

Permit Assistance

The Seneca County Soil & Water Conservation District will assist Seneca County landowners with various permit assistance including Bulkhead, Docks, Shorewells, Wetlands & Stream work. The District is not regulatory & only assists in obtaining the appropriate permits from NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), The US Army Corps of Engineers (USAC). In general, the permits obtained are good for 2 years. For more information please refer to the NYS DEC & USAC websites.

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/permits/363.html>

<http://www.usace.army.mil/>

-Bulkheads are a retaining wall, similar to a seawall in Coastal environments. These manmade structures are constructed along shorelines with the purpose of controlling beach erosion caused by wave action. Construction materials commonly used include rock rip-rap, commercially developed vinyl products, large boulders stacked to form a wall, large 2'x2'x6' or 2'x2'x4' concrete blocks, wood, or poured concrete or another hard substance. Bulkheads are usually installed during the winter months while the lake levels are at their lowest. The NYS DEC & USAC have jurisdiction to a determined elevation called the Mean High Water Level (MHWL), the District can assist landowners in locating this elevation. There are no permitting fees from either agency but the District charges \$100.00 for Bulkhead Permit Assistance.



-Docks also require a permit from both NYS DEC, USAC & sometimes the NYS Office of General Services (OGS). These agencies all have different sizing requirements & regulations.



-Shorewells are now considered unacceptable water sources by the NYS Department of Health (DOH) and are only allowed through a special waiver. The Seneca County Health Department should be contacted prior to the Seneca County Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) assisting with a permit.

<http://www.co.seneca.ny.us/dpt-comserv-public-health.php>



-Wetlands are regulated by both NYS DEC & USAC & may or may not require a permit depending upon the proposed practice.



-Stream work is also regulated by both NYS DEC & USAC & may or may not require a permit depending upon the proposed practice.



Please contact the SWCD for more information.