

Updates for Spring of 2026 Town of Springfield Lake District

Since 1986 there has been a lake law which has guided the development of properties which front or have access to Otsego Lake, a portion of that law was not amended to a State of New York Navigation law (46A) concerning the regulations over the water. That oversight has been corrected with an amendment to the States Navigation Law,

The Town of Springfield may adopt, amend and enforce local laws, rules and regulations not inconsistent with the laws of this state or the United States, with respect to the restriction and regulation of the manner of construction and location of boathouses, moorings and docks in any waters within or bounding the respective municipality to a distance of fifteen hundred feet from the shoreline.

Section 7.9 Ancillary Waterfront Structures, Town of Springfield Zoning law is now applicable.

Ancillary Waterfront Structures shall be permitted only as follows:

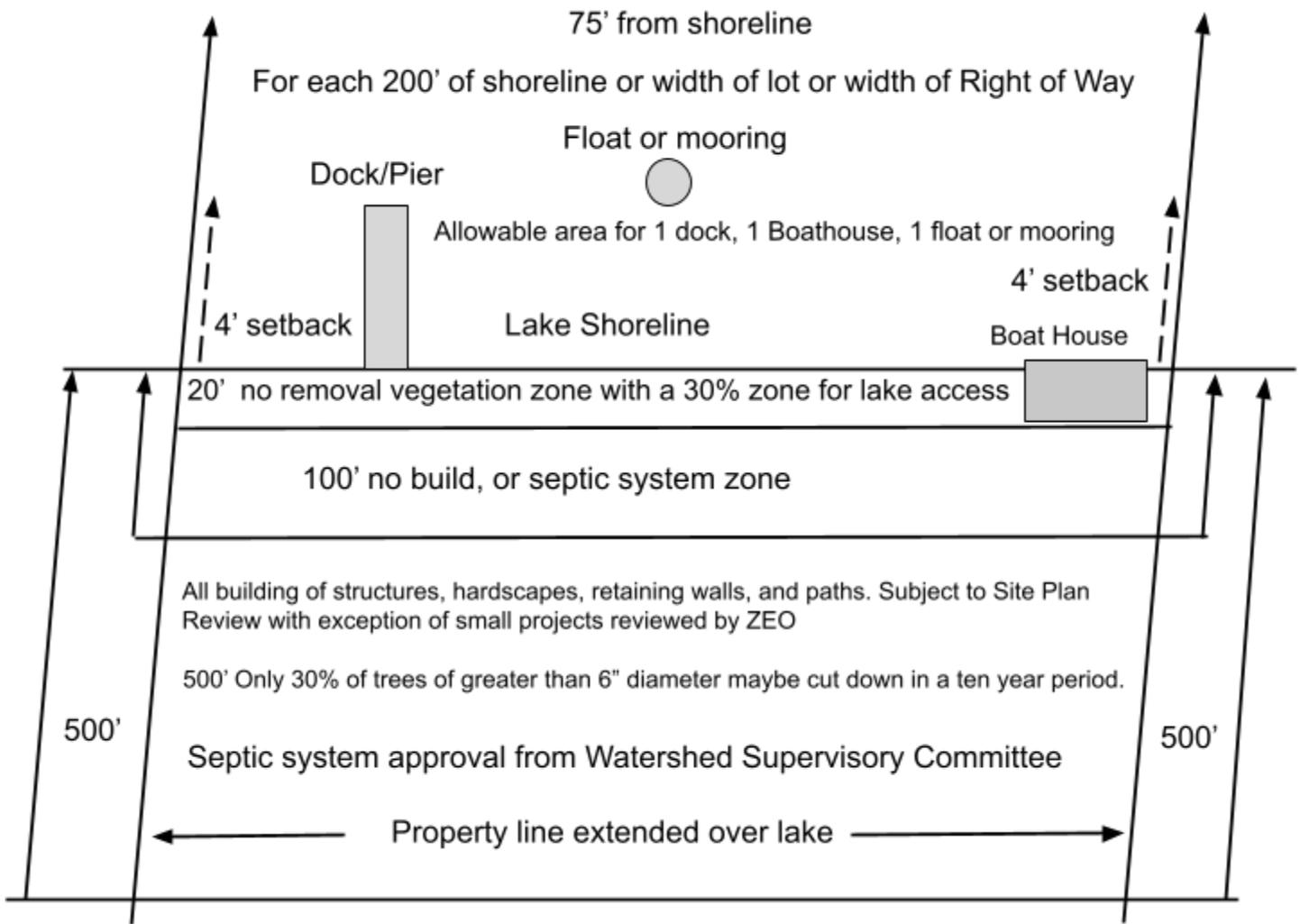
- a. Not more than two (2) such structures including no more than one (1) boat house and one (1) dock or pier shall be permitted per minimum required lot width, existing lot of record or established right-of-way.
- b. No dock, raft or other moored object shall project more than seventy five feet (75) from the shoreline.
- c. Setback requirements: any boat slip, boathouse, boat hoist structure, boat station, boat accessory structure, dock or other allowed structure shall be set back 4 feet from side property lines extended into the water on the condition that 4ft is feasible.
- d. Mooring buoys shall be placed within each designated area as (c) above, in such a manner that each moored vessel will avoid contact with any other moored vessel or structure. At no time may a moored vessel or part thereof extend outside the limits defined in (c), above.
- f. The table included in Appendix B indicates the numbers of docks or boat slips allowed per linear feet of shoreline within setbacks as defined in (c) above.

Please refer to the Town zoning law online for more information concerning Section 7 Lake District:

www.springfieldny.org

Other changes this year include NYSDEC Freshwater Wetlands new requirements will add sometime for approval if you have building projects. Please contact DEC if you have questions concerning wetlands.

The Town Land Use Office is ready to assist you with Site Plan Review, Compliance Letters for County Codes, and placement of outside structures and hardscapes. townplanning@springfieldny.org, 315-985-3883



By nature, lakeside lots and parcels often pose unique and complex engineering problems that are difficult to mitigate. All construction will require an engineered building site plan as well as Site Plan Review pursuant to Section 9.1 of this Local Law.

The Planning Board is allowing the ZEO to give compliance letters for small projects and not requiring Site Plan Review

The Planning Board meets on the first thursday of every month, project documents must be given to the ZEO 15 days before meeting. You are encouraged to come to a meeting and express your concerns or opinions.

The Town Board meets on the second monday of the month of every month and you are encouraged to attend and express your concerns or opinions.

All meetings are held at the Community Center at 129 County Highway 29A beginning at 7pm

Questionnaire about Short Term Rental Regulations

There has been an increase in the number of property owners renting to tourists on a short-term transient basis. The purpose of a local law is to regulate and control the number of short term rentals in order to preserve a balance between Short Term Rental's and full time primary and seasonal residences. The county requires an inspection to be conducted on the property, unfortunately the step is sometimes overlooked by the landowner and as a result people suffer horrible tragedies like fire and other preventable accidents. That said the landowners should be able to take advantage of the economic benefits offered by Short Term Rentals. Examples of the regulations:

Party Houses are prohibited

Nonpermanent structures are prohibited

Water samples are required

Valid certificate of occupancy

Limit number of persons based on number of bedrooms

Parking area determined

Fire safety regulations

These are just a few examples of the type of regulations.

Would you support a Short Term Rental Law?

What kind of regulations would you suggest?

Should there be a certain number of rental units?

Please let us know how you would like the Town to proceed.

Respond to:

Town of Springfield Planning Board

P.O Box 176

Springfield Center, NY 13468

townplanning@springfieldny.org

315-985-3883 Watch for results on the Town's Website

www.townspringfield.digitaltowpath.org

Do you have a failing septic system that needs to be replaced?

(1) Do you own a home or a small business (less than 100 employees) in Otsego County?

(2) Is your septic tank located within 250 feet of any of the following waterbodies?

- Goodyear Lake; Canadarago Lake; Otsego Lake; Gilbert Lake; Wilber Lake; Caryl Lake; Crumhorn Lake; Allen Lake;
- Oneonta Lower Reservoir;
- Susquehanna River Main Stem;
- Bear Swamp Pond;
- Little (Goey) Pond;
- Oneonta Creek (upper/tribs);
- Dunderberg Creek (upper/tribs);
- West Creek (upper/tribs)

(3) If yes to questions 1 and 2, you could be reimbursed for up to 50% of the eligible cost (not exceeding \$10,000).

Eligible Costs

- Design
- Repair/Rehabilitation
- Installation
- Septic system components
- Enhanced treatment

Not allowed for routine maintenance

**OTSEGO COUNTY
PLANNING AND
SOLID WASTE
DEPARTMENT**



Contact us to learn more at planning@otsegocounty.com; call (607) 547-4225; or, scan the QR code below

