

Rule B – Floodplain Management and Drainage Alterations

1 Policy

It is the policy of the Riley-Purgatory-Bluff Creek Watershed District Board of Managers to regulate to control floodwaters, ensure the preservation of the natural function of floodplains as floodwater storage areas, maintain no net loss of floodplain storage to accommodate 100-year flood storage volumes and maximize upstream storage and infiltration of floodwaters.

2 Regulation

A permit is required for:

- 2.1 Any land-disturbing activities or filling of land below the 100-year flood elevation of a waterbody or any filling of land below the 100-year flood elevation of a stormwater-management facility in the watershed, except that no permit under this rule is required:
 - a for removing accumulated sediment from a water basin; or
 - b for maintenance or in-kind replacement of existing public infrastructure that does not decrease floodplain storage volume; or
 - c if all of the following conditions exist:
 - i. The 100-year flood elevation of a water basin is entirely within a municipality;
 - ii. the water basin is landlocked;
 - iii. the municipality has adopted an ordinance regulating floodplain encroachment; and
 - iv. the proposed project is entirely within the drainage area of the water basin.
- 2.2 Any alteration of surface water flows below the 100-year flood elevation of a waterbody by changing land contours, diverting or obstructing surface or channel flow, or creating a basin outlet.

3 Criteria for floodplain and drainage alterations

- 3.1 The low floor elevation of all new and reconstructed structures must be constructed in accordance with Rule J, subsection 3.6.
- 3.2 Placement of fill below the 100-year flood elevation is prohibited unless fully compensatory flood storage is provided within the same floodplain and:
 - a at the same elevation +/- 1 foot for fill in the floodplain of a watercourse;
 - b at or below the same elevation for fill in the floodplain of a water basin.Creation of floodplain storage capacity to offset fill must occur within the original permit term. If offsetting storage capacity will be provided off site, it must be created before any floodplain filling for the project will be allowed.
- 3.3 The District will issue a permit to alter surface flows only if it finds that the alteration is not reasonably likely to have an adverse offsite impact and is not

reasonably likely to adversely affect flood risk, basin or channel stability, groundwater hydrology, stream base flow, water quality or aquatic or riparian habitat.

- 3.4 **Creekside restrictions.** No enclosed structure may be placed, constructed or reconstructed within 100 feet of the centerline of a watercourse; and no impervious surface may be created or re-created within 50 feet of the centerline of a watercourse. These restrictions do not apply to:
 - a Bridges, culverts and other structures and associated impervious surface regulated under Rule G – Waterbody Crossings and Structures;
 - b Trails 10 feet wide or less, designed primarily for nonmotorized use.
- 3.5 Permit approval requires submission of an erosion prevention and sediment control plan that meets the applicable standards of Rule C, section 3.
- 3.6 Activities subject to this rule must be conducted so as to minimize the potential transfer of aquatic invasive species (e.g., zebra mussels, Eurasian watermilfoil, etc.) to the maximum extent possible.

4 Required information and exhibits

The following exhibits must accompany the permit application:

- 4.1 One 11 inch-by-17 inch plan set , and electronic files in a format acceptable to the District, as well as a plan set 22 inches by 34 inches if requested by the District.
- 4.2 Site plan showing property lines, delineation of the work area, existing elevation contours of the work area, ordinary high water level or normal water elevation and 100-year flood elevation. All elevations must be reduced to national geodetic vertical datum (NGVD; 1929 datum).
- 4.3 Grading plan showing any proposed elevation changes.
- 4.4 Preliminary plat of any proposed land development.
- 4.5 Determination by a licensed civil engineer or registered qualified hydrologist of the 100-year flood elevation(s) for the site before and after the project.
- 4.6 Computation by a professional engineer of cut, fill and change in water storage capacity resulting from proposed grading.
- 4.7 Erosion-control plan.
- 4.8 Soil boring results, if requested by the District.
- 4.9 Documentation that drainage and flowage easements over all land below the 100-year flood elevation have been conveyed to the municipality with jurisdiction, where required.