

Do you need an Erosion Control Permit?

An Erosion Control Permit is required if:

- A new home is being constructed - all towns except Washington and Bangor.
- 4,000 square feet or more of land is disturbed on slopes that are less than 20% grade.
- 2,000 square feet or more of land is disturbed on slopes 20% or greater.
- 2,000 square feet or more of land is disturbed within the Shoreland Zone.
- 400 cubic yards or more of soil is excavated or filled (i.e. 4' x 30' x 90'; 8' x 30' x 45')
- 100 lineal feet or greater of land is disturbed in an area of channelized flow (includes installation, repair, or removal of any underground pipe, utility, or other facility within the cross-section of the channel).
- 30% or greater slopes will be disturbed.

No land having 30% slopes or greater can be disturbed unless a permit is granted.

Definitions:

“Land disturbance activity” means any man-made change of the land surface, including removing protective cover to expose the soil, excavating, filling, grading, construction of all agricultural and non-agricultural buildings, roads, parking lots and similar facilities, but not including agricultural land uses as defined in s. 21.04(2) of this Code.

“Shoreland Zone” means all lands in the unincorporated areas of La Crosse County which are within 1,000 feet of the ordinary high water mark of navigable lakes, ponds, flowages; or within 300 feet of the ordinary high water mark of navigable rivers or streams, or to the landward side of the floodplain, whichever distance is greater.

“Access road development” means any excavation or filling for the construction of roads and trails where access is needed for public or private use.

Exempted Activities:

“Agricultural land use” means use of land for planting, growing, cultivating, and harvesting of crops for human or livestock consumption and pasturing, but does not include the construction of agricultural buildings, facilities or other disturbances as indicated in s. 21.07 of this Code.