

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

VS

CONSENT ORDER NUMBER  
COWSPST14-045

Issue Date December 10, 2014

SCOTT TRIPP

DBA/TRIPP AND SONS TREE SERVICE

A. With the agreement of Scott Tripp dba/Tripp and Sons Tree Service ("Respondent"), the Commissioner of Energy & Environmental Protection ("the Commissioner") finds:

1. Scott Tripp is the owner of Tripp and Sons Tree Service and resides at 10 Green Street in Plainfield, Connecticut. The residential address is also the principal place of business for Tripp and Sons Tree Service.
2. The business is not registered with the Secretary of the State of Connecticut.
3. Scott Tripp does not hold arborist certification issued by the Commissioner.
4. The Commissioner has not issued a certificate of registration as an arborist business to Tripp and Sons Tree Service.
5. On or about 3/11/14, Respondent performed arboriculture by pruning limbs from a weeping cherry located at 31 Joseph Perkins Street in Norwich, Connecticut without first obtaining arborist certifications from the Commissioner.
6. On or about 3/11/14, Respondent engaged in the operation of an arborist business by pruning limbs from a weeping cherry at 31 Joseph Perkins Street in Norwich, Connecticut without first obtaining a certificate of registration from the Commissioner.

By virtue of the above, Respondent has violated sections 23-61b and 23-61h(a) of the Connecticut General Statutes.

B. With the agreement of Respondent, the Commissioner, acting under §22a-6 and 23-61f(c) of the Connecticut General Statutes, orders Respondent as follows;

1. Effective immediately upon issuance of this consent order, the Respondent shall take all steps necessary to comply with all applicable provisions of chapters 441 and 451 of the Connecticut General Statutes governing

Pesticide Control and Licensing for Arboriculture and regulations promulgated thereunder and shall maintain such compliance.

2. Full compliance. Respondent shall not be considered in full compliance with this consent order until all actions required by this consent order have been completed as approved and to the Commissioner's satisfaction.

3. Civil penalty. Respondent shall pay a penalty of \$1,000.00 as the total civil penalty to be sought by the Commissioner for those, and only those, violations described in paragraphs A.5 and A.6 of this consent order. Payment of the civil penalty will be due in two installments of \$500.00 as follows; on or before 11/30/2014 and on or before 5/30/2015.

**B.4 Supplemental Environmental Project.**

In addition to the civil penalty referenced in paragraph B.3, Respondent has agreed to undertake the following supplemental environmental project(s) ("SEP(s)") requiring an expenditure of at least three thousand dollars (\$3,000.00), which is the total estimated cost as determined by the Commissioner for all SEPs required under this paragraph, or make payment(s) as follows:

- a. Respondent shall provide all equipment and labor to remove and chip trees and brush as directed by the Commissioner along the Air Line State Park Trail; estimated to include a crew of three workers with chainsaws, a chipper and box truck for at least two days of work. Respondent shall perform each such SEP in accordance with the schedule approved by the Commissioner, and shall obtain any federal, state or local permit or approval necessary to carry out such SEP.
- b. If Respondent fails to fully perform any SEP in accordance with paragraph B.4.a., Respondent shall immediately notify the Commissioner in writing of such noncompliance and shall, upon written request by the Commissioner, remit a payment equal to: the total estimated cost, as determined by the Commissioner, of all such SEP(s); plus either \$2,500 or 10% of such total estimated cost, whichever is greater. Within fourteen (14) days after the date of the Commissioner's written request, Respondent shall make such payment in accordance with the remittance procedures for unexpended SEP funds in subparagraph B.4.e. of this consent order.
- c. On or before ninety (90) days after the date of issuance of this consent order, Respondent shall submit written progress reports to the Commissioner. Each progress report shall include the following information: Respondent's progress in performing each SEP including tasks performed to date, a complete accounting of actual project costs incurred to date, planning for the remaining project tasks to be performed, significant activities or findings related to the project, and any other reasonable information requested by the Commissioner for the purpose of evaluating Respondent's progress in performing the SEP(s).
- d. On or before thirty (30) days after completion of each SEP, Respondent shall submit for the Commissioner's review and written approval a comprehensive final report that certifies completion of such SEP. Such final report shall include, at a minimum, a narrative history of the project, detailed explanation of its design and implementation, summary of any data collected, complete final accounting of actual project costs including receipts for out-of-pocket costs, and a discussion of environmental benefits resulting from the SEP.

- e. Should the Commissioner determine that the actual cost to the Respondent of any fully completed SEP is less than the estimated cost, as determined by the Commissioner, of such SEP, Respondent shall pay the difference between such actual cost and the estimated cost to the Commissioner as unexpended SEP funds. The Commissioner shall notify the Respondent in writing of the amount of any such unexpended SEP funds that are due. Respondent shall, within fourteen (14) days after the date of such written notice, remit the full amount of the unexpended SEP funds. Payment of unexpended SEP funds shall be by certified or bank check payable to the "Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection" and the check shall state on its face "Statewide SEP Account, Consent Order No. COWSPST14-045." Respondent shall mail or personally deliver such payment to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, Bureau of Financial and Support Services, Accounts Receivable Office, 79 Elm Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06106-5127.
- f. If and when Respondent disseminates any publicity, including but not limited to any press releases regarding funding a SEP, Respondent shall include a statement that such funding is in partial settlement of an enforcement action brought by the Commissioner.
- g. Respondent shall not claim or represent that any SEP payment made pursuant to this consent order constitutes an ordinary business expense or charitable contribution or any other type of tax deductible expense, and Respondent shall not seek or obtain any other tax benefit such as a tax credit as a result of the payment under this paragraph.

5. Payment of penalties. Payment of penalties under this consent order shall be mailed or personally delivered to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, Bureau of Financial and Support Services, Accounts Receivable Office, 79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106-5127, and shall be by certified or bank check payable to the "Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection." The check shall state on its face, "BMMCA, Pesticide Management Program civil penalty, consent order COWSPST14-045."

6. Definitions. As used in this consent order, "Commissioner" means the Commissioner or a representative of the Commissioner.

7. Dates. The date of "issuance" of this consent order is the date the consent order is deposited in the U.S. mail or personally delivered, whichever is earlier. The date of submission to the Commissioner of any document required by this consent order shall be the date such document is received by the Commissioner. The date of any notice by the Commissioner under this consent order, including but not limited to notice of approval or disapproval of any document or other action, shall be the date such notice is deposited in the U.S. mail or is personally delivered, whichever is earlier. Except as otherwise specified in this consent order, the word "day" as used in this consent order means calendar day. Any document or action which is required by this consent order to be submitted or performed by a date which falls on a Saturday, Sunday or a Connecticut or federal holiday shall be submitted or performed by the next day which is not a Saturday, Sunday or Connecticut or federal holiday.

8. Noncompliance. This consent order is a final order of the Commissioner with respect to the matters addressed herein, and is non-appealable and immediately enforceable. Failure to comply with this consent order may subject Respondent to an injunction and penalties.

9. False statements. Any false statement in any information submitted pursuant to this consent order may be punishable as a criminal offense under §53a-157b of the Connecticut General Statutes and any other applicable law.

10. Notice of transfer; liability of Respondent. Until Respondent has fully complied with this consent order, Respondent shall notify the Commissioner in writing no later than 15 days after transferring all or any portion of the facility, the operations, the site or the business which is the subject of this consent order or after obtaining a new mailing or location address. Respondent's obligations under this consent order shall not be affected by the passage of title to any property to any other person or municipality.

11. Commissioner's powers. Except as provided hereinabove with respect to payment of civil penalties, nothing in this consent order shall affect the Commissioner's authority to institute any proceeding or take any other action to prevent or abate violations of law, prevent or abate pollution, recover costs and natural resource damages, and to impose penalties for past, present, or future violations of law. If at any time the Commissioner determines that the actions taken by Respondent pursuant to this consent order have not successfully corrected all violations, fully characterized the extent or degree of any pollution, or successfully abated or prevented pollution, the Commissioner may institute any proceeding to require Respondent to undertake further investigation or further action to prevent or abate violations or pollution.

12. Respondent's obligations under law. Nothing in this consent order shall relieve Respondent of other obligations under applicable federal, state and local law.

13. No assurance by Commissioner. No provision of this consent order and no action or inaction by the Commissioner shall be construed to constitute an assurance by the Commissioner that the actions taken by Respondent pursuant to this consent order will result in compliance [or prevent or abate pollution].

14. Access to site. Any representative of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection may enter the Respondent's place of business without prior notice for the purposes of monitoring and enforcing the actions required or allowed by this consent order.

15. No effect on rights of other persons. This consent order neither creates nor affects any rights of persons or municipalities that are not parties to this consent order.

16. Notice to Commissioner of changes. Within 15 days of the date Respondent becomes aware of a change in any information submitted to the Commissioner under this consent order, or that any such information was inaccurate or misleading or that any relevant information was omitted, Respondent shall submit the correct or omitted information to the Commissioner.

17. Notification of noncompliance. In the event that Respondent becomes aware that it did not or may not comply, or did not or may not comply on time, with any requirement of this consent order or of any document required hereunder, Respondent shall immediately notify by telephone the individual identified in the next paragraph and shall take all reasonable steps to ensure that any noncompliance or delay is avoided or, if unavoidable, is minimized to the greatest extent possible. Within five (5) days of the initial notice, Respondent shall submit in writing the date, time, and duration of the noncompliance and the reasons for the noncompliance or delay and propose, for the review and written approval of the Commissioner, dates by which compliance will be achieved, and Respondent shall comply with any dates which may be approved in writing by the Commissioner. Notification by Respondent shall not excuse noncompliance or delay, and the Commissioner's approval of any compliance dates proposed shall not excuse noncompliance or delay unless specifically so stated by the Commissioner in writing.

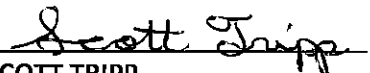
18. Submission of documents. Any document required to be submitted to the Commissioner under this consent order shall, unless otherwise specified in this consent order or in writing by the Commissioner, be directed to:

Diane Jorsey, Environmental Analyst III  
Department of Energy and Environmental Protection  
Bureau of Materials Management and Compliance Assurance  
Pesticide Management Program  
79 Elm Street  
Hartford, Connecticut 06106-5127

19. Joint and several liability. Respondents shall be jointly and severally liable for compliance with this consent order.


Respondent consents to the issuance of this consent order without further notice. The undersigned certifies that he/she is fully authorized to enter into this consent order and to legally bind the Respondent to the terms and conditions of the consent order.

**SCOTT TRIPP**  
**dba/TRIPP AND SONS TREE SERVICE**

  
SCOTT TRIPP  
OWNER

10-6-14  
Date

Issued as a final order of the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection.

  
Macky McCleary  
Deputy Commissioner

12/9/14  
Date