

# §5 DEFINITIONS

## 5-1 General Terms

In the interpretation and use of these regulations, words and phrases shall be construed according to the commonly approved uses of the language; except that technical words and phrases shall be construed and understood in accordance with commonly accepted technical meanings. All words used in the present tense include the future tense; all words used in the plural number include the singular number; and all words in the singular number include the plural number, unless the natural construction of the wording indicates otherwise. The word "uses" shall be deemed to also include "designed, intended or arranged to be used." Unless otherwise specified, all distances shall be measured horizontally. Words not specifically defined herein shall be used as defined in a Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary no more than 5 years old.

## 5-2 Specific Terms

Except as otherwise stated, or as the context may otherwise require, the following words, for the purpose of these regulations, shall be defined as follows:

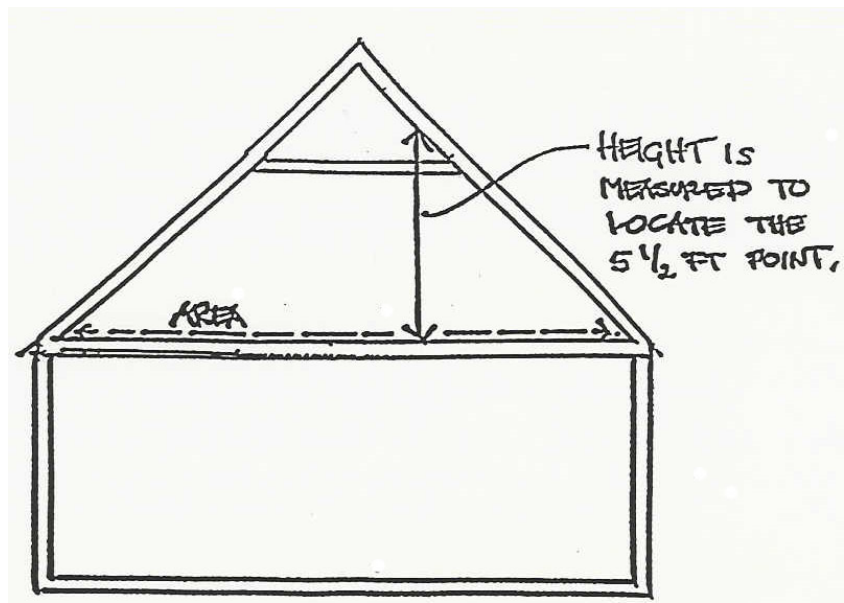
<i><b>TERM</b></i>	<i><b>DEFINITION</b></i>
<i><b>Adaptive reuse:</b></i>	Conversion of a building and/or structure or part of a building and/or structure-to a use different from that which it was most recently approved.
<i><b>Addition:</b></i>	Any alteration, extension or expansion in a building which increases its size, building area, footprint, floor area, height or roof-area.
<i><b>Administrator:</b></i>	The Federal Flood Administrator, who has been so designated, and has the responsibility for the administration of the Federal Flood Insurance Program.
<i><b>Alteration:</b></i>	Any change in the use or location of structural or supporting members of a building, such as foundations, bearing walls, columns, beams, girders, headers, rafters or roofs; except that a change in or addition to a building facade that is less than four (4) inches in depth shall not be deemed an alteration.
<i><b>Antenna:</b></i>	A commercial device which is attached to a tower, or other structure, for transmitting and receiving electromagnetic waves.
<i><b>Antenna Tower or Telecommunication Tower:</b></i>	A commercially operated structure, whether freestanding or attached to a building or another structure, that is used to support an antenna or equipment used to collect, transmit or receive wireless telecommunications or radio signals. Examples include monopoles and lattice construction steel structures.
<i><b>Apartment:</b></i>	An apartment shall be considered a dwelling unit.

**TERM**

**DEFINITION**

**Attic:** A part of a building directly under the roof with no more than twenty-five percent (25%) of the floor space having headroom of five and one-half (5-1/2) feet or more. The area must be measured vertically from the top of the attic floor or floor beams to the bottom or underside of the roof or roof rafters. The attic area shall be measured horizontally from the inside of the exterior walls of the attic floor. If there are no exterior walls, the floor is measured from where the underside of the roof or roof rafters meet the attic floor. An attic shall not be deemed a story and shall not be counted in floor area measurements, but shall be counted in height measurements. (See Floor Area, Headroom, Story, Half-Story).

An attic is determined as follows:



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**TERM**

**DEFINITION**

***Awnings:***

(1) A permanent awning is a fixed, roofed-over awning that is securely fastened to a building.

(2) A retractable awning is an awning equipped with a mechanism or device for raising and holding the awning in a retracted or closed position against the face of the building; i.e. awnings that roll or fold up and down.

(3) A "box" awning is a fixed awning that is open-through to the sky and has no roof covering.

(4) There shall be a minimum clearance of 7 feet 6 inches from the sidewalk to the lowest part of the framework. The awning shall not extend closer than 12 inches from any curb line.

(5) Retractable awnings and "box" awnings shall not be deemed structures.

***Bank:***

Any business that primarily provides the ability to perform person to person cash deposits and withdrawals with tellers, and additionally other financial transactions.

***Bank Drive-in:***

Any physical structure, manned or non-manned (automatic teller machine), where banking and/or financial business is transacted from within one's vehicle. A Bank Drive-in is an accessory use only to a principal Bank use. The terms drive-in, drive-up and drive-thru, and similar variations shall be synonymous.

***Base Flood:***

The flood having a one percent chance of being equaled or exceeded within any one year interval, as designated on the Flood Insurance Rate Map and measured in accordance with the National Geodetic Vertical Datum (NGVD) OF 1929.

***Basement:***

A part of a building located partly underground, which is not a crawl space, having less than one-half (1/2) of its headroom below the average level of the finished grade measured within 10 feet of the exterior walls of the building and having one or more walls fully or partially exposed. A basement shall be deemed a story and shall be counted in floor area and height measurements. (See cellar, headroom)

For the purposes of §31-11 (Floodplain Regulations), a basement is defined as any area of a building, including cellar or crawl space, having its floor subgrade (below ground level) on all sides.

***Bedroom:***

A room which is designated and primarily used for sleeping.

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<b>TERM</b>	<b>DEFINITION</b>
<b><i>Breakaway Walls:</i></b>	Those types of walls, solid or lattice, and constructed of concrete, masonry, wood, metal, plastic or any other suitable building material, which are not a part of the structural support of the building and which are so designed as to break away, under abnormally high tides or wave action, without damage to the structural integrity of the building.
<b><i>Buffer or Buffer Strip:</i></b>	A strip of land along a property line or zoning district boundary which shall be free of any building or use other than natural woody growth, landscaping or screening and which may be within or a part of the minimum setback requirement.
<b><i>Building:</i></b>	<p>A structure having a roof supported by columns or walls along whose outside face can be traced an unbroken line for the complete circumference of the building which is affixed to a lot or lots for the housing or enclosure of persons, animals or chattels, and shall include each of the independent units into which it is divided by common walls.</p> <p>A building which is connected to a principal building by a carport or garage, or by a porch, breezeway or passageway with a common wall of less than 8 feet in length, shall be deemed to be an accessory building.</p> <p>Any structure, such as a deck or porch, attached to a building shall be deemed to be part of the building.</p> <p>A building which is connected to a principal building by a fully enclosed above ground passageway with a common wall of 8 feet or more in length, and having a finished floor, walls and ceiling shall be deemed to be part of the principal building.</p>
<b><i>Building Accessory:</i></b>	A building structure which is devoted or intended to be devoted to an accessory use and is located on the same lot with the principal building, structure or use.

<b>TERM</b>	<b>DEFINITION</b>
<b><i>Building Area and/or Footprint:</i></b>	<p>The maximum horizontal cross-section area enclosed by and including the outside walls of all buildings and structures on a lot. The projection of entry platforms or steps; cantilevered roofs, eaves, cornices; chimneys; window sills or sun shades and similar incidental architectural projections on lots of one-quarter acre (10,890 square feet) in area or greater shall not be included within the building area or footprint, provided that such architectural projections shall not extend more than three (3) feet from the building wall or face or more than a distance equal to 20% of the minimum required setback, whichever is less. (Also see §31-4, Projections into setbacks)</p>
<b><i>Building Height or Height:</i></b>	<p>The vertical distance measured in feet from the average existing level of the ground surrounding the building or addition thereto and within ten (10) feet thereof up to the midpoint height of a pitched roof or up to the level of the highest main ridge or peak of any other type of structure, or the total number of stories in a building including basements and/or half-stories. In cases of buildings with more than one pitched roof and/or dormer, all pitched roofs and/or dormers must comply with allowable building height. The number of points necessary for an "average" computation shall be based on appropriate contour intervals or spot elevations as required by the Planning and Zoning Commission. The existing level shall mean the actual or proposed elevations whichever is lower of the property at the time of application. (Also see §32-7 for satellite dishes and antennas prohibition). The provisions with respect to height shall apply to roof-top mechanical equipment but shall not apply to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Solar panels on a pitched-roofed building provided the highest point of the panels are located no higher than the roof ridge line;</li><li>▪ Solar panels on a flat-roofed building which do not extend more than 5-feet above the roofline of a flat-roofed building, provided that the panels are set back at least 6-feet from the edge of the roof on all elevations;</li><li>▪ Roof parapets and turrets 3 feet or less in height; and</li><li>▪ Cupolas and domes not used for human habitation, clock towers, bell towers and roof ventilators; provided that<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The cumulative square foot area of these structures cannot exceed 5% of the footprint of the roof area of the building on which it is located, or 100 square feet, whichever is less; and</li><li>• The structure shall fit within a 10' x 10' square; and</li><li>• The structure shall not extend more than 5 feet above the ridge of the roof or top of flat roof on which it is located.</li></ul></li><li>▪ Church spires and belfries, pole type TV antennas and chimneys.</li></ul> <p>(See Attic, Cellar, and Crawl Space)</p>

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<b>TERM</b>	<b>DEFINITION</b>
<b><i>Building, Principal:</i></b>	A building or structure in which is conducted the main or primary use of the lot on which said building is located.
<b><i>Canopy:</i></b>	A structure constructed of a rigid framework, with a roof covering, attached to a building at one end and supported at the other end by stanchions or columns.
<b><i>Cellar:</i></b>	A part of a building located mostly underground which is not a crawl space, having one-half (1/2) or more of its headroom below the average level of the finished grade measured within 10 feet of the exterior of the walls of the building. A cellar shall not be deemed a story, but shall be counted in floor area and height measurements. (See Crawl Space, Headroom.)
<b><i>Certification:</i></b>	A signed, written approval by the Planning and Zoning Commission or its designated agent.
<b><i>Change of Use:</i></b>	<p>A change of use shall be subject to Site Plan Review.</p> <p>The following shall be deemed to be change of use for purposes of these regulations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Any change that increases the minimum required number of parking spaces for a building or use.</li><li>• Any change necessitating the measurement of patron and non-patron floor area.</li><li>• Any change from a vacant rentable space in a building structure or lot, or portion thereof, which has been unoccupied for a period of 12 months or more to a use that is different from the previous use.</li><li>• Any change from a vacant lot area to a parking area.</li><li>• The change from any residential use to any commercial use shall also be deemed to be "change of use."</li><li>• Any change in the primary nature of the business of a Restaurant which serves alcoholic beverages including the manner in which patrons are seated or in which alcoholic beverages are served. Such change of use shall also require a special permit pursuant to §43 (Special Permit and/or Site Plan Review Procedures) of these regulations.</li></ul>
<b><i>Coastal High Hazard Area:</i></b>	The area subject to high velocity waters, including, but not limited to hurricane wave wash. The area is designated on a FIRM as Zone VI-30.

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<b><i>TERM</i></b>	<b><i>DEFINITION</i></b>
<b><i>Coin Operated Amusement Device:</i></b>	Any amusement machine or device operated by means of the insertion of a coin, token or similar object or otherwise activated, for the purpose of amusement or skill.
<b><i>Co-Location:</i></b>	A means of locating commercial wireless telecommunications facilities from more than one provider on a single antenna tower.
<b><i>Commercial Use:</i></b>	An occupation, employment or enterprise that is carried on for profit by the owner, lessee or licensee.
<b><i>Commercial Wireless Telecommunication Service Facilities:</i></b>	Any and all facilities including, without limitation, antennas, antenna towers or telecommunication towers, and supporting buildings and equipment which are utilized by licensed commercial wireless telecommunication services providers, including, without limitation, cellular, personal communication services (PCS), specialized mobilized radio (SMR), enhanced specialized mobilized radio (ESMR), paging and similar services that are marketed to the general public.
<b><i>Coverage, Building:</i></b>	The percentage of a development site in a Non-Residence Zoning District, or a lot in a Residence Zoning District, occupied or intended to be occupied by all buildings and structures. Building coverage shall include the building area. No more than 20% of the land covered by waterbodies, water courses, wetlands, and land of severe topography having slopes of twenty-five percent (25%) or greater shall be included in the lot area used for computing the maximum allowable building coverage.

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<b>TERM</b>	<b>DEFINITION</b>
<b><i>Coverage, Total:</i></b>	The percentage of a development site in a Non-Residence Zoning District, or a lot in a Residence Zoning District, occupied or intended to be occupied by all buildings, structures, parking areas, driveways, tennis courts and similar improvements. Patios and terraces, as defined herein, shall be excluded except if the terrace or patio is 3 feet or more above the adjacent grade at any point, such as with a retaining wall. Parking on unpaved surfaces provided by places of worship, in excess of the minimum number of parking spaces required by §34-5 of these regulations, shall be excluded. Total coverage shall include one-hundred percent (100%) of the building area and parking areas, driveways, and similar improvements, but only fifty-percent (50%) of a tennis court. No more than 20% of the land covered by water bodies, watercourses, wetlands, and land of severe topography having slopes of twenty-five percent (25%) or greater shall be included in the lot area used for computing the maximum allowable total coverage. Calculations shall be made on forms approved by the Planning and Zoning Commission (See Appendix D).
<b><i>Crawl Space:</i></b>	A part of a building, located below the first story, having headroom of less than five (5) feet at all points. A crawl space shall not be deemed a story and shall not be counted in floor area measurements, but shall be counted in height measurements. (See Basement, Cellar, Story)
<b><i>Day-Care Center or Nursery School:</i></b>	A building or portion thereof, licensed by the State Department of Health for the care, guidance and/or supervision of 13 or more children not including those of the resident occupant. A Special Permit approval is required.
<b><i>Development:</i></b>	Any man-made change to improved or unimproved real estate, including, but not limited to, buildings or other structures, mining, dredging, filling, grading, paving, excavation, drilling operations or storage of equipment or materials in Special Flood Hazard Areas.
<b><i>Disturbed area:</i></b>	An area of land where the ground cover is destroyed or removed leaving the land subject to accelerated erosion.
<b><i>Dwelling:</i></b>	A building used as living quarters. The term shall not be deemed to include automobile court, motel, hotel, camping trailer, travel trailer, recreation vehicle, mobile home, boat or tent, except as provided in §16 (MHPD), herein. No vehicles of any kind can be occupied or used as a rooming unit or a dwelling unit.
<b><i>Dwelling, Attached:</i></b>	A dwelling having any portion of one or more walls, floors or ceilings in common with another dwelling.

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<b>TERM</b>	<b>DEFINITION</b>
<b><i>Dwelling, Multiple Family:</i></b>	Any building designed, constructed and used as a residence building for three (3) or more dwelling units; the term includes cooperatives, condominiums, town-houses and apartments.
<b><i>Dwelling Single-Family:</i></b>	A detached dwelling which is one (1) dwelling unit and contains one kitchen only.
<b><i>Dwelling, Two-Family:</i></b>	An attached dwelling containing two (2) dwelling units and only one kitchen for each dwelling unit.
<b><i>Dwelling Unit:</i></b>	Any room or group of rooms providing living quarters and an independent kitchen.
<b><i>Elderly:</i></b>	Persons sixty-two (62) years of age or older.
<b><i>Elevated Building:</i></b>	A building without a basement built to have the lowest floor elevated above the ground level by means of fill, solid foundation perimeter walls, pilings, columns (posts and piers), shear walls, or breakaway walls, as allowed under applicable standards.
<b><i>Elevation:</i></b>	The height in feet relative to mean sea level (MSL). Alternatively a plan of the sides of a building.
<b><i>Erosion:</i></b>	The detachment and movement of soil or rock fragments by water, wind, ice or gravity.
<b><i>Fall Zone:</i></b>	The radius around an antenna or telecommunication tower equal to the height of the antenna or telecommunication tower.
<b><i>Family:</i></b>	a) People living together as a single housekeeping unit who are all related by blood, marriage or adoption; or  (b) A group of persons living together as a single housekeeping unit who are unrelated by blood, marriage or adoption except that such a group shall not exceed five (5) individuals; and (c) Bona fide domestic servants in the paid employ of a resident family, may be included in the single housekeeping unit, provided that the number of servants shall be limited to three (3).
<b><i>Family Day Care Home:</i></b>	Private family home caring for not more than six children, including the provider's own children not at school full time, and which is licensed by the State. A zoning permit is required.

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<b><i>TERM</i></b>	<b><i>DEFINITION</i></b>
<b><i>Fence or Wall:</i></b>	Any rigid barrier which serves to separate one portion of land from another and may serve to prevent intrusion. (See §31-3, Fences and Walls, Obstructions at Corners)
<b><i>Flood Boundary and Floodway Map:</i></b>	An official map of the Town of Westport upon which the Administrator has delineated boundaries of flood areas having special hazards as well as the regulatory floodway.
<b><i>Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM):</i></b>	An official map of the Town of Westport upon which the Administrator has delineated both the special hazard areas and the risk premium zones applicable to the Town of Westport.
<b><i>Floodproofed:</i></b>	Watertight, having walls substantially impermeable to the passage of water and with structural components having the capability of resisting hydrostatic and hydrodynamic loads and effects of buoyancy.
<b><i>Floodproofing:</i></b>	Any combination of structural and non-structural additions, changes, or adjustments to structures which reduce or eliminate flood damage to real estate or improved real property, including water and sanitary facilities, structures and their contents
<b><i>Floodway:</i></b>	The channel of a river or other watercourse with adjacent land areas that must be reserved in order to discharge the base flood without cumulatively increasing the water surface elevation above a designated height.
<b><i>Floor:</i></b>	The top surface of an enclosed area in a building (including basement) i.e., top of slab in concrete slab construction or top of wood flooring in wood frame construction. The term does not include the floor of a garage used solely for parking vehicles.
<b><i>Floor Area:</i></b>	The floor area of a building shall be the sum of the total horizontal areas of all the floors of that building measured from the interior faces of the exterior walls. Floor areas shall include the area of basements, cellars, and half-stories. Attics and crawl spaces (as defined in these regulations) are not included in the floor area. Only one floor of an atrium shall be included in the floor area. Only one atrium in a building will be excluded from the floor area. All other openings in a floor shall be counted as floor area.
<b><i>Floor Area, Patron:</i></b>	All floor space accessible to customers, including foyers and hallways, but excluding bathrooms and coat rooms.

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<b>TERM</b>	<b>DEFINITION</b>
<b><i>Floor Area Ratio (F.A.R.):</i></b>	The aggregate floor area of all buildings on a lot divided by the gross lot area of such lot as defined in Appendix D, or portion thereof, that lies within the applicable zoning district. (FAR = Floor Area divided by Gross Lot Area). See §34-12.1.5 for parking/garage floor area.
<b><i>Floor, Lowest:</i></b>	The lowest floor of the lowest enclosed area (including basement). An unfinished or flood resistant enclosure, usable solely for parking of vehicles, building access or storage, in an area other than a basement area, is not considered a building's lowest floor. In Special Flood Hazard Areas, these areas must be designed in accordance with the definition of “elevated building” and §31-11.5.2 of these regulations.
<b><i>Floor Space</i></b>	The area of a floor, measured at floor level from the interior faces of the exterior walls or the bottom of the roof or roof rafters.
<b><i>Footprint:</i></b>	See Building Area
<b><i>Functionally Dependent Facility:</i></b>	A facility which cannot be used for its intended purpose unless it is located in close proximity to water, such as a docking or port facility necessary for the loading and unloading of cargo or passengers, shipbuilding, ship repair, or seafood processing facilities. The term does not include long-term storage, manufacture, sales or service facilities.
<b><i>Game Room:</i></b>	A building or portion thereof used or intended to be used for the operation of coin operated amusement devices for the use of the general public or specific invitees.
<b><i>Garages, Commercial:</i></b>	Any lot, building or part thereof, used for the storage, service or repair of motors, engines, vehicles or boats for remuneration, including any rental, lease or sale of any motors, engines, vehicles or boats.
<b><i>Garages, Private:</i></b>	An accessory building or portion of a principal building used for the storage of vehicles as an accessory use.
<b><i>Group Day Care Home:</i></b>	A home which offers or provides a program of supplementary care to not less than seven nor more than twelve related or unrelated children and which is licensed by the State.
<b><i>Headroom:</i></b>	The vertical distance from the top of the floor or floor beams to the bottom of the next higher floor or floor beams or the bottom of the roof or roof rafters.

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<b><i>TERM</i></b>	<b><i>DEFINITION</i></b>
<b><i>Healthcare Professional:</i></b>	A practitioner with an advanced degree, certification or trained specialist who works with people to resolve health related issues and except as specifically provided, who is not a licensed medical doctor, such as psychologists, social workers, counselors, naturopaths, massage therapists, and nutritionists. Psychiatrists are also considered Healthcare Professionals. (See Medical).
<b><i>Home Occupation:</i></b>	An accessory use customarily conducted entirely within a principal dwelling, carried on by one resident thereof, which use is incidental and subordinate to the residential use of the dwelling.
<b><i>Hospital:</i></b>	An institution licensed by the State Department of Health having facilities and medical staff to provide diagnosis, care and treatment of a wide range of acute conditions or chronic diseases including injuries.
<b><i>Hydrodynamic Loads:</i></b>	Loads that are caused on buildings or structures by the flow of flood water moving at moderate or high velocity around the buildings or structures or parts thereof, above ground level which allows the free flow of flood water. Hydrodynamic loads are basically of the lateral type and relate to direct impact loads by the moving mass of water, and to drag forces as water flows around the obstruction.
<b><i>Hydrostatic Loads:</i></b>	Loads that are caused by water, either above or below the ground surface, free or confined, and which is either stagnant or moves at slow velocities up to 5 feet per second. Hydrostatic pressures at any point are equal in all directions and always are perpendicular to the surface on which they are applied.
<b><i>Kitchen:</i></b>	A room, place or space within a structure designed, arranged with such items as, but not limited to: cabinets, counters, typical kitchen appliances and plumbing fixtures. A kitchen is used for the preparation and storage of food.
<b><i>Living Quarters:</i></b>	Separate and independent space including kitchen, sleeping and bathroom facilities within a building.

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<b>TERM</b>	<b>DEFINITION</b>
<b><i>Lot:</i></b>	An undivided parcel of land which is separately owned from an adjoining land as evidenced by an instrument recorded in the land records of the Town of Westport or an individual parcel of land shown on a map filed in the land records of the Town of Westport. A parcel or tract of land which is divided by the Saugatuck River, West Branch of the Saugatuck River, Aspetuck River or the Sasco Creek, south of Long Lots Road, or by a public street, or by any other street, road or vehicular accessway fulfilling or intended to fulfill either the lot frontage or the rear lot line access requirements of these regulations for one or more other parcels, shall not be considered a single lot.
<b><i>Lot Area:</i></b>	The horizontal area contained within the property lines of the lot as calculated below. In determining compliance with minimum lot area and shape requirements land subject to easements for underground utilities may be included but land subject to easements for above ground utilities which forbid buildings or structures within the area of the easement or, where no such easement exists, the minimum area recommended by a utility company for public safety shall not be included. No part of any public or private street nor any easement which grants exclusive surface use of the property to other than the owner (except drainage easements) shall be included in the lot area. In determining compliance with minimum lot area requirements, land of severe topography having slopes of twenty-five percent (25%) or greater, and land covered by waterbodies, water courses and/or wetlands may be used to satisfy no more than twenty percent (20%) of the minimum lot area requirements. Calculations shall be made on forms approved by the Planning and Zoning Commission (See §31-2.2.4 and Appendix D)
<b><i>Lot, Corner:</i></b>	A lot abutting the intersection of two or more streets. Corner and through lots have two or more front lot lines and generally no rear lot line.
<b><i>Lot, Depth:</i></b>	The average horizontal distance between the front and rear lot lines, measured parallel to or as nearly parallel as possible to side lot lines.
<b><i>Lot Line:</i></b>	Any property line bounding a lot.
<b><i>Lot Line, Front:</i></b>	The property line(s) dividing the lot from the right-of-way of a street or streets. In the case of a rear lot, the front lot line shall be considered the line or lines most nearly parallel to and closest to a street or streets providing lot frontage.

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<b>TERM</b>	<b>DEFINITION</b>
<b>Lot Line, Rear:</b>	The property line between the side lot lines and generally opposite to the front lot line.
<b>Lot Line, Side:</b>	The property line(s) generally extending from the street and connecting the front and rear lot lines.
<b>Lot, Rear:</b>	A lot of which the buildable area is located generally to the rear of other lots having frontage on the same street and having access to the street via an accessway that is part of the rear lot.
<b>Lot Shape:</b>	<p>Configuration of lot shall be such that a minimum rectangle as specified herein shall be contained within the lot lines, and that the Regularity Factor shall be 0.55 or greater. In determining compliance with minimum rectangle requirements, land of severe topography having slopes of twenty-five (25) percent or greater, and land covered by waterbodies, watercourses and/or wetlands may be used to satisfy no more than twenty (20) percent of the minimum area rectangle requirements.</p> <p>Each new lot created by a subdivision, resubdivision, or first cut as of November 1, 2000 shall have a Regularity Factor of not less than fifty-five one hundredths (0.55). In calculating the Regularity Factor, the perimeter of the lot may be configured to exclude any portion of the lot in excess of the minimum required lot size. This is done when including the excess area would cause the Regularity Factor to be less than 0.55. The Regularity Factor shall be determined by the following formula:</p> $\frac{16A}{P^2} = R$ <p>A= Gross area of lot in square feet P=Lot Perimeter R=Regularity factor</p>
<b>Lot, Through:</b>	A lot other than a corner lot which has frontage on two or more streets. Corner and through lots have two or more front lot lines and generally no rear lot lines.
<b>Lot, Width:</b>	The average horizontal distance between the side lot lines, measured at right angles to the lot depth.

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<b><i>TERM</i></b>	<b><i>DEFINITION</i></b>
<b><i>Managed Residential Community:</i></b>	<p>A Managed Residential Community shall consist of private residential units and common supportive facilities and provide or make available services required by State of Connecticut statutes or regulations for an Assisted Living Services Agency (ALSA). The common supportive facilities shall include, but are not limited to: meal service offering 3 meals per day, laundry service, housekeeping, maintenance including routine chore services the resident is unable to perform, programs of social and recreational activities, personal transportation, 24 hour security and health and personal services in a group setting to persons of sixty-two (62) years of age and older who require help or aid with activities of daily living.</p> <p>A Managed Residential Community shall provide common facilities for use by the occupants including common rooms, laundry facilities, mailboxes, entertainment facilities, communal dining area(s) with kitchen and supportive food preparation areas, administrative offices, a convenience store for the residents of the facility, and areas for periodic medical examinations, limited treatment and therapy, or similar uses. Also, the building must have one (1) interior area capable of accommodating 100% of the tenant population at one time.</p> <p>In addition, services offered to residents shall include a common kitchen area on each floor equipped with conventional ovens or microwave ovens available for use by all residents. Also, appropriate exercise facilities, equipment and instruction must be available to all tenants.</p> <p>A Managed Residential Community shall offer nursing-type services by a licensed ALSA in accordance with the State of Connecticut statutes or regulations. However, a Managed Residential Community is not a nursing home or convalescent facility as defined by the State of Connecticut statutes or regulations (See definition of Private Residential Unit.) Residents may include those having dementia and physical disabilities.</p>
<b><i>Manufactured Home:</i></b>	<p>A structure, transportable in one or more sections, which is built on a permanent chassis designed to be used with or without a permanent foundation when connected to the required utilities, including recreational vehicles and similar transportable structures placed on a site for 180 consecutive days or longer if in a Special Flood Hazard Area.</p>

*Town of Westport Zoning Regulations - §5, Definitions*

<b>TERM</b>	<b>DEFINITION</b>
<b><i>Market Value:</i></b>	The Value of Real Property (i.e. building.) as determined by dividing the assessed value of the building as shown on the official Tax Assessor's records by the current assessment sales ratio established by the State Office of Policy and Management (OPM).
<b><i>Mean Sea Level:</i></b>	The average height of the sea for all stages of the tide which is considered as Elevation 0.0 feet based upon the National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929 on the Flood Insurance Rate Map.
<b><i>Medical:</i></b>	This term shall mean a licensed medical doctor, doctor of dental surgery and doctor of medical dentistry and other similar uses such as chiropractors, physical therapists, rehabilitation centers, but not psychiatrists. (See Healthcare Professional)
<b><i>Mobile Home:</i></b>	A detached single-family dwelling unit designed:  (1) for long term occupancy and containing sleeping accommodations, a flush toilet and a tub and/or shower bath and kitchen facilities, and having both plumbing and electrical connections for attachment to outside systems;  (2) to be transported on its own wheels or on flatbed or other trailer or detachable wheels; and  (3) to be placed on rigid supports at the site where it is to be occupied as a residence complete and ready for occupancy, except for minor and incidental unpacking and assembly operations and connection to utility systems.
<b><i>Mobile Home Park:</i></b>	An area zoned for mobile home use which meets the standards set forth in §16, and which has been approved by the Planning and Zoning Commission.
<b><i>Mobile Home Replacement Unit (MHRU):</i></b>	A permanent, non-transportable attached or detached single-family dwelling unit constructed to replace an existing Mobile Home Unit, situated within a Mobile Home Park District, and designed for long-term occupancy as a residence. (MHRU)
<b><i>Mobile Home Unit Space:</i></b>	An area of ground within a mobile home park designed for the accommodation of one mobile home.
<b><i>Motel, Hotel, Motor Inn, Tourist Court:</i></b>	A building or buildings containing five (5) or more rooming units that are rented, or hired out for sleeping purposes with or without common rooms and related eating facilities.

*Town of Westport Zoning Regulations - §5, Definitions*

<b>TERM</b>	<b>DEFINITION</b>
<b><i>Multiple Use Development:</i></b>	A use of land, buildings or structures with a combination of office, retail or other commercial uses and two-family or multi-family dwellings on a lot.
<b><i>New Construction:</i></b>	As it relates to §31-11, “Floodplain Regulations,” means structures for which the “start of construction” commenced on or after June 30, 1980. (Adoption date of floodplain management regulations and includes any subsequent improvement to such structures).
<b><i>Non-Conforming Structure:</i></b>	A structure that does not conform to one or more of the standards required in the zoning district in which it is located, such as setback, coverage, floor area and height.
<b><i>Non-Conforming Lots:</i></b>	A parcel of land that does not meet the requirements of the zoning district in which it is located such as, but not limited to, area, shape, frontage, depth, width or access.
<b><i>Non-Conforming Use:</i></b>	A continuous use of land or of a structure which is currently not a permitted use in the district in which it is located, but which either legally existed at the time these regulations were first established, or which was a permitted use under these regulations prior to their being amended. A use which is permitted by variance shall be deemed to be a non-conforming use.
<b><i>Owner, Principal:</i></b>	A person who owns at least 50% of the interest in the real property. The principal owner of any corporate owned property shall be a person who owns at least 50% of the shares of the Corporation.
<b><i>Parking Space, Loading Space:</i></b>	One standard parking space (stall) shall constitute an area nine (9) feet in width and eighteen (18) feet in stall length with a vertical clearance to accommodate one (1) automobile. A small car space (stall) shall constitute an area eight (8) feet in width and sixteen (16) feet in stall length with a vertical clearance to accommodate one (1) automobile. A handicapped parking space (stall) shall constitute an area of fifteen (15) feet in width and eighteen (18) feet in stall length with a vertical clearance to accommodate one (1) automobile or van. One (1) loading space (stall) shall constitute an area twelve (12) feet in width and thirty (30) feet in stall length with a vertical clearance of fifteen (15) feet.
<b><i>Patio:</i></b>	See Terrace or patio

*Town of Westport Zoning Regulations - §5, Definitions*

<b><i>TERM</i></b>	<b><i>DEFINITION</i></b>
<b><i>Pilings:</i></b>	Columnar support members which may be of any approved type capable of resisting all applied loads and shall, as far as practicable, be compact and free from unnecessary appendages which would trap or restrict free passage of debris during a flood.
<b><i>Premises:</i></b>	A lot, plot or parcel of land including the buildings, structures and uses thereon
<b><i>Private Occupational School:</i></b>	An enterprise certified by the Connecticut Commissioner of Higher Education pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §10a-22b, to offer instruction in a trade, industrial, commercial or service occupation, as defined in Connecticut General Statutes §10a-22a.
<b><i>Private Residential Unit:</i></b>	Any room or group of rooms including a full bathroom and kitchenette devoted to the exclusive use or occupancy of up to two residents, (see §32-15.12.1) of a Managed Residential Community. Kitchenette facilities are not required for those units serving dementia residents. Since common kitchen and dining facilities are provided for all residents within the Managed Residential Community, a residential unit shall not be considered a dwelling unit even though it shall have a small kitchenette facility for occasional use by the resident(s). Each residential unit shall be equipped with an emergency call system.
<b><i>Provider:</i></b>	An entity authorized by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to be a signal carrier for cellular telephones, personal communication services (PCS), specialized mobilized radio (SMR), enhanced specialized mobilized radio (ESMR), and paging services or other modes of communication as described in the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996.

**TERM**

**DEFINITION**

***Public Waterfront  
Access (PWA):***

A dedicated portion of land along a public body of water, created through an easement or donation of fee ownership, that may be accessed by the public from dawn to dusk. Each PWA will differ depending on topography and/or geological circumstances, but shall satisfy the following design criteria:

1. **Pedestrian Corridors** – Linear pedestrian connections shall be established or continued from the public street level to the shorefront and along the waterfront. A minimum six (6) foot wide path shall be provided unless deemed unnecessary by the Planning and Zoning Commission.
2. **Parking** – Signed and delineated public parking spaces shall be provided and shall be located on site between the public street and the waterfront unless specifically modified by the Planning and Zoning Commission. The number of actual spaces shall be not less than 1 parking space per 100 linear feet of shoreline as measured generally parallel to the shorefront, or 1 parking space per 10,000 square feet of floor area, whichever is greater.
3. **Signage** – Uniform, informational, interpretive and locational signs shall be included within each public waterfront access component. Signage may be required to be both on site and adjacent to the site within public rights-of-way.
4. **Handicap Accessibility** – Where feasible, handicap accessibility to the waterfront shall be provided.
5. **Sustainable Design** – PWA facilities, including walkways, permeable paths, timber boardwalks, interpretive signage, protective railings, and ornamental landscaping, shall be designed and constructed of quality, sustainable materials requiring minimal maintenance.
6. **Site Amenities** – Site amenities such as landscaping, historical or interpretive signage, benches, stationary binoculars, small rain or sun shelters, fishing piers, commercial fishing docks, and public boat slips are encouraged to be incorporated into the PWA.
7. Site amenities shall not be counted in calculating coverage subject to approval from the Planning and Zoning Commission.

*Town of Westport Zoning Regulations - §5, Definitions*

<b><i>TERM</i></b>	<b><i>DEFINITION</i></b>
<b><i>Recreational Vehicle:</i></b>	<p>A vehicle which is :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ built on a single chassis;</li><li>▪ 400 sq.ft. or less when measured at the largest horizontal projection;</li><li>▪ designed to be self-propelled or permanently towable by a light duty truck; and</li><li>▪ designed primarily not for use as a permanent dwelling but as temporary living quarters for recreational, camping, travel or seasonal use.</li></ul>
<b><i>Redevelopment:</i></b>	<p>Development activity characterized by the removal of an existing building and/or structure to be replaced with new construction.</p>
<b><i>Regularity Factor:</i></b>	<p>The Regularity Factor is a numerical expression of a ratio between the perimeter of a lot, and the gross lot area. The Regularity Factor is currently set at fifty-five one hundredths (0.55). The intent of the Regularity Factor is to minimize the creation of irregularly-shaped lots. A perfect 4-sided square lot will have a Regularity Factor of 1.0. (See Appendix D)</p>
<b><i>Research Laboratory:</i></b>	<p>Any use devoted to scientific research and development of manufactured products, processed products, compounded products and any investigative activities of a scientific nature. It may also include a combination of research activities and manufacturing activities provided that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(a) The manufacturing is the direct outcome of the research activity conducted therein; and</li><li>(b) The manufacturing activity does not constitute more than seventy-five percent (75%) of the total use conducted on the premises, measured by such criteria as floor space allocation, man-hour consumption, operating expenditures and personnel; and</li><li>(c) The manufacturing activity is light in intensity; and</li><li>(d) Combinations containing manufacturing uses which constitute more than twenty-five (25%) of the total use shall not exceed twenty-five thousand (25,000) square feet in total floor area.</li></ul>

*Town of Westport Zoning Regulations - §5, Definitions*

<b><i>TERM</i></b>	<b><i>DEFINITION</i></b>
<b><i>Restaurant:</i></b>	A place having an adequate kitchen and dining room, the primary business of which is the service of hot meals to patrons seated at tables or counters. Meals are served by waiters or waitresses and consumed at the table or counter where they are ordered. A Restaurant may have a Restaurant Permit to allow the retail sales of alcoholic liquor to be consumed on the premises, as granted by the Department of Liquor Control (See Restaurant, Fast Food; Restaurant, Drive-in).
<b><i>Restaurant, Fast Food:</i></b>	A place whose primary business is the quick sale of (1) frozen desserts, (2) food, already prepared, or prepared and cooked quickly, or cooked or heated in a microwave oven, or (3) non-alcoholic beverages for consumption on or off the premises. Generally, service is cafeteria style in disposable plates or containers, and food and beverages are not consumed at the point where they are ordered or paid for.
<b><i>Restaurant, Drive-In:</i></b>	A place that delivers prepared food and/or non-alcoholic beverages to patrons in motor vehicles, regardless of whether it also serves said items to patrons who are not in motor vehicles, for consumption in or out of motor vehicles, on or off the premises.
<b><i>Riverine:</i></b>	Relating to, formed by or resembling a river, including tributaries, streams, brooks and creeks.
<b><i>Rooming Unit:</i></b>	A portion of a building providing a partial housekeeping unit with incomplete living quarters. A rooming unit shall not include an area for cooking facilities within the unit, but may include board within the building.
<b><i>Scenic Vista:</i></b>	A view, which, because of its natural beauty, is in the best interest of the welfare of the entire community to preserve, e.g., the Saugatuck River
<b><i>School:</i></b>	A public school or private school having a comprehensive curriculum of study comparable to that of a public school, a nursery school, a kindergarten or a religious school.
<b><i>Sediment &amp; Erosion Control Plan:</i></b>	A scheme that minimizes soil erosion and sedimentation resulting from development and includes, but is not limited to, a map and narrative.

*Town of Westport Zoning Regulations - §5, Definitions*

<b><i>TERM</i></b>	<b><i>DEFINITION</i></b>
<b><i>Setback:</i></b>	The minimum required horizontal distance from any street line or lot line to the closest point of any building, structure, structural projection as described in Building Area and/or Footprint in §5-2 or use, measured in a straight line from, and most nearly perpendicular to such street line(s) or lot line(s). Where a lot is partially in a non-residence zoning district and partially in a residence zoning district, setbacks shall be measured from the zoning district boundary line. (See §31-4)
<b><i>Setback, Front:</i></b>	Front: The minimum required horizontal distance from the front lot line(s) or street line(s) to the closest point of any building, structure, structural projection or use measured in a straight line from and most nearly perpendicular to the front lot line(s).
<b><i>Setback, Rear:</i></b>	The minimum required horizontal distance from the rear lot line to the closest point of any building, structure, structural projection or use measured in a straight line from and most nearly perpendicular to the rear lot line(s).
<b><i>Setback, Side:</i></b>	The minimum required horizontal distance from the side lot lines to the closest point of any building, structure, structural projection or use measured in a straight line from and most nearly perpendicular to the side lot lines
<b><i>Signs:</i></b>	An illustration or display of any kind painted, attached or erected in any manner and displayed or in view of the general public for advertising purposes. The term "sign" shall include logos and signs erected inside the window display area of a building and outside business flags, but shall not include temporary, non-illuminated, on-premises sale signs erected inside the window display located on the ground floor of a building.
<b><i>Sign, Commercial or Off-Premises (Billboards):</i></b>	A sign owned or operated by any person, firm or corporation engaged in the business of outdoor advertising for compensation for the use of such signs, or any sign advertising a commodity or activity not sold, produced or conducted on the premises.
<b><i>Signs, Directional:</i></b>	A non-conforming sign intended to direct the way to a place or activity.
<b><i>Sign, Free-Standing:</i></b>	A sign supported by one or more uprights or braces in or on the ground.

*Town of Westport Zoning Regulations - §5, Definitions*

<b><i>TERM</i></b>	<b><i>DEFINITION</i></b>
<b><i>Sign, Identification Or On-Premises:</i></b>	Any sign advertising a commodity sold or produced on the premises or a business(es) or activity conducted on the premises where the sign is located.
<b><i>Sign, Roof:</i></b>	A sign attached to a building and erected upon the roof or extending above the main roof line of such building.
<b><i>Sign, Wall:</i></b>	A sign which is affixed to the exterior walls of any building and projecting not more than 18 inches from the building wall or parts thereof. Wall signs shall also include permanent signs erected inside window display areas of a building and theater marquee signs that regularly change to announce movies or events.
<b><i>Single-Use Development:</i></b>	A use of land, buildings or structures comprised of only permitted commercial uses or only permitted residential uses, but not both, on a lot.
<b><i>Special Flood Hazard Area:</i></b>	Land within the flood plain of The Town of Westport subject to a one percent or greater chance of flooding in any given year as shown on the Westport Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM).
<b><i>Start of Construction:</i></b>	This term includes substantial improvement and means the date the building permit was issued, provided the actual start of construction, repair, reconstruction or improvement, was within 180 days of the permit date. The actual start means the first placement of permanent construction of a structure (including a manufactured home) on a site, such as the pouring of slabs or footings, installation of piles, construction of columns, or any work beyond the stage of excavation or placement of a manufactured home on a foundation. Permanent construction does not include land preparation, such as clearing, grading and filling; nor does it include the installation of streets and/or walkways; nor does it include excavation for a basement, footings, piers or foundations or the erection of temporary forms; nor does it include the installation on the property of accessory buildings, such as garages or sheds not occupied as dwelling units or not part of the main structure.
<b><i>Story:</i></b>	A part of a building, between the upper surface of a floor and the floor (or roof) next above, which is not an attic, cellar, crawl space, or half story. A story is counted in floor area and height measurements.

*Town of Westport Zoning Regulations - §5, Definitions*

**TERM**

**DEFINITION**

***Story, Half:***

A part of a building directly under the roof with between twenty-five percent (25%) to fifty percent (50%) of the floor space having headroom of five and one-half (5-1/2) feet or more. The remaining floor space must have less than 5-1/2 feet headroom. The area must be measured vertically from the top of the floor or floor beams to the bottom or underside of the roof or roof rafters. The half story area shall be measured horizontally from the inside of the exterior walls of the underside of the roof or roof rafters at the floor level. A half story shall be counted fully in floor area and height measurements. (See Attic)

***Street:***

Includes public highways, and public and private roads.

***Street Lines:***

A dividing property line between the street and lot.

***Street, Public:***

Any town road or state or federal highway.

***Structure:***

Anything constructed or erected which requires location on the ground and or/ attachment to or placement on something having a location on the ground. Except as otherwise indicated, "Structures" as used in these regulations shall be deemed to include buildings, parapets, turrets, ground-mounted and roof-top mechanical units, swimming pools, tennis courts, towers, paddle or platform tennis courts, balconies, open entries, porches, decks, signs, permanent awnings, ground mounted antennas, ground mounted solar panels, satellite dishes, flagpoles and fences or walls more than eight (8) feet in height and a gas or liquid storage tank that is principally above ground. (See §32-7.4 for rooftop dishes)

Any structure, such as a deck or porch, attached to a building shall be deemed to be part of the building.

Ground-mounted mechanical units, such as air conditioning compressors, shall not be deemed structures for purposes of coverage, for permitted uses, (as distinct from special permit uses) in residence districts. Patios or terraces shall not be deemed structures for purposes of coverage but shall adhere to all required setbacks. If the patio/terrace is 3 feet or more above adjacent grade at any point, such as with a retaining wall, it will be included in total coverage. (See patio or terrace definition). Handicapped ramps are not considered structures.

An arbor or pergola is considered a structure if it has any type of roof or covering or a deck or patio floor or is over 8 feet in height.

*Town of Westport Zoning Regulations - §5, Definitions*

<b><i>TERM</i></b>	<b><i>DEFINITION</i></b>
<b><i>Substantial Damage:</i></b>	Damage of any origin sustained by a structure whereby the cost of restoring the structure to its before damaged condition would equal or exceed 50% of the market value of the structure before the damage occurred.
<b><i>Substantial Improvement:</i></b>	<p>Any combination of repairs, reconstruction, alteration or improvements to a structure, during any five (5) year period, in which the cumulative cost equals or exceeds fifty (50) percent of the market value as defined herein of the existing structure before “the start of construction” of the improvement. This term also includes structures which have incurred “Substantial damage,” regardless of the actual repair work performed.</p> <p>For the purpose of this definition "substantial improvement" is considered to occur when the first alteration of any wall, ceiling, floor or other structural part of the building commences, whether or not that alteration affects the external dimensions of the structure. The term does not, however, include any project for improvement of a structure to correct existing violations of state or local health, sanitary, building, fire or safety code specifications which have been previously identified by the local code enforcement official and which are the minimum necessary to assure safe living conditions.</p>
<b><i>Supportive Housing:</i></b>	Affordable Housing in accordance with CT General Statutes §8-30g that provides for persons who have been homeless or at-risk of being homeless, supportive services by the Westport Housing Authority, Town of Westport, or qualified 501(c) 3 non-profit organizations specializing in providing supportive services in residential settings. These services include individualized health and employment case management and other services such as accessible mental health, substance addiction, or employment.
<b><i>Swimming Pool:</i></b>	Swimming pool as defined by the State Building Code, shall be deemed a structure.
<b><i>Tennis Courts:</i></b>	A specially prepared level playing surface which may have either a full or partial enclosure or fence protecting a playing area for the game of tennis. A tennis court shall be deemed a structure but only 50% of its surface area shall be used in computing Total Coverage.

*Town of Westport Zoning Regulations - §5, Definitions*

<b><i>TERM</i></b>	<b><i>DEFINITION</i></b>
<b><i>Terrace or Patio:</i></b>	An improved or graded area located on the ground with no structural/supports other than subsurface base material and retaining walls. The concrete or other paved areas around a swimming pool which is the pool apron is considered a terrace/patio. A patio or terrace shall be flush to the ground with no air spaces beneath. A terrace or patio shall not be deemed a structure for purposes of total coverage except if the terrace or patio is 3 feet or more above the adjacent grade at any point, such as with a retaining wall. Terraces and patios shall always adhere to all required setbacks except as otherwise provided in section 24A of these Regulations.
<b><i>Unified Shopping Center:</i></b>	A retail or mixed retail and office shopping area containing six (6) or more retail tenants in one or more buildings, all situated on one lot.
<b><i>Usable Open Space:</i></b>	That portion of the ground space on the same lot as the principal building which is either landscaped or developed and maintained for recreation purposes. Usable Open Space shall not include those portions of a lot that are utilized for off-street parking or loading, drive-way or building purposes, nor wetlands, waterbodies, watercourses or land of severe topography having slopes of 25% or greater.
<b><i>Uses:</i></b>	The specific activity for which a lot, a building or a structure is designed, used or intended to be used. The term permitted use, special use or its equivalent shall not be deemed to include any non-conforming use.
<b><i>Use, Accessory:</i></b>	A use of land, buildings or structures which is incidental and subordinate to and customarily used in connection with, and located on the same lot with the principal building, structure or use.
<b><i>Use, Principal:</i></b>	Principal: The main or primary use of a premises.
<b><i>Walkway:</i></b>	An improved pedestrian sidewalk, path, trail or accessory at least three (3) feet in width.
<b><i>Waterbody:</i></b>	Any pond, lake or body of standing water either natural or artificial; excluding swimming pools.
<b><i>Watercourse:</i></b>	Any river, stream, brook, or other natural or artificial waterway.

*Town of Westport Zoning Regulations - §5, Definitions*

***TERM***

***DEFINITION***

***Wetlands:***

Any bank, bog, marsh, swamp, meadow, flat or other lands that are regulated by Department of Environmental Protection as tidal wetlands or by Westport Conservation Commission as inland wetlands.

***Workforce Housing:***

A dwelling unit for sale or rent at a price that is affordable for a person or family whose income is not more than 110% of the most recently published United States Department of Housing and Urban Development Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area (HUD – SMSA) Median Family Income for a Family of Four encompassing Westport (\$111,000 x 110% = \$122,100)