

## Riprap Exemption Checklist



Certain activities in navigable waters are exempt from needing a permit under [Chapter 30](#). Use this checklist to determine if your project qualifies for an exemption.

Note that projects that meet the eligibility criteria for this exemption from DNR waterway permitting may still require floodplain, shoreland, and other approvals from your local zoning office.

Your proposed project is eligible if it meets **all** the following conditions:

- **ASNRI/PRF/PNW:** The riprap may not be located in an area of special natural resource interest (ASNRI) or within a public right features (PRF) - [Property Lookup for Designated Waterways and Wetlands | Waterway protection | Wisconsin DNR](#)
- **Federal and State Threatened and Endangered Species:** This exemption does not address threatened and endangered species. Applicants are required to comply with Wisconsin's Endangered Species Law (s. 29.604, Wis. Stats.) and the Federal Endangered Species Act. To determine if the project is in compliance, visit the [NHI Public Portal](#), and enter the project area to generate an Endangered Resources (ER) Preliminary Assessment. Read the ER Preliminary Assessment carefully to determine follow-up steps, if needed.

### EROSION CONTROL/RIPARIAN/TYPE

- Erosion control measures shall meet or exceed the [WDNR Technical Standards](#) developed under Subch. V of ch. NR 151, Wis. Admin. Code. Any area where soil is exposed during construction shall be stabilized or revegetated immediately upon reaching final grade using sod, seed and anchored mulch, seed and erosion control mat, or rip rap to prevent erosion and limit sediment discharge to the waterway.
- Unless part of a stormwater management plant; all temporary erosion and sediment control practices shall be removed upon final site stabilizations.
  - *Areas disturbed during construction or installation shall be restored.*
- Rip rap does not reach an elevation higher than 36 inches above the ordinary high-water mark or above the storm wave height, as calculated using the Department's erosion calculator.
- Rip rap, rip rap replacement, or rip rap repair may not exceed 200 linear feet of shoreline on an inland lake, flowage stream or river. Rip rap, rip rap replacement or rip rap repair may not exceed 300 linear feet in a Great Lakes waterbody.
- Rip rap is clean field stone or quarry stone with a diameter of no less than 6 inches and no greater than 48 inches.
- The toe of the rip rap does not extend more than eight feet waterward of the ordinary high-water mark.
- The rip rap slope is not steeper than 1 foot horizontal to 1.25 feet vertical.
- Any grading, excavation, and land disturbances shall be confined to the minimum area necessary for the construction and may not exceed 10,000 square feet.
  - *Check with your county zoning department before commencing land disturbing or vegetation removal activities.*
  - *Dredging is **not allowed** for the placement or maintenance of any shore erosion control structure.*
  - *Mechanical equipment may not be operated below the ordinary high watermark or on the bed of a navigable waterway.*

### PLACEMENT/WATERWAY

- The riprap must be in the riparian zone of interest and may be placed and maintained only by a riparian landowner and/or in lakes or flowages.
  - [Determination of riparian zones](#)
- No material, soil, or fill may be placed in a wetland, or below the ordinary high water mark (OHWM) of any navigable waterway.

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- The rip rap must follow the natural contour of the shoreline.
- Filter fabric or clean-washed gravel must be used as a filter layer under the rip rap.

