

B. Wetlands

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 through requiring permits, balancing growth with protection.

This document gives guidance on the wetland determination process. For other information for home or small projects, please see our other Homeowner Permitting Series documents, each linked here: [A. Getting Started](#), [C. Application Checklist](#), and [D. Permitting Process](#).

Are there wetland impacts?

If you are unsure about wetland impacts from your project, please apply for Technical Assistance from us. [This is the link to our Technical Assistance Application](#)

Request a wetland review



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/Fee, and Check Number. Below this is the Coon Creek Watershed District logo and contact information: 13632 Van Buren Street NE | Ham Lake, MN 55304, Phone (763) 755-0975. A red arrow points from the text "Request a wetland review" to the "Project Information" section of the form. The "Project Information" section includes fields for Project Name, Project Location, City or Township, Quarter, Section, Zip, Township, County, Range, and Project Purpose. The "Contact Information" section includes fields for Name and Address, with a note that the Applicant/Landowner must be the landowner or an authorized agent and must sign the application below.

Technical Assistance process

1) Staff review your Technical Assistance application information to see if there is potential filling, draining, or altering of wetlands from your project. If so, you need to comply with the Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act (WCA), a separate permitting process to ensure a balance of land-development with the landscape benefits provided by wetlands.

Wetlands

2) If wetlands will potentially be impacted by your project, you will need to comply with WCA and go through its process as a first step of our permit process.

Note: This 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). You will need to hire a Minnesota Wetland Professional to delineate the wetland boundary per state guidance. They will provide a delineation report which we and our panel of experts review for accuracy. Staff can provide a list of these professionals upon request, however, we cannot make recommendations.

The process steps are:

- The delineation report is submitted along with our Wetland Evaluation, Exemption & Replacement Application and the WCA Joint Application Form: [Here's the link to the Wetland Application Form](#)
- Our Technical Evaluation Panel will make a site visit during the growing season to review the delineation boundary and provide comments or require changes. This step may take months since there is a minimum public notice period of 15 business days.
- After the boundary has been approved, that boundary needs to be shown on your project plans for your next step of filling out our Permit Application form.

If your project includes filling, draining, or excavating within wetlands you may need to go through the Replacement Plan process.

Your Minnesota Wetland Professional can help with this step which takes time because there is a minimum 15 business day comment period.

While this step can be done at same time as your Permit Application process, the Board cannot approve your Permit Application until the comment period is over.