

Town of Stoughton

Board of Health

10 Pearl Street • Stoughton, MA 02072 • (781) 341-1300 • FAX (781) 341-1086
www.stoughton-ma.gov

Winter "Finish Grade Inspection" Policy

Finish grade inspections are normally required prior to the issuance of the Certificate of Compliance in accordance with the State Environmental Code. In the winter, the ground can be frozen or snow covered, making the finish grade inspection difficult or impossible. For multiple reasons it may not be prudent to wait months or weeks to issue the Certificate of Compliance, in which case a limited field inspection may be performed or the final grade inspection may be inferred from review &/or calculations of the engineer's as-built plan & topography, in place of a site visit.

Be it known that if a limited "finish grade" inspection was able to have been performed during the winter season, the finish grades did not technically meet all the state & local requirements at that time & the undersigned installer can take responsibility to complete which (make sure all the final grading is performed when there is permissible weather to facilitate final loaming &/or grading to meet all the state & local requirements) including min./max. fill amounts & any associated grading for proper drainage/runoff. The Board of Health cannot be held responsible for final grading errors or omissions not yet performed nor part of the compliance process when these winter conditions exist. It is recommended that as soon as weather permits, property owners assess the affected areas & contact their previously contracted engineers or installers to perform the additional field work (that may or may not have been included in their private contracts) to take place after town compliance/oversight has been completed. If necessary, constructed areas could be taped off or use of said areas should be limited until those parties can inspect, assess, & complete work at that time.

Erosion control, is normally addressed through loam & seed as part of a project, & usually part of a finish grade inspection, but not typically feasible during the winter when grass cannot grow. Therefore, it is recommended that bark mulch or hay be spread onto areas susceptible to runoff &/or erosion. Bark mulch or crushed stone is an acceptable alternate to grass however hay is only considered a temporary measure until such time that a permanent form of erosion control is undertaken by the installer as part of the contract or by the owner, who may elect to hire another contractor, or perform the necessary work themselves. If owner wishes to take responsibility for finish grades (rather than their town licensed installer), he/she may also sign below for this form to be used as a waiver for which.

Property Address

Installer or Owner's printed Name

Signature

Date

Town of Stoughton

Board of Health

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Summer “Finish Grade Inspection” Policy

Finish grade inspections are normally required prior to the issuance of the Certificate of Compliance in accordance with the State Environmental Code. However, in the summer season it is typically too dry to grow grass and the Fall is preferable for such. For multiple reasons it may not be prudent to wait months or weeks to issue the Certificate of Compliance, in which case a limited field inspection may be performed or the final grade inspection may be inferred from closer review and/or calculations based on the engineer’s as-built plan.

Be it known that if a “finish grade” inspection was performed prior to loaming/seeding, if desired by the owner for any of the above reasons, the finish grades may not technically meet the state requirements. The Board of Health cannot be held responsible for any related errors or omissions pertaining to such. It is recommended that as soon as the finish grades are completed, the property owner(s) may want to assess the affected areas and contact their engineers, installers or agents should they feel there may be issues. If necessary, constructed areas should be taped off or use of said areas should be restricted until professionals can inspect or assess them, as changes may have been made contrary to the approved plan, or contrary to state and local requirements.

Lastly, erosion control, which is normally addressed through loam & seed as part of a project, is usually part of a finish grade inspection, but not usually feasible during the summer or a drought, when grass may not grow. Therefore it is recommended that bark mulch or hay be spread onto areas susceptible to runoff and/or erosion. Bark mulch is an acceptable alternate to grass however hay is only considered a temporary measure until such time that a permanent form of erosion control is undertaken by the installer as part of the contract or by the owner who may elect to hire another contractor (landscaper) and/or perform the necessary action themselves.

Property Address

Owner’s Name (Printed)

Owner’s Signature

Date