

April 29, 2026

To Whom it may concern at the Hingham Conservation Commission,

In addition to the attached restoration proposal, we also wanted to reach out with some historical context of our property, and our efforts and intentions around maintaining and improving a safe family home, on a uniquely beautiful piece of property.

When we purchased the property back in 2010, we knew we were incredibly lucky to be able to purchase a home in the community we grew up in. Even more amazing was that we were able to find and purchase a place that would enable us to both raise our family and house our small business, while being surrounded by a beautiful natural habitat. We knew that it would take a lot of time and energy and work, and we knew that it would have to be done in segments so that we could finance one piece at a time, but we were committed.

Our initial efforts included knocking down the run-down house on the property and cleaning up the remnant of a nursery that had been run out of the property for decades. Other onsite structures included two enormous greenhouses which spanned what is now our backyard and shed-like structures which housed other landscaping supplies. Also included was the removal of years of accumulated nursery tools, plants, supplies etc. There were piles of wood, tires, plastic containers, bags of fertilizer/weed killer/seed etc., broken machinery, spare parts and other debris that had been housed there for years. We worked with the previous owners for them to get what few things they wanted and then rented dumpsters and found people who wanted what was left. Even once we thought all was clean, each step unveiled additional clean up. When digging we would discover buried debris from the nursery, things like railroad ties, broken pots or plastic containers/bags etc. We would excavate what we found and then move forward with whatever step we were on, foundation, septic, plantings etc. And while we never closed out the order, we also hired an environmental consulting firm and worked with the town on required conservation needs for this property. When we moved into our home in late 2011, we wanted our property to be clean, orderly and safe, in addition to being a beautiful, natural and healthy place for our growing family.

We currently have four children ranging from 4 to 13. We hope to live in this home and be a part of this neighborhood for many more years. We are invested in this being a safe place for our children to play and live. We are conscientious neighbors and make sure that our work is not disruptive or unsightly for them. We both grew up in this town and even learned to skate on this pond. Our intention is to support the health and integrity of the pond and its surrounding landscaping in whatever way we can. We have planted native grasses and plants and put up a fence, designed both to create a safe barrier from the water for our children and friends who visit, and also to protect the plants and the buffer (and us from wildlife/ticks etc. that might reside

there). Our treehouse was simply a COVID project to keep the kids outside, distracted, and to give them something to work towards and accomplish. Once completed they spent many hours in it doing their remote schooling and eventually playing with friends.

We understand the commission's position on the need for the fence to be moved and the treehouse to be removed and will move forward with both, in addition to the required additional plantings and restoration stated in the attached proposal. It is our hope that the commission appreciates our intentions and recognizes all of the efforts we have made and will continue to make to restore and maintain the authentic natural beauty health of this pond and our property.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Grant & Allison Daley