

## Do I need a permit to?

One of the most common questions submitted to the CVCA is do I need a permit to . . . In an attempt to make this readily available we have addresses some of our most frequently asked questions below.

### **Vegetation Removal:**

The removal of aquatic plants (those found in the lake or riverbed) is regulated by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry. If you are proposing to remove aquatic vegetation and not disturb the lake bed, a permit is not required from the CVCA but you may require a permit from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry and any timing windows for in water work as prescribed by the MNRF must be followed. Information on registering your project with the MNRF and work permits can be found here:

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/crown-land-work-permits>.

Additional information regarding aquatic vegetation removal can be found on the MNRF website, <https://www.ontario.ca/page/remove-native-aquatic-plants#:~:text=You%20can%20remove%20native%20aquatic,work%20permit%20is%20always%20required>.

If you are proposing to remove trees within a wetland, select tree removal (for example firewood or hazard tree removal) is allowed without a permit from the CVCA office provided that the stumps are not removed as stump removal is considered site grading.

If you are proposing to remove a tree close to the shoreline, provided that the stump is not removed and that the tree removal does not result in an alteration to the shoreline, a permit is not required. However, it should be noted that the removal of trees at the shoreline will likely result in erosion of the shoreline as trees help stabilize the shoreline.

It is best practice to check with other agencies, such as your municipality, to determine if other permits are required. For example, the Haliburton County has a tree removal by-law.

### **Wells:**

Drilled wells do not require a permit from the CVCA.

Dug wells do require a permit if they are within the CVCA's regulated area. Please contact the CVCA office to determine if your property is within the CVCA's regulated area.

### **Fences:**

Chain link fences and wooden fences do not require a permit but stone or concrete walls do require a permit.

### **Docks:**

Cantilever docks, replacement of permanent or crib docks, the placement of a rock/structure to secure a floating dock to, any filling, grading or excavating required for the installation of a floating dock does require a permit from the CVCA Office.

Floating or removable/seasonal docks, provided that no alterations to the shoreline or construction is required, do not require a permit from the CVCA office.

### **Ponds:**

A permit is required from the CVCA if you wish to construct a new pond within the CVCA's regulated area. New online ponds (connected to a watercourse or wetland) are not permitted. If you have an existing online pond, a permit from the CVCA will be required for any clean outs or repairs.

New ponds within the setback of a wetland or other regulated feature are not permitted.

Ponds for the purposes of watering livestock do not require a permit from the CVCA.

### **Interior Renovations:**

Interior renovations that do not result in a change in use, change in footprint, change in square footage or the addition of new dwelling units do not require a permit from the CVCA. An example of a change in use that would require a permit from the CVCA is changing a garage into a Bunkie. An example of adding dwelling units is converting a basement (finished or unfinished) into an apartment. Examples of interior

renovations that do not require a permit are: kitchen renovations, bathroom renovations, knocking out walls provided there is no change in the footprint or square footage of the dwelling.

**Exterior Renovations:**

Some exterior renovations will require a permit from the CVCA while others do not, below are some examples of what will and will not require a permit from this office (please note that the below is not an exhaustive list).

Examples of exterior renovations that do not require a permit from the CVCA are:

- New windows, roof, or siding.
- The replacement of deck boards, provided that the posts/supports are not being replaced.

Examples of exterior renovations that do require a permit from the CVCA:

- Any works that result in a change in footprint or square footage.
- Addition of a second storey.
- Deck replacement if the posts/supports need to be replaced, even if on same footprint.
- Foundation repairs/replacement.