

Pelican River Watershed District Definitions

For the purposes of defining the Rules of Pelican River Watershed District certain words and terms are defined below. In the absence of a definition, the definitions established for the State of Minnesota by statute or by case law shall apply to these Rules unless clearly in conflict, clearly inapplicable, or unless the context makes such meaning repugnant thereto. Certain terms or words used herein shall be interpreted as follows: the word "shall" is mandatory, not permissive. All distances, unless otherwise specified, shall be measured horizontally.

ALTERATIONS TO LAND

grading, excavation, fill or movement of soil or vegetative material.

APPROPRIATE REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL OR REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL

a professional registered in the state of Minnesota with the necessary expertise in the fields of hydrology, drainage, flood control, erosion and sediment control, and stormwater pollution control to design and certify stormwater management devices and plans, erosion prevention and sediment control plans, and shoreland alterations including retaining walls. Examples of registered professionals may include professional engineers, professional landscape architects, professional geologists, and professional soil engineers who have the referenced skills.

BLUFF

a topographic feature such as hill, cliff, or embankment located in a shoreland area and draining to a water body, having a slope rising at least 25 feet above the ordinary high water level of the water body, and where the grade of the slope from the toe of the bluff to any point 25 feet or more above the ordinary high water level averages 30 percent or greater.

BLUFF IMPACT ZONE

a bluff and land located within 20 feet from the top of the bluff.

BOARD OF MANAGERS

shall mean the Managers of the Pelican River Watershed District.

BWSR

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources

DETENTION SYSTEM

a structure or facility, which collects and stores runoff on a temporary basis with a subsequent gradual release of stormwater at a controlled rate. A detention basin may retain some water.

DE-WATERING

discharge of appropriated surface or ground water.

DISCHARGE

the disposal, conveyance, channeling of runoff or drainage of water or material, including, but not limited to stormwater and snow melt.

DISTRICT

shall mean the Pelican River Watershed District.

EROSION

the wearing away of soil by rainfall, surface water runoff, wind, or ice-movement.

FILL

soil, sand, gravel, clay or any other material which is placed on land or in waters of the state.

GROUNDWATER RECHARGE AREA

area in which surface water accumulates and is conveyed to groundwater aquifers.

ICE RIDGE

shall mean the ridge, comprised of soil, sand and/or gravel, often found in the shore impact zone near the ordinary high water mark of lakes, and caused by wind driven ice or ice expansion.

ICE RIDGE MODIFICATION

the removal, excavation, alteration, of material or vegetation on an ice-ridge.

IMPERVIOUS SURFACE

shall mean a constructed hard surface that either prevents or retards the entry of water into the soil and causes water to run off the surface in greater quantities and at an increased rate of flow than prior to development. Examples include, but are not limited to, rooftops, sidewalks, patios, roads, streets, driveways, and parking lots constructed of concrete, asphalt, paving stones and bricks, or compacted soils (including "class 5").

LATERAL

means any constructed waterway or drain which conveys water to a public ditch.

LAND ALTERATION

any change in the surface of the land.

LOADS

a quantity of sediment or nutrients, expressed by weight, and carried by, or dissolved in, discharge.

MANAGERS

the Board of Managers of the Pelican River Watershed District.

MPCA

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

NATURAL VEGETATION DISBURBANCE

the removal or destruction of established vegetation species.

NRCS

U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resource Conservation Service Agency.

ON-SITE

within the contiguous confines of a ownership parcel.

ORDINARY HIGH WATER (OHW)

The boundary of public waters and wetlands which is an elevation delineating the highest water level which has been maintained for a sufficient period of time to leave evidence upon the landscape, commonly the point where the natural vegetation changes from predominantly aquatic to predominately terrestrial. For watercourses, the ordinary high water level is the elevation of the top of the bank of the channel.

POINT DISCHARGE

discharge from a specific outlet, such as storm sewer, pipe, culvert, or ditch.

PROPERTY OWNER

means the party possessing the title of the land on which the activity will occur; or if the activity is for a lease holder, the party identified as the lease holder; or the contracting government agency responsible for the activity.

RECONSTRUCTION

includes, but is not limited to, changing drainage, re-grading, changing cross sections or vegetation removal; reconstruction does not include seal-coating or overlays of roads, streets, highways, driveways or

parking lots, right-of-way maintenance, or road repairs resulting from maintenance or repair of sanitary or water supply system.

RETAINING WALL

a structure intended to maintain a grade differential of six inches or more.

RETENTION SYSTEM

a structure or facility which accumulates a specified amount of stormwater or runoff.

RUNOFF

is water, including nutrients, pollutants and sediments carried by water, discharged from land surface.

SEDIMENT

mineral or organic particulate matter that has been carried from its point of origin by water or wind.

SHORE IMPACT ZONE

means land located between the ordinary high water level of a public water and a line parallel to and 1/2 the setback from it (as defined by applicable county or municipal zoning ordinances), except that on property used for agricultural purposes the shore impact zone boundary is a line parallel to and 50 feet from the ordinary high water level.

SHORELAND (SHORELAND DISTRICT OR SHORELAND ZONE)

means land located within 1000 feet of the ordinary high water mark of a lake, pond, or 300 feet from a river or stream, as defined in the Becker County Zoning Ordinance.

SLOPE INSTABILITY

condition in which slope has exhibited sloughing or slumping or other failure to maintain natural grades, or is determined by an appropriate registered professional to have the potential for failure.

STABILIZATION

covering an exposed ground surface by sod, erosion control blanket, rip rap or other material that prevents erosion. A surface is not considered stabilized by simply sowing grass seed.

STEEP SLOPE

steep slopes, that are not bluffs, are lands having average slopes more than 12 percent, as measured over distances of 50 feet measured on the ground.

STORM SEWER

shall mean a system of pipe installed for the specific purpose of transporting surface and/or underground waters from one location to another and said system need not be continuously constructed only of pipe, but may include reaches of flumes, spillways, or open channels.

STORMWATER

precipitation runoff, snow melt runoff, or any other surface runoff and drainage.

STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE

constructed measures to collect, convey, or treat stormwater.

STORMWATER TREATMENT

facility designed to retain or detain stormwater, or to lower its sediment or nutrient content.

RELIEF

A modification or variation of the provisions of the Rules, as applied to a specific piece of property.

VEGETATION

brush, shrubs, grass, or trees.

WATERCOURSE

channel having definable beds and banks capable of conducting confined runoff from adjacent lands. During floods water, may leave the confining beds and banks, but under low and normal flows water stays within the channel. A watercourse may be perennial or intermittent, natural or man-made. Ditches and streams are examples of watercourses.

WATERS OF THE STATE

means all streams, lakes, ponds, marshes, watercourses, waterways, wells, springs, reservoirs, aquifers, irrigation systems, drainage systems, and all other bodies or accumulations of water, surface or underground, natural or artificial, public or private, which are contained within, flow through, or border upon the state or any portion thereof.

WATERSHED DISTRICT

shall mean the legally established agency named and referred to as the Pelican River Watershed District, when the word "District", it shall mean the land contained within the boundary of the Pelican River Watershed District.

WETLAND

shall mean all wetlands as defined in Minnesota Statutes