aquifer protection areas in the Town of New Milford pursuant to the Act.