

All I want to do is ***on lake shore property***

While usually contractors get all the permits, it is good for us to know the different agencies and what they cover. Some people use contractors who are from out of the area and even out of the state. So here is a summary. In ALL cases it is better to check with the CORRECT official than guess. ***Penalty fines can get big!*** Contact information is at the bottom of the page.

IF YOU PLAN ON CONSTRUCTING A BUILDING

You need to start with the Township Zoning Administrator. When you have a Zoning Permit, he will refer you to the Building Administrator.

If you are within 500 ft of the lake, you will need a Soil Erosion Permit. The permitting process is being handled by the County Drain Commissioner's Office.

You may also need a Township Wetlands permit. The Zoning Administrator will refer you to the Chair of the Wetlands Committee.

If the building will need water and a septic tank, you will have to contact the Health Department.

IF YOU PLAN ON DOING LANDSCAPING

If you will be moving dirt within 500' of a lake or stream, you will need a Soil Erosion permit from the Drain Commissioner. Depending on how close to the water you will be, you may need permits from the TWP Wetlands and from the Michigan Dept. of Environmental Quality (DEQ). Any retaining wall over 4' needs a building permit.

IF YOU PLAN ON BUILDING A SEAWALL OR PUTTING SAND ON YOUR BEACH

You must get a permit from the DEQ and probably from the Drain Commissioner.

You may also need a permit from the TWP Wetlands. State Law requires that large stones or other materials called 'riprap' must be placed on the lake side of the seawall to break up the scouring action of waves at the foot of your seawall.

TWP Zoning Administrator Doug Kuhlman Doug Kuhlman 269-651-3130
doug@goldkeyis.com 65656 Burg Rd Sturgis MI 49091

TWP Building Administrator Mike Alwine 269-483-2743
mrinalwine@myway.com 69770 Suszek Rd White Pigeon MI 49099

TWP Wetlands Committee Chair Vic Eichler, vic@mwconnections.com
Fax 269-244-9047 Permit available online at www.fabiustownship.org
select departments, environmental & wetlands, wetlands permit application
This is the same form as used by the DEQ

St Joe Co Drain Commissioner Jeff Wenzel 269-467-5600,
drains@stjosephcountymi.org, P.O. Box 427 Centreville MI 49032

Branch, Hillsdale, St. Joseph Health Department, 269-273-2161,
1110 E Hill St. Three Rivers MI 49093

MDEQ 269-567-3500 7953 Adobe Rd Kalamazoo MI 49009 permits available online at
<http://www.michigan.gov/deq/0,4561,7-135-6830-89034--,00.html> scroll down
to Wetland protection permit.