

A. Getting Started

Coon Creek Watershed District is a special purpose unit of government in Anoka County that manages local water resources. One way to prevent negative impacts to property from flooding or water pollution and also help you meet your home project goals is by requiring permits, balancing growth with protection.

This document gives helpful recommendations on where to begin if you are unsure about needing a permit from us. For further information on permitting a home or small project, please see the other documents in our Homeowner Permitting Series, each linked here: [B. Wetlands](#), [C. Application Checklist](#), and [D. Permitting Process](#).

Is a Permit Required?

If you are unsure if you need a permit, you can apply for Technical Assistance from us. This is discussed next. You can also find a list of activities which require a permit in Section 4.2 of our District Rules linked here: [Link to Permitting Rules](#)

Technical Assistance [Link to Technical Assistance Application](#)

You and your contractor may request a Pre-Application Meeting with our Permitting staff to discuss your project before you apply for a permit. You may note this request on your Technical Assistance form.



The form is titled "Technical Assistance Application (2 Hours of Complimentary Project Review)". It includes a "For Office Use Only" section with fields for Permit App. #, Date Received, Amount Paid, and Check Number. Below this is the Coon Creek Watershed District contact information: 13632 Van Buren Street NE | Ham Lake, MN 55304 | Phone (763) 755-0975. The form is divided into "Project Information" and "Contact Information" sections. A red arrow points to the "Project Information" section.

Technical Assistance Process

Once we receive your Technical Assistance application, staff will:

- 1) do a desktop review of your project site to determine if a permit is needed and look for other impacts like floodplain, erosion control needs.
- 2) review your provided information to see if wetland impacts might occur that need to comply with the Wetland Conservation Act (WCA), a separate permitting process.

Wetlands

If, during your Technical Assistance review we determine that there is a potential of filling, draining, or altering wetlands from your project, you need to go through the WCA process as a first step in our permit process.

This process may take several months because the legal boundary of the wetland needs to be determined (delineated) by a Minnesota Wetland Professional during the growing season (April-October), plus there are additional public noticing timelines.

See our handout [linked here: Homeowner Permitting Series - B. Wetlands](#)