



# LAND & WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

## Water Resource Engineering Division

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### Erosion Control & Stormwater Management News

Greetings contractors, consultants, landowners, and municipal officials:

Our newsletter is a focused effort to inform you of regulatory and administrative changes to Dane County's erosion control and stormwater management programs.

Please take the time to familiarize yourself with this information and the permitting requirements of Chapters II and 14 of the Dane County Code of Ordinances.

Additional information and technical resources can be found on our website:  
[lwrd.countyofdane.com](http://lwrd.countyofdane.com)

#### How can you avoid:

- Double fees
- Citations
- Stop work orders

Email or call us before you start to verify whether a permit is required! Construction, grading, landscaping, and other land disturbing activities often require permits. This includes work done by townships such as ditching or installing new curb and gutter, or work in the shoreland zone. We will respond in writing, for your records.

If a permit is required, it may take up to 15 working days to perform a review once complete submittal is made and fees paid. Please take this into account when scheduling work or development.

Inquiries requiring a determination can be sent to: [wrediv@countyofdane.com](mailto:wrediv@countyofdane.com)

## What's New in 2022?

### You, Me & the USLE FREE Webinar on Thursday, Feb. 24, 2022

In the You, Me & the USLE: Tips for Meeting Soil Loss Requirements webinar, Dane County Water Resource Engineering Division staff will discuss Dane County-specific guidance and tips for using the WDNR Soil Loss and Sediment Discharge Calculation Tool (USLE spreadsheet) when applying for Dane County erosion control permits. We will also review some commonly-encountered case studies. Attendees will leave with the knowledge needed to submit the required information to meet Dane County's construction site soil loss permit requirements.

Join us February 24, 2022, from 12 p.m. – 1 p.m. for a lunch-and-learn. We will offer 1 Professional Development Hour to interested attendees.

#### [Webinar Registration](#)

### Updated Ag Ditch Dredging-Tiling-Clearing Checklist:

Recently we updated our [checklist](#) for folks to follow when they propose agricultural ditch dredging, placing new, replacing, or expanding tile lines, fence line clearing/field cleanup, and any other work other than tillage of an existing field.

In general, it is better to inquire with us about permitting in advance, since many areas are in the shoreland zone that might not appear obvious without a permit determination made.

Work done with heavy equipment is not exempt from erosion control permitting.

Double fees and enforcement actions can result if permits are not obtained prior to the work beginning.

### Consultant Registry

If you are a consultant who performs services such as plan design, site inspection, and/or licensed professional engineering services, please sign up or update your information [here](#) to be listed as an industry professional. We frequently distribute this list to the public- don't miss out on being included!



Erosion mat and slope breaks

## Equity & Inclusion Updates

Dane County Land & Water Resources Department believes that everyone deserves to live in a community with healthy land and water resources and with access to the parks, trails, and other natural resources. We are committed to ensuring that our policies and practices promote equitable access to these resources, and the jobs, opportunities, and programs that our department offers. To help us achieve this, an **Equity and Inclusion Plan** was created in 2018 which is available on our [website](#). We are currently in the process of updating the plan so check back in a few months.

A reminder that the **Erosion Control and Stormwater Management Manual** has been updated and is now [online](#) in an easily-searchable format, and includes practices, technical guidance, and useful help pages.



## Stormwater and Agriculture

Our staff has created a reference [document](#) for agricultural producers, their consultants, and municipalities that covers how stormwater management and County requirements can affect agriculture. Please take the time to read it, and feel free to distribute it to the farmers you know.

## Chapters 14 & 50 of the Dane County Code of Ordinances

[Chapter 14](#) was amended with an effective date of November 15, 2021. It updated standards to help mitigate flooding by requiring peak rate control of the 200-year storm and added volume requirements for closed watersheds. Language was included to define green infrastructure and requirements for its use, consistent with the City of Madison's latest amendment. The amendment also addressed multiple administrative and formatting issues that were identified since the last major update.

[Chapter 50](#) was adopted as well. It deals with Illicit Discharges and created an [Online Form](#) that the public can use to report potential illicit discharges (e.g., concrete washout, dumpster leachate, chemical spills, etc.). They can also call our office directly. Our staff and Public Health Madison/Dane County staff will be notified as reports come in. The report will be evaluated and an initial site evaluation may be performed, if necessary. Reports will then be shared with the proper municipal contact.

**Municipalities should update** both their erosion control/stormwater and illicit discharge ordinances, to reflect the changes.

## Green Infrastructure for Redevelopment

The ordinance now requires redevelopment projects with proposed impervious surface area greater than 80% of existing to incorporate green infrastructure into their stormwater management plan. Green infrastructure reduces runoff and treats stormwater near its source while delivering other environmental benefits and increasing livability. Practices such as bioretention basins, rainwater harvesting/reuse, vegetated swales, permeable pavement, green roofs, and rain barrels are examples.



**Appointments are required if you wish to meet with staff**

**Phone: (608) 224-3730**

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**[lwr.dcountyofdane.com](http://lwr.dcountyofdane.com)**