

**TCC Policy #2017-2**  
**Installation of Private Ice Skating Rinks in a Buffer Zone or Riverfront Area**  
**Adopted April 26, 2017**

**Purpose:**

This policy is intended to prevent damage to or alteration of jurisdictional areas owing to the installation of temporary ice skating rinks for private use during the winter season with their removal occurring promptly at the conclusion of the skating season.

**Procedure:**

Any applicant proposing to install a private ice skating rink within one-hundred (100) feet of a Resource Area such as a Buffer Zone or within two-hundred (200) feet of a Perennial Stream (Riverfront Area), as those terms are defined by the Topsfield General Wetlands Bylaw Chapter LXII, shall contact the Topsfield Conservation Commission (TCC) office for a determination to proceed without the filing of a Request for a Determination of Applicability (RDA) or Notice of Intent (NoI).

If the TCC administrator finds that insufficient information has been provided by the applicant to assess the potential impact of the proposed installation, or if the potential for alteration of the relevant Resource Area and/or Riverfront Area is in the administrator's opinion significant, the applicant will be required to either provide further information to the administrator or file an RDA or NoI as may be applicable.

**In the event that the TCC administrator deems the filing of either RDA or NoI unnecessary, the following conditions shall apply to the installation of the ice rink within a Buffer Zone or Riverfront Area:**

- Applicant shall file with the TCC office a request for an administrative permit (TCCAP) with the required applicable fee as specified in the TCC Regulations pursuant to the Bylaw.
- No activity shall occur in any wetland, stream, or pond.
- Ice rinks shall only be sited within existing lawn or landscaped areas and no trees shall be cut, damaged, or removed in connection with the installation or removal of the rink unless separate permits are sought from the TCC.
- Ice rinks shall be sited at least twenty-five (25) feet away from the edge of a wetland or other statutory resource areas.
- There shall be no surface water discharged from the rink into a stream, pond, wetland, or onto property other than that of the rink owner during its installation or removal. Water contained in the rink may be discharged into the ground by either puncturing the plastic tarp or rolling it back such as to allow water to permeate into the ground below the rink.
- The ice skating rink shall be disassembled and removed from the site at the conclusion of the ice skating season at the beginning of which it was installed.
- The surface of the affected area shall be returned to its original condition as soon as is practicable upon the removal of the ice skating rink.