

I touched base with Slater Panosian regarding criteria for retaining walls requiring a permit.

Slater advises that walls less than 4' tall do not require a permit. My own research on the code indicates that walls less than or equal to 30" in height and spaced 36" on center do not require guardrails. My proposal for the high wall would be two walls 30" high, stepped 36" apart, as opposed to three walls 24" high stepped 36" apart per the previous submittal.

Please see the attached document. This shows the 6x8 pressure treated hemlock timbers I propose to use, images of weathered pressure treated lumber without stain, and a stain chart.

Stain cannot be applied for 6 months after installation of pressure treated lumber, per manufacturer's recommendations. I believe that the weathered timbers will complement the grey of the house, and do not require stain. I request that the HDC review and confirm that stain – which would be an ongoing maintenance issue – not be required. I am happy to landscape out the new walls visible from Pleasant Street with up to 12 mountain laurels.

From: [Chris Ripman](#)
To: [Chris Ripman](#)
Subject: 711 Pleasant Street HDC - Retaining Walls
Date: Wednesday, April 26, 2023 12:49:24 PM

From: Slater Panosian <spanosian@belmont-ma.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, April 25, 2023 12:13 PM
To: Chris Ripman <Chris@ripmanlighting.com>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL]711 Pleasant Street HDC

Chris,

I am not going to be writing anything for you for the HDC

Any supporting data for the timber retaining wall should be gathered from 3rd party channels.
As far as permitting is concerned, retaining walls south of 4' do not require a permit

Stairs and railings should be brought into code compliance because of your intention to repair and replace elements

Respectfully,

Slater Panosian

*Local Building Inspector
Town of Belmont
Office of Community Development
617-993-2655
spanosian@belmont-ma.gov*

From: Chris Ripman <Chris@ripmanlighting.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 25, 2023 9:52 AM
To: Slater Panosian <spanosian@belmont-ma.gov>
Cc: Chris Ripman <Chris@ripmanlighting.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL]711 Pleasant Street HDC

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Chris Ripman

From: Clay (A Yard & A Half) <clay@ayardandahalf.com>
Sent: Monday, April 24, 2023 8:56 AM
To: Chris Ripman
Subject: Re: 4.21 Pressure Treated 6" x 8" Timber Photos

Hi Chris,

Just checking that you received this email about the landscape timbers.

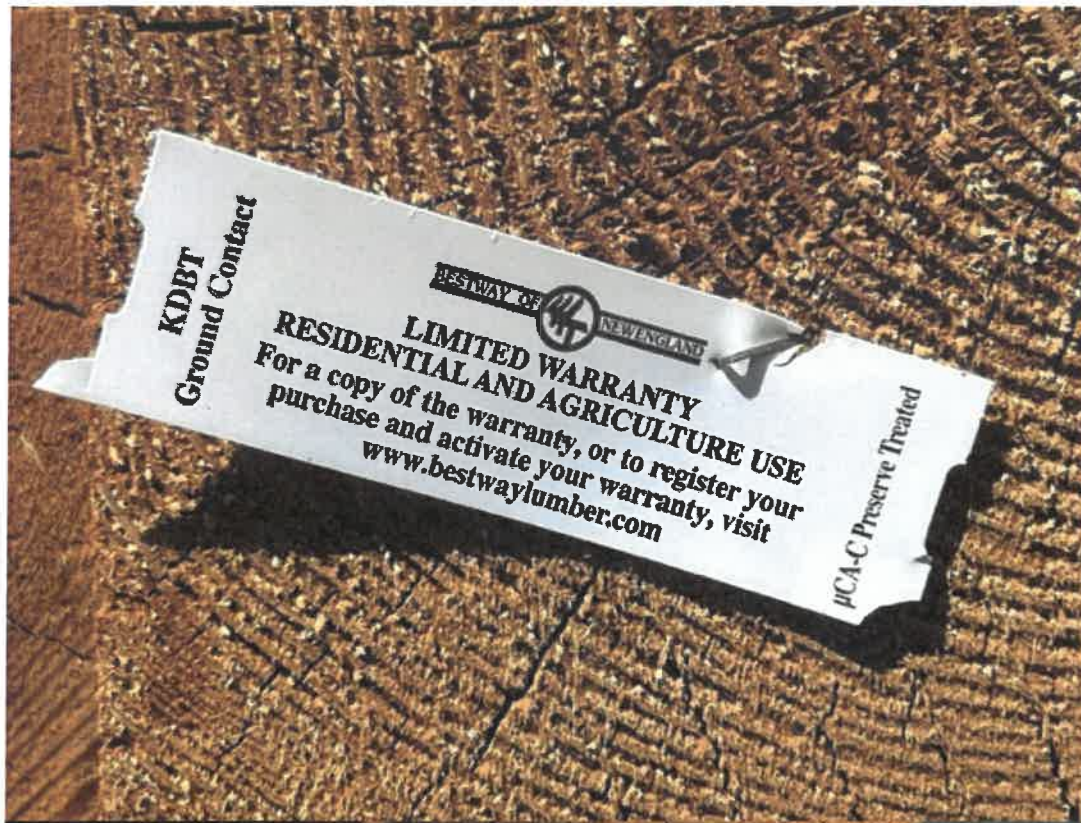
Clay

On Fri, Apr 21, 2023 at 8:29 AM Clay (A Yard & A Half) <clay@ayardandahalf.com> wrote:
Hi Chris,

Re pressure targeted 6" x 8" Timbers. Places find photos and product website.

<https://www.bestwaylumber.com/products>









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Clay Larsen
Sales, Design and Horticulture
[A Yard & A Half Landscaping Cooperative, Inc.](#)
[26 Thayer Rd., Waltham, MA 02453](#)
ph:617-908-1022

Health Concerns during this time

We are all concerned about the coronavirus and how it will impact our lives. We are practicing 6' social distancing and good hand sanitizing and following recommendations provided by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, OSHA and the Massachusetts Nursery and Landscape Association (MNLA) and others. We are continuing to meet with clients and mobilizing our crews safely. Please feel free to contact us with questions and concerns.

The Team at A Yard and A Half

Awarded [Best of Houzz 2019](#) for Client Satisfaction. Thank you for your positive reviews and referrals!

--

Clay Larsen
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Chris Ripman

From: Chris Ripman
Sent: Tuesday, April 25, 2023 2:54 PM
To: Chris Ripman
Subject: 711 Timber Photos + Stains

Chris

From: Chris Ripman <Chris@ripmanlighting.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 25, 2023 2:50 PM
To: Chris Ripman <Chris@ripmanlighting.com>
Subject: 711 Timber Photos







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- Allows most of the grain pattern to show while providing additional protection
- Ideal for softwoods



SOLID STAIN

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- Suitable for all wood types

Best regards

Chris

Sent from my iPhone. Please forgive creative interventions by Siri.