

Contacts and Information for Working around Water in Eastern Ontario

Before beginning any work around water it is important to understand that there are approval requirements to be satisfied at the municipal, provincial and federal levels of government. Municipalities are the approval authorities for planning applications and building permits. They usually seek advice from the Conservation Authority on planning applications near water or sensitive environmental features. Provincial and federal agencies protect Crown or public land. Conservation Authority (CA) ensure that works near water will not adversely affect flooding or water flow or pollution and that ‘*conservation of land*’ principles are followed. For properties within the watershed boundary of a CA check first with your local CA office; otherwise the local office of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (OMNR) should be your first stop. Works on or over the bed of the Rideau Canal requires the approval of Parks Canada – the Rideau Canal Office (PC-RCO).

Who to Contact Regarding your Proposed Project / Inquiry:

Project Type	CA	OMNR	PC-RCO	Municipality
Minor Variance - new or redevelopment within 100 feet (usually) of the water	√			√
Severance	√			√
Shoreline Stabilization (on the Rideau Canal)	√		√	
Shoreline Stabilization (off the Rideau Canal)	√	√		
Dock (on the Rideau Canal)			√	
Dock (off the Rideau Canal)	√	√		
Boathouse (on the Rideau Canal)	√		√	√
Boathouse (off the Rideau Canal)	√	√		√
Aquatic Plant Harvest (on the Rideau Canal)			√	
Aquatic Plant Harvest (off the Rideau Canal)		√		
Dredging (on the Rideau Canal)			√	
Dredging (off the Rideau Canal)		√		
Floating Raft / Mooring Buoy (on the Rideau Canal)			√	
Floating Raft / Mooring Buoy (off the Rideau Canal)	Canadian Coast Guard under the <i>Navigable Waters Protection Act</i>			

Additional Information Regarding Working around Water:

Federal Fisheries Act:

Most Conservation Authorities have an agreement with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans to review shoreline applications with regards to fish habitat concerns (Section 35) so as to prevent a harmful alteration, destruction or disturbance of habitat

Fish Timing Windows:

- No in or near water works are permitted between March 15 and June 30 inclusive
- No in or near water works are permitted between late September through the winter for Lake Trout Lakes

The 25% Rule (incorporated into the Zoning By-Law of some municipalities, CA Regulations and Parks Canada approvals policy)

- Shoreline development (dock, boathouse, boat lift etc.) must not result in a cumulative disturbance of more than 25% of the width of your shoreline, to a maximum of 50 feet

Agency Contact Information

Conservation Authorities of Eastern Ontario:

Cataraqui Region C.A.	613-546-4228	crc@cataraquiregion.on.ca
Mississippi Valley C.	613-259-2421	mississippi@superaje.com
Rideau Valley C.A.	613-692-3571 800-267-3504	postmaster@rideauvalley.on.ca
South Nation C.	613-984-2948 877-984-2948	info@nation.on.ca
Raisin Region C.A.	613-938-3611	info@rrca.on.ca

Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources in Eastern Ontario:

OMNR – Kemptville	613-258-8204	
OMNR – Kingston	613-531-5700	

Parks Canada:

Rideau Canal Office	613-283-5170 800-230-0016	
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Coast Guard:

Navigable Waters Protection Act	519-383-1865	
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