**Route 7 Wilton Reconstruction:
Current and Future Plans for Construction Site at Allen's Meadows East**

Wilton, Connecticut – In response to feedback regarding the construction site located at Allen's Meadows east, between the Wilton YMCA and Cannondale, the Connecticut Department of Transportation would like to inform the public about the purpose and use of this area.

This State owned property has multiple uses for the project, which include:
1. Staging and storage of construction materials,
2. Contractor's field offices,
3. Soil testing and transfer station, and
4. Creation of Wetland Area prior to completion of project.

The Department of Transportation is working with the Department of Environmental Protection in an effort to mitigate and create wetlands. This site will allow for 1.3 acres of wetland creation and was chosen because of its close proximity to the Norwalk River and wetlands and vernal pools to the West, South and Southwest. This area calls for the furnishing, planting and mulching of nearly 2000 trees, shrubs and herbaceous stock, of various type and sizes, as specified in the planting schedule and plan for the Wetlands Mitigation Area. Wherever possible, plants to be used should be salvaged from wetlands and uplands cleared for the project, and invasive plant species will not be permitted. The material currently stockpiled in this area -- tree stumps and woody debris from clearing and grubbing operations -- is intended for this purpose. It is anticipated that the wetland area will be created during the last full construction season on the project, which will be in 2009. Overall, the Route 7 reconstruction and widening project is scheduled for completion in April 2010.

For more information on this or other Connecticut Department of Transportation construction projects in Fairfield County, visit www.metropool.com or call MetroPool at 203-388-4409. Outside the local Stamford calling area call (1-800-346-3743).

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