

WIDSETH INSIGHT



ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST FOR NEW DEVELOPMENT

1. A wetland delineation must be conducted prior to any ground disturbing activities taking place on the property. If wetlands are found, a wetland application may be required.
2. Does the site meet or exceed the threshold for an Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW)? If so, an EAW must be completed. This process can take anywhere from a few months to more than six months to complete.
3. Will there be any tree removal? If so, there may be restrictions on the timing of when they can be removed.
4. Has an archaeological study been completed on the Property? If not, the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) or Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO) may require one be completed prior to any ground disturbance.
5. Is the site within a watershed management district such as Rice Creek Watershed District? There may be additional rules and regulations that apply.
6. Will there be a net increase of more than one acre of new impervious surface once completed? If so, permanent stormwater management may be required.
7. Is more than one acre of land being disturbed? If so, you may be required to have a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit, which includes a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP).
8. Is the development site found on prime farmland? If so, a Farmland Protection Policy Act permit may be required from the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS).
9. Are there any threatened or endangered species likely to be encountered? If so, consultation with the regulatory agencies may be required and mitigation measures may need to be taken.
10. Are there any additional environmental concerns specific to your county? For example, if conducting work within a mapped Decorah Edge geological formation (e.g. Rochester), a Decorah Edge delineation must be conducted.



11. Are the slopes steep? If so, there may be substantial grading of the site required and additional stormwater Best Management Practices (BMP's) may be required.
12. Does the site development include federal funding? If so, the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) process must be followed.
13. Will the site construction create excessive noise or dust? If so, noise abatement or dust control may be required.
14. Are there historic properties located within or adjacent to the property? If so, they may need to be avoided or mitigation measures may need to be taken.
15. Is there potential for the site to encounter soil or water contamination from previous activities in the area? If so, a Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment may be required.
16. If there are wetlands and streams, are there setback requirements in your community or city's comprehensive plan?
17. Are there water wells on the property? If so, they may need to be abandoned or plugged.
18. Is the property within a wellhead protection area? If so, additional regulations may apply.
19. Are there public waters within the development? Public waters are managed by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and may have additional regulations.
20. Is the property located within a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) mapped floodplain? If so, there may be additional regulations.



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