



Erosion Control and Stormwater Management (ECSWM) Permit Process – Information on Applicability and Filing (last revised 11-14-2023)

What permits are required?

Erosion Control & Stormwater Management (ECSWM) Permits (regulated under Chapter 30, Article II of the City of Fitchburg) include a plan and checklist that describes the steps a developer, contractor, or landowner will take to prevent soil erosion on disturbed sites. Some projects will also require plans to permanently manage runoff from the site after all construction is complete.

When do I need an Erosion Control Permit?

You will need to apply for an ***Erosion Control Permit*** and use the “*Erosion Control Application Checklist*” if your project involves any of the following:

- Disturbing or grading more than 4,000 square feet (s.f.) of land,
- Disturbing slopes greater than 12 percent grade,
- Removing or filling more than 400 cubic yards of material,
- Creating more than 100 lineal feet of ditch in an existing water channel,
- Creating a new public or private road longer than 125 feet,
- Any development that requires a subdivision plat or certified survey map (CSM),
- Any underground work requiring more than 300 linear feet of trenching, or
- Other activities that pose a serious erosion or water pollution risk

Please Note: One and Two-Family Residential home construction is exempt from Chapter 30, Article II erosion control permit requirements, since erosion control for these buildings is covered under Uniform Dwelling Code (UDC). Please contact Building Inspection (270-4240) for applicable approvals.

When do I need a Stormwater Management Permit?

You will need a ***Stormwater Management Permit*** if your project will involve the cumulative creation of 20,000 square feet or more of impervious surface area after August 22, 2001. A *Stormwater Management Report and Plan Sheet(s)* meeting city performance standards and “*Stormwater Management Application Checklist*” will need to be submitted along with the permit application. Other activities that require a stormwater management permit include:

- Agricultural development creating new impervious surface area > 20,000 s.f.,
- Any development that requires a subdivision plat or certified survey map (CSM),
- Redevelopment > 4,000 s.f., or
- Other activities that pose a serious risk of flooding or damage due to runoff

What is the review process?

The review process is handled through our OpenGov platform. [Erosion Control and Stormwater Management Permit Application](#). Payment information will be provided in the OpenGov system, which includes the option to make the payment using credit card or bank account through OpenGov.

Initial permit and plan review generally occurs within 10 business days for Erosion Control Permit Applications and 15 business days for the Stormwater Management Permit Applications. Approved permits are delivered using the OpenGov system.