

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. What are Quinte Conservation's regulations and where do they apply?

A. All Conservation Authorities have "Development, Interference with Wetlands, Alteration to Shorelines & Watercourses" Regulations which require Conservation Authorities to regulate development (construction/filling/site grading) and other activities in, or adjacent to, any watercourse, river or stream valleys, Great Lakes and inland lake shorelines, wetlands, and other hazardous lands (unstable slopes/ other flood prone areas/or areas of unstable bedrock). Applications are reviewed to ensure that the proposal will not be affected by flooding, erosion, dynamic beaches, pollution, or the conservation of land.

Q. What activities fall under the review of Quinte Conservation?

A. The following list identifies examples of development activities that Quinte Conservation typically regulates. In many cases, the proposed development and proposed ancillary uses of the development could detrimentally affect the control of flooding, erosion, pollution, dynamic beaches, or the conservation of land. These development activities may include, but are not limited to:

- Construction of all buildings and additions including modification or reconstruction of foundations which support existing buildings, also including a change of use to a structure; sewage systems, wells;
- Breakwalls, revetments, rubble groynes, jetties, etc;
- Headland beach system and artificial nourishment (beach, berm or dune);
- Other similar marine works on or near shorelines or lakeshores;
- Stairs, decks, gazebos;
- Docks, boat ramps, boat storage structures;
- Dredging, ponds;
- In-ground and above-ground pools;
- Temporary or permanent placement of fill, grading, removal of fill, or site alteration;
- Retaining walls;
- Trailers and mobile homes;
- Bridges, crossings, roads and pipelines; and
- Municipal drains.

Q. What are the setbacks from watercourses, wetlands, and shorelines for new development?

A. Generally, all new development (construction/filling/site grading) will be setback at least 15 metres from the 1:100 year floodplain, or 30 metres from a wetland. Please note that setbacks may be increased for unstable slopes, and that Municipalities may require a greater setback than Quinte Conservation.

The purpose of the setback is to provide a margin of error in the floodplain mapping, to provide access during a flood, to provide for wave uprush & ice push, and to assist in reducing pollution

loading of our watercourses. You should also check with your local Municipality to determine any building code and zoning requirements for any proposed development on any given property.

Q. What do I need to submit with my permit application?

A. The permit application outlines all of the information that you must submit with your application. Please keep in mind that all proposed development on the property can be covered under one application which is valid for two years from the date of issue (dwelling/well/sewage system/garage/etc). Please ensure that your application is complete and legible and please follow the example sketches provided on the application. Processing of your application will not begin if information is missing or detailed sketches are not provided.

Q. What happens with my application once it has been submitted?

A. Staff meets once per week to distribute files. Once your file has been assigned to a Regulations Officer, they will contact you to arrange for a site visit. Once the site visit has been performed, staff will work to issue the permit. It is then sent, via email, to the owner, the Municipality, and the contractor. Please allow several weeks (typically between 3 – 5 weeks) for the scheduling of an appointment, inspection, and issuance of a permit.

Q. How do I schedule a site inspection to discuss my proposal or prior to purchasing real estate?

A. There is a \$250 fee for inspections, and a written report will be provided. Staff requires written permission from the current owner to trespass and inspect the property. The written permission can be in the form of an email to Samantha Carney, Technical Assistant at scarney@quinteconservation.ca, by fax, or letter, and the permission needs to include:

- Name, mailing address, phone number, email address of the owner;
- Name, mailing address, phone number, email of the person requesting the site inspection (prospective purchaser);
- Property information, including the 911 address, Lot #, Concession #, Ward, and Municipality. If the lot is vacant and there is no 911 address, please note a neighbouring 911 address;
- The reason for inspection;
- Closing date of the purchase (if applicable)
- Possible dates/times for an inspection that works with your schedule. Staff work Monday through Friday 8:30-4:00 and will do their best to accommodate your schedule.

During real estate transactions, many people will include an inspection with Quinte Conservation as a condition of purchase. Please allow several (typically between 3 – 5 weeks) for the scheduling of an appointment, site inspection, and issuance of response.

Q. What about docks?

A. Quinte Conservation does not allow permanent docks, however if you have an existing permanent dock you are permitted to maintain it. The installation of a floating or temporary dock does not require permission from Quinte Conservation. If you need to construct an abutment on land to support a dock, the abutment requires a permit.