

**LOW RISK SCREENING PROTOCOL
BETWEEN
THE TOWNSHIP OF MULMUR
AND
NOTTAWASAGA VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
May 2015**

Background:

Under Section 28 of *The Conservation Authorities Act* the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA) regulates development (fill placement, site alteration) as well as alteration to watercourses and shorelines, and interference with wetlands. The areas and activities regulated by the NVCA are specified in Ontario Regulation 172/06.

In support of the recent regulation mapping update (2014), NVCA Board of Directors approved an approach intended to streamline the regulatory approval process. The Township of Mulmur (Township) by way of a September 3, 2014 Council Resolution requested to participate in the Low Risk activity/zone approach.

This protocol is intended to outline the Low Risk Screening process including defining the applicable activities and areas.

Low Risk Areas and Activities:

The concept of streamlining NVCA regulatory approvals for proposed Low Risk development activities includes the Township screening at the local level for low risk regulated areas and activities. Once screened the NVCA staff would provide timely clearance of the works as per the *Conservation Authorities Act* requirements.

“Low Risk areas” are NVCA regulated areas that are more than 30 metres (m) from a wetland, other than a provincially significant wetland and which are outside of any natural hazards (floodplain, valley slopes, meanderbelt, unstable soils, etc.) or other areas of concern.

Low Risk activities are defined as minor works that include proposals where no technical letters, plans or reports are required such as non-habitable structures less than 46 square metres (500 square feet), pools, decks, grain bins and minor additions to existing structures. Minor additions are defined as ground floor addition that is 50% or less of the original habitable ground floor area or an additional storey if the additional storey does not exceed the original habitable ground floor area.

This protocol is intended for existing lots of record that where the “principle of development” has been established through a Planning Act approval processes.

Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority Commitments:

1. The NVCA will provide Mulmur with screening mapping showing the Low Risk areas and defining what constitute ‘low risk activities’.
2. The NVCA will provide training and support to Township staff on the screening process and mapping interpretation.

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3. The NVCA will provide clearance for Low Risk proposals within an expedited timeline.
4. The clearance will be provided at no cost to the Township or the proponent. Clearance can be provided in the form of an e-mail or fax or letter dependent on the Chief Building Official preference to address applicable law.
5. In any case where NVCA receives information indicating that the works may exceed those listed as low risk activities or may extend beyond the limits of the low risk area NVCA reserves the right to require the proponent to obtain a permit in the usual manner, regardless of whether permission has been granted or works carried out pursuant to this protocol.

Township of Mulmur Commitments:


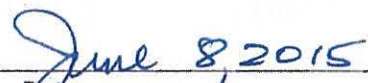
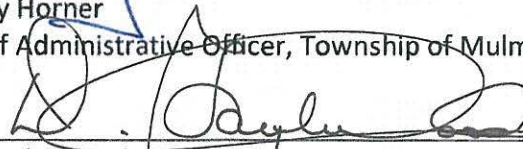
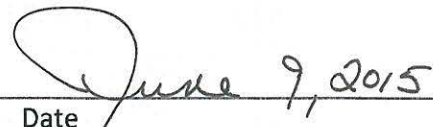
6. The Township commits to screening applications in accordance with this agreement and the associated Low Risk screening mapping.
7. For proposals considered low risk the Township will provide email or fax correspondence for NVCA's consideration confirming that the works are Low Risk in their opinion, before issuing permission for such works.
8. The Township will be responsible for providing the NVCA clearance to the proponent and the Chief Building Official.
9. The Township and NVCA will jointly compile a yearly summary of the Low Risk projects that were processed.

General Provisions:

10. Nothing precludes the NVCA from processing and approving permit applications in accordance with relevant legislation and NVCA Board of Directors approved policies/guidelines.
11. This protocol will be reviewed on an ongoing basis to evaluate its effectiveness. A formal annual review will be completed jointly by the Township and NVCA staff with modifications made as appropriate.

Signatory Parties:

I hereby agree to implement the terms and provisions contained in this Protocol:

 _____ Terry Horner Chief Administrative Officer, Township of Mulmur	 _____ Date June 8, 2015
 _____ D. Gayle Wood Chief Administrative Officer, Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority	 _____ Date June 9, 2015