The DNR defines an artificial wetland as a landscape feature where hydrophytic vegetation may be present as a result of human modifications to the landscape or hydrology and for which the department has no definitive evidence showing a prior wetland or stream history existed before August 1, 1991, but does not include any wetland area that serves as a fish spawning area or a passage to a fish spawning area, or a wetland created as a result of a wetland mitigation requirement.

The following attachments must be included with artificial wetland exemption determination submittals:

- A map showing the wetland(s) you would like the exemption review completed on
- A statement/narrative from a qualified professional explaining how the wetland meets the artificial wetland exemption criteria
- A statement/narrative from a qualified professional summarizing/explaining the definitive evidence showing the wetland(s) does not have prior wetland or stream history. (I want it right in my face clearly explaining to me why we don’t have history. Summarize all your history documents into one place for review, beyond the supporting documents themselves that I must review. I want to see a table summary so to speak.
- Historic Maps, including all of the following:
  - Original Land Survey (http://digicoll.library.wisc.edu/SurveyNotes/SurveyNotesHome.html)
  - Bordner Survey (https://uwdc.library.wisc.edu/collections/wilandinv/)
  - Historic USGS Topographic Maps from prior to August 1, 1991 (https://store.usgs.gov/map-locator)
- Aerial Photographs
  - 1937/1938 era aerial photographs (https://maps.sco.wisc.edu/WHALFinder/)
  - Pre construction aerial photograph showing artificial wetland area
  - Post construction aerial photograph showing artificial wetland area
- A narrative describing whether or not the landscape feature protects adjacent or downstream property or infrastructure from flooding, or is providing significant water quality protection to downstream waters or wetlands. If the landscape feature does provide significant protections to flooding or water quality, please describe how these functions will be maintained on the landscape.
- Site Photographs (Clear site photos of the wetland being requested and additional photo of the wetland’s surrounding landscape)
- Documentation that the wetland(s) does not serve as a fish spawning area or a passage to a fish spawning area. (Below is from the bill, so fish spawning area wetlands are not artificial, PERIOD!!!!) or is not a wetland created as a result of wetland mitigation.

1. “Artificial wetland” means a landscape feature where hydrophytic vegetation may be present as a result of human modification to the landscape or hydrology and for which the department has no definitive evidence showing a prior wetland or stream history that existed before August 1, 1991, but does not include any of the following: a. A wetland that serves as a fish spawning area or a passage to a fish spawning area. b. A wetland created as a result of a mitigation requirement under sub. (3r).

Additional documentation that may be useful:

- Previous construction plans
- Farm Service Agency Slides
- Previous wetland delineations
- Previous agency approvals
- Soil borings