



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES NOTICE OF FINAL GUIDANCE & CERTIFICATION

Pursuant to ch. 227, Wis. Stats., the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has finalized and hereby certifies the following guidance document.

DOCUMENT ID

WW-19-0076-C

DOCUMENT TITLE

GRADING CHECKLIST

PROGRAM/BUREAU

WATERWAYS PROGRAM

STATUTORY AUTHORITY OR LEGAL CITATION

CH. 30, WIS. STATS.

DATE SENT TO LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU (FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS)

12/2/2019

DATE FINALIZED

12/30/19

DNR CERTIFICATION

I have reviewed this guidance document or proposed guidance document and I certify that it complies with sections 227.10 and 227.11 of the Wisconsin Statutes. I further certify that the guidance document or proposed guidance document contains no standard, requirement, or threshold that is not explicitly required or explicitly permitted by a statute or a rule that has been lawfully promulgated. I further certify that the guidance document or proposed guidance document contains no standard, requirement, or threshold that is more restrictive than a standard, requirement, or threshold contained in the Wisconsin Statutes.

12/23/19

Signature

Date

Grading General Permit Application Instructions

Determine eligibility for this general permit:

- Choose an activity decision module on web, <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/waterways>, **or**
- Review the eligibility criteria below
 - If the project does not meet all of the eligibility standards, apply for an Individual Permit

To apply:

- Apply online using our online ePermitting System at <http://dnr.wi.gov/permits/water>
- Include all required attachments. Each document must be less than 15 megabytes and our online system offers a help guide to reduce file sizes,
- Permit processing review times begin when all of the required application materials are received by the DNR. The department may require additional information to evaluate the project.
- If you have questions regarding your application, contact the local Water Management Specialist for your county <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Waterways/contacts.html#county>.

Please note, prior to starting any work at the project site, you are responsible for:

- Obtain all necessary local (e.g. city, town, village or county) permits.
- Obtain U.S. Army Corps of Engineer permits or approvals, <http://www.mvp.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory.aspx>.
- Any other applicable state permits

Required attachments - Forms or documents you upload in our online ePermitting System

1. **Application form** - A complete, signed application form "Water Resources Application for Project Permits (WRAPP)" (Form 3500-053).

2. **Application fee** - Payment must be submitted through the ePermitting System as part of the application process. A list of fees can be found at <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/waterways/documents/PermitDocs/feesheet.pdf>.

3. **Ownership documentation** - (i.e. copy of deed, land contract, current property tax statement/receipt)

4. **Photographs** that clearly show the on-the-ground conditions of the existing project areas. Remember that too much snow cover or vegetation may obscure important details. If possible, have another person stand near the project area for size reference. Color images are preferred.

5. **Site maps** that clearly illustrate the location and perimeter of the project site, and its relationship to nearby water resources (e.g. lakes, rivers, streams, wetlands), major landmarks and roads. Provide copies of relevant maps (e.g. wetland, aerial, topographical, soil, floodplain, or zoning maps), with the project location clearly identified. The department offers a web mapping tool to assist in creating these maps at <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/surfacewater/swdv/>.

6. **Plans and specifications** that show what you intend to do. Plan drawings should be clear and to scale. Be sure to draw all plans as accurately and detailed as possible. The department reserves the right to require additional information to evaluate the project.

7. **Narrative description** of your proposal on a separate page. Please include:

- What the project is, purpose of project, and need for the project
- How you intend to carry out the project, including methods, materials, and equipment

- Your proposed construction schedule and sequence of work
- What temporary and permanent erosion control measures will be used
- The location of any disposal area for dredged or excavated materials
- For disturbances or fill, provide a description of type, composition, and quality of materials
- How you plan to avoid, minimize and mitigate impacts to waterways
- Area (e.g. linear feet) impacted

8. Endangered and threatened resources - The applicant is not required, but is encouraged to request an endangered resources (ER) review letter before applying for the permit. Information on how to obtain a review can be found by visiting the website at <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/ERReview/Review.html>. The applicant can also visit the NHI Public Portal, <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/ERReview/PublicPortal.html>, to determine if a full ER Review is required. Read the 'What is an ER Preliminary Assessment and what do the results mean?' section to determine follow-up steps.

9. Historical and cultural resources - If you are aware there is a historical or cultural resource present, you are **required** to contact the Wisconsin State Historical Society to verify and receive documentation that the activity will not result in an adverse impact to these resources.

Eligibility criteria:	
Projects that do not meet all criteria are not eligible for this general permit. If your project does not qualify for this general permit, you may apply for an individual permit.	
The grading site is not located in or adjacent to any of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A state natural area designated or dedicated under ss. 23.27 to 23.29, Stats. • A federal wild and scenic river designated under s. 30.27, Stats., or 16 USC 1274 (a)(8). • A state wild river designated under s. 30.26, Stats. 	
The vegetation plan required in s. NR 341.05 (2) (o) shall be implemented and monitored for one year after project completion. During the monitoring period, the grading site shall be inspected regularly, and any areas requiring additional stabilization or re-vegetation shall be addressed to ensure final stabilization.	
One year after project completion, a report and photographs shall be submitted to the department to demonstrate that the grading site is stabilized. If after one year, final stabilization has not been achieved or maintained, the department may require the landowner to submit a revised vegetation plan to the department, and implement the revised plan.	
The grading may not disturb or create a slope that exceeds 20% within the bank area.	
The difference in elevation between pre- and post-construction contours does not exceed 5 feet within the bank area, except for areas immediately adjacent to exposed or walkout basements where the difference in elevation between pre-and post-construction contours may not exceed 10 feet within the bank area. Note: This section does not prohibit a local ordinance from being more restrictive.	
The grading does not disturb an existing vegetated area in accordance with the distances in s. NR 151.12 (5) (d) 1. a. or d. to f. for protective areas around wetlands . Construction or land disturbance for a stormwater best management practice designed to comply with ch. NR 151 or 216 may occur within this buffer, but not within the wetland.	

<p>An undisturbed, vegetated area is maintained or established adjacent to the waterway in accordance with the distances in s. NR 151.12 (5) (d) 1. a. to c. for protective areas around lakes or streams. In the absence of a specified distance in s. NR 151.12 (5) (d) 1. a. to c., the vegetated area may not be disturbed or must be established for 35 feet landward from the ordinary high water mark. Construction or land disturbance within this buffer may occur for an activity that is otherwise authorized under ch. 30 or 31, Stats., exempted under ch. 30, Stats., or is a stormwater best management practice designed to comply with ch. NR 151 or 216.</p> <p>Note: The duff layer beneath a pine forest is easily washed away during increased flows due to construction and would therefore not be adequate buffer coverage.</p> <p>Note: A grading project including placement of a road and culvert to cross a navigable waterway is not excluded from eligibility for this general permit if the culvert is authorized under ch. 30, Stats. This section does not prohibit a local ordinance from being more restrictive.</p>	
<p>The reporting and monitoring requirements in s.NR 216.48 (4) must be followed.</p>	
<p>The grading project meets the stormwater performance standards of ss. NR 151.11 and 151.12 for stormwater discharges from land disturbing construction activities for non-transportation projects and ss. NR 151.23 and 151.24 for transportation projects.</p>	
<p>For sites greater than one acre of land disturbance, a stormwater management plan shall be developed in accordance with s. NR 216.47.</p>	
<p>For sites less than one acre of land disturbance, a stormwater management plan shall, to the maximum extent practicable, direct runoff from impervious surfaces onto pervious surfaces.</p>	
<p>Erosion and sediment control best management practices shall be designed in accordance with s. NR 216.46 (6).</p>	
<p>A site specific erosion control plan in accordance with s. NR 216.46.</p>	
<p>Erosion control measures shall meet or exceed the technical standards for erosion control approved by the department under subch. V of ch. NR 151. Any area where topsoil is exposed during placement, repair or removal of a structure shall be immediately seeded and mulched to stabilize disturbed areas and prevent soils from being eroded and washed into the waterway. These standards can be found at: http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/stormwater/standards/.</p>	
<p>Unless part of a permanent storm water management system, all temporary erosion and sediment control practices will be removed upon final site stabilization. All areas disturbed during removal of temporary erosion and sediment control practices will be restored.</p>	
<p>All equipment used for the project including but not limited to tracked vehicles, barges, boats, hoses, sheet pile and pumps shall be de-contaminated for invasive and exotic viruses and species prior to use and after use.</p>	
<p>The following steps must be taken every time you move your equipment to avoid transporting invasive and exotic viruses and species. To the extent practicable, equipment and gear used on infested waters shall not be used on other non-infested waters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inspect and remove aquatic plants, animals, and mud from your equipment. • Drain all water from your equipment that comes in contact with infested waters, including but not limited to tracked vehicles, barges, boats, hoses, sheet pile and pumps. • Dispose of aquatic plants, animals in the trash. Never release or transfer aquatic plants, animals or water from one waterbody to another. <p>Wash your equipment with hot (>104° F) or high pressure water, steam clean or allow your equipment to dry thoroughly for 5 days.</p>	

<p>Follow the most recent department approved washing and disinfection protocols and department approved best management practices to avoid the spread of invasive species as outlined in NR 40, Wis. Adm. Code. These protocols and practices can be found on the Department website at http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Invasives/bmp.html Keyword: "equipment operator" and at http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Invasives/documents/EquipOper.pdf</p>	
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