

May 21, 2009

Permits May Be Required for Summer Camp Projects

The Lakehead Region Conservation Authority (LRCA) encourages anyone who will be working around water this summer to give them a call before starting.

Provincial regulations (Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses O. Reg. 180/06) may affect you if your property is located within the Authority's area of jurisdiction and is located within the regulated area.

If you are planning to do any work near lakes, rivers, streams or wetlands, a permit may be required from the Conservation Authority. Permits may be issued where proposed development will not affect flooding, erosion, pollution or the conservation of land.

The LRCA also has a Level II Agreement with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO), Ontario Great Lakes Area (OGLA). The Authority is responsible for the initial evaluation of the potential impact that proposed work may have on fish habitat within the LRCA's area of jurisdiction.

Staff will determine whether the project is likely to result in a harmful alteration, disruption or destruction of fish habitat (HADD). They will then provide advice to ensure no harm occurs to fish habitat or refer the project to the DFO for further action.

As part of its ongoing effort to encourage residents living near the water to be good stewards, the LRCA will be holding two open houses next month. Participants will learn practices to help protect Lake Superior by caring for the shoreline where they live. Details will be announced shortly.