



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



2800 BERLIN TURNPIKE, P.O. BOX 317546
NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06131-7546

Phone: (860) 594-2392

June 20, 2022

CERTIFIED MAIL

The Honorable Lynne Vanderslice
First Selectwoman
Town of Wilton
238 Danbury Road
Wilton, Connecticut 06897

Dear Frist Selectwoman Vanderslice:

Subject: Encroachment - Community Garden – Wilton
US Route 7 – (Allens Meadow – Danbury Road)
File No.: 161-086-041C
Lease Agreement: 06.07-01 (13)

The Department of Transportation (Department) conducted its annual field inspection of the subject property on March 16, 2022. From this inspection it appears that a portion of the Town's community garden is illegally encroaching onto the leased premises. Enclosed you will find pictures taken during said inspection showing the encroachment.

The Town is currently leasing State Land in accordance with the subject Lease Agreement (Agreement), which is to be used for passive recreational purposes and the storage of landscaping materials. Community Gardening is not part of the Lease Agreement.

In accordance with Article 3 of the Agreement, there is no monetary consideration given to the State, since the area remains free to the public. According to research conducted by this office, it appears the Town charges a fee to utilize the community gardens as this is not a permitted use, and collecting a fee to use State land without compensating the State is also a violation of the lease.

The Town must remove the portion of the Community Gardens encroaching in the State Leased parcel as depicted on the enclosed Town assessor map.

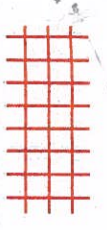
If you should have any questions regarding the above, please contact Ms. Shandi Wong at (860) 594-2471, or email Shandi.Wong@ct.gov.

Very truly yours,

Melanie Fadoir
Supervising Property Agent
Property Management Section
Division of Rights of Way

Enclosures

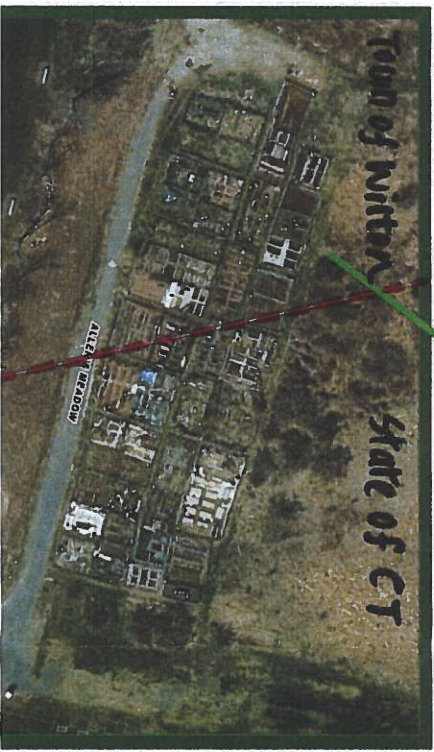
cc: Steve Pierce - Parks & Recreation Department - Town of Wilton
Nicholas R. Bamonte, Berchem Moses PC



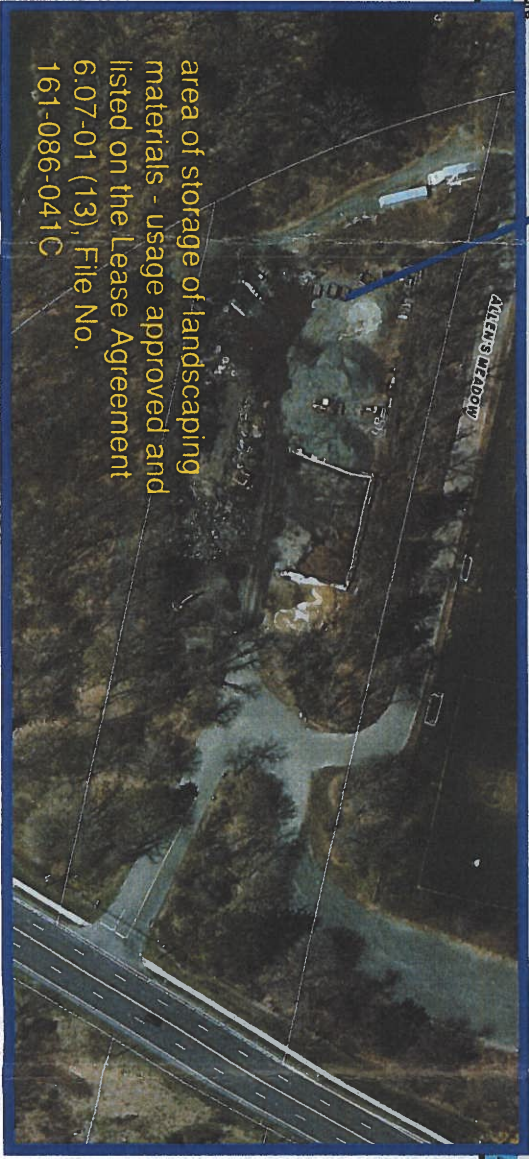
Land owned by the
Town of Wilton



Land owned by the State with Lease
Agreement with the Town



area look like a community garden which is NOT listed on the agreement. Gardening defined differently than Passive recreational purposes.



area of storage of landscaping materials - usage approved and listed on the Lease Agreement 6.07-01 (13), File No. 161-086-041C

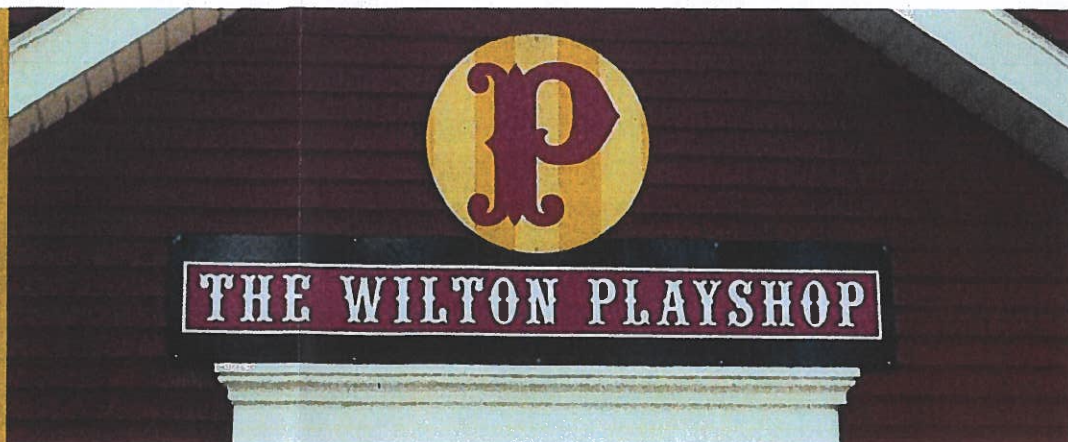




Lease Sketch Overlaid Google

31 THE PERFORMING ARTS

The performing arts are alive and well in Wilton. Check out a Wilton Playshop production, a holiday concert by The Wilton Singers, dancing performances by The Walter Schalk School of Dance, or a children's production staged by Wilton Children's Theatre.



32 COCONUT HUSK TURF FIELD

The first of its kind in the State, this environmentally-friendly field with concussion padding, provides a safer playing field for high school athletes and youth sports participants.



GOOD MORNING WILTON

33 A WALKER'S GUIDE TO WILTON

The Conservation Commission developed this informative guidebook to selected open space lands and trails in Wilton. It is full of information including a history of each property, directions and trail maps.



34 HOLIDAY STROLL

Come for a festive evening in Wilton Center on the first Friday of December and stroll through the shops, hear festive music from the Wilton High School band, enjoy roasted marshmallows by a bonfire at Schenck's Island, and visit with Santa Claus on the Town Green.

36 WILTON ROCKS FOR FOOD

Wilton musicians and singers rock the house at this annual, sold-out fundraiser for the Wilton Food Pantry and the Connecticut Food Bank.

37 ALLEN'S MEADOWS COMMUNITY GARDENS

The community gardens located at Allen's Meadows are a gardener's dream. Available to residents for a seasonal fee, plots are plowed and ready for planting in early May.



38 FARMERS MARKETS

Farmers markets thrive all around Wilton during the summer months. Visit Wilton Farmers Market at the Wilton Historical Society, the Farm Stand at Ambler Farm, or the Georgetown Farmers Market at Old Mill Road in Georgetown.

39 WILTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Take a walk through history at the Society's museum complex where visitors can experience what domestic life was like in the 18th through 20th centuries, see a tool collection, watch a blacksmith at work, or visit the 1750 Colonial Herb Garden.

40 WILTON'S STONE WALLS

Wilton's roads are graced by miles of original stone walls. Originally built to identify property boundaries the walls lend a true, country feel to town.

35 WILTON SHOPPING

A variety of family owned shops can be found along Route 7 and in Wilton Center. From sporting goods, clothing, hardware, grocery, pharmacy, and specialty stores, Wiltonians can meet their daily needs.



ALEX VON KLYDORFF