

The Charter Township of West Bloomfield has made changes to the Wetland, Floodplain, and Environmental Feature Setback Ordinances (see Chapters 12 and 26-48 of West Bloomfield's Ordinances) which will go into effect July 3, 2007. Administrative permits will now be available for minor projects in these protected areas. The new process offers residents a quicker and simpler procedure for minor projects.

A \$250 application fee, three sets of plans, and the application must be received to apply. The applicant must also agree to all terms and conditions of the permit and the project must comply with the environmental design criteria and standards. If the application is rejected for an administrative permit or the project does not meet conditions for a minor project, it will be sent to the Wetland Review Board for further review.

Minor projects will include, but are not limited to, landscaping, deck construction, seawall repairs, and wetland enhancement. For more information on the classification of a minor project, for a list of terms and conditions on the permit, or for a copy of the application, visit the Environmental Department's webpage at www.wbtwp.com.

The application will be reviewed within 2-5 business days by the Environmental Staff, and if plans are determined acceptable, property owners within 300 feet of the subject property and any home/lake association will be notified. The permit will be subject to a 21 day public notice period during which the aforementioned parties may submit a written objection explaining why the permit application requires further review. For specifics on a proposed project, contact the Environmental Department at 248.451.4818, or check the permit application postings on the website. If at the end of the 21 days no objections were received, or if the objections were not merited, the permit will be granted. In addition, all permits will be subject to a 21 day appeal period during which the permit holder must wait to begin work. If at the end of this period no appeals were received, the applicant may move forward with the project.

To learn more about the administrative permit process, please join us in one of our public workshops. The first workshop will be held on Monday, July 23rd and the second will be Thursday, August 2nd. Both will be located at Town Hall from 6pm – 7pm.