



Stream Work Fact Sheet **for Landowners with a DEP** **Conservation Easement**



This fact sheet is being provided as a quick reference guide for activities that need Notice and Approval under a DEP Conservation Easement.

Where can I find Stream Work information in my Conservation Easement Deed?

Stream Work is addressed in Section 4.5B and defined in section 2V.

When do I need Approval?

When you want to conduct Stream Work on property covered under a DEP Conservation Easement. If you are interested in building and/or maintaining a Pond, see the *Pond Fact Sheet*.

What does DEP want to see when it is considering Stream Work activities?

Stream work projects should be designed and executed so as to maintain vegetative cover on the easement property and minimize impacts to wetlands, watercourses, and riparian areas by:

- scheduling excavation work around low ground water levels in late summer and early fall,
- minimizing the area of stream bed and bank, wetland and riparian area disturbance,
- keeping machines out of riparian areas and wetlands to the maximum extent possible,
- carefully installing and maintaining erosion control measures such as check dams, silt fence, or erosion control fabric,
- employing a coffer dam and pump or temporary channel so stream flows bypass the work site to minimize turbidity and sedimentation during stream work,
- replacing built features in place and in kind,
- minimizing vegetation disturbance within and adjacent to riparian areas and wetlands,
- employing a knowledgeable consultant or engineer to prepare detailed plans,
- identifying how water quality will be protected or enhanced by the activity.

Why do I need Approval?

Watercourses and wetlands are provided a high level of protection by the Conservation Easement, and as a general rule, are to be protected from disturbance. Careful planning is necessary to minimize any negative impacts to water quality from stream work activities.

How should I begin?

Proposals for Stream Work activities should be reviewed in the following sequence:

- Begin to think about your project considering locations, time frames, goals, and begin to gather maps. Additional copies of the baseline documentation map or other site maps and aerial photos are available from DEP,
- If you need assistance with the planning phase, please contact your DEP Land Steward for a pre-application meeting and site walk,

- Additional assistance may be available from the DEP Stream Management Program and/or your local Soil and Water Conservation District,
- Research, and obtain as necessary, the required permits from federal, state, and local agencies,
- Complete an application form along with required documents,
- Obtain final CE activity review and approval or requests for modifications.

This Fact Sheet is subject to modification – Please refer to your Conservation Easement deed!



Where do I send my application?

**Director of Land Management
City of New York, Department of Environmental Protection
71 Smith Ave, Kingston, NY 12401**

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