

PERMIT APPLICABILITY – FAQs FOR GRANTEES

1. DO I NEED A PERMIT FOR MY PROJECT?

That depends on **what activities** your grant will support and **where** those activities will take place. Review your scope of work and location details carefully before making any assumptions.

2. HOW DO I FIND OUT IF MY PROJECT IS IN A REGULATED AREA LIKE A FLOOD HAZARD AREA OR FRESHWATER WETLANDS?

Use the **Watershed Restoration Application** with your **block and lot numbers** to identify whether your project overlaps with regulated zones. Follow the video tutorial shown during the Public Information Session 2 of 2 to help guide you through the process.

3. WHAT ARE THE MOST COMMON NJDEP PERMITS I SHOULD BE AWARE OF?

The two most frequently encountered are:

1. Flood Hazard Area Control Act Permits
2. Freshwater Wetlands Protection Act Permits

4. IF I'M UNSURE ABOUT PERMIT REQUIREMENTS, WHAT SHOULD I DO NEXT?

If you do not have an assigned Grant Manager yet, complete the OPPN Permit Readiness Checklist and consider scheduling a pre-application meeting through OPPN. If you have an assigned Grant Manager, you can reach out to your grant manager, and they will assist you with coordinating a meeting.

5. WHAT IS THE OPPN PERMIT READINESS CHECKLIST, AND IS IT REQUIRED?

Yes, it is required. This checklist helps both you and the Department assess which permits may be necessary.

6. WHAT HAPPENS IF I DON'T GET THE REQUIRED PERMITS BEFORE STARTING MY PROJECT?

You cannot begin any regulated work until all necessary permits have been secured. The process can take up to six months, so plan accordingly in your project timeline.

7. CAN I WAIVE THE PERMIT APPLICATION FEE?

Yes, but only if it's an NJDEP permit, and the DEP is listed as a co-applicant. The complete application must be sent to your Grant Manager first to obtain the required signatures before submitting it to LRP (or another permit program).

8. ARE COUNTY OR NON-NJDEP PERMITS ELIGIBLE FOR FEE WAIVERS?

No. Only NJDEP permits can have the fee waived. County or other external agency permits are not eligible.

9. WHERE DO I INPUT PERMITTING INFORMATION IN THE GRANT APPLICATION SYSTEM (SAGE)?

Go to the **"Project Details" tab** in SAGE. You'll be asked to upload the **Permit Readiness Checklist**, indicate whether you anticipate permits, and list any known or approved permits.

10. WHAT IF I ALREADY HAVE PERMITS APPROVED?

If any permits have already been issued, include the permit/file numbers in the appropriate section of your SAGE application.

11. WHO SHOULD I CONTACT IF I HAVE QUESTIONS REGARDING THE PERMIT APPLICATION OR PERMIT PROCESS?

You should contact your Grant Manager. They're there to help guide you through the process.

12. HOW MANY STEPS ARE IN THE PERMIT PROCESS AND WHO HANDLES WHAT?

1. Prepare the permit application – The grantee.
2. Send application to your Grant Manager – To waive fees and confirm documentation prior to LRP submittal.
3. Technical review – LRP or other DEP permit program (for environmental and engineering review).
4. Permit decision – Final decision issued by LRP or another DEP permit program.