

New rules adopted for the Comfort Lake-Forest Lake Watershed District

The Forest Lake Watershed District (CLFLWD) Board of Managers adopted new rules at their monthly meeting on Dec. 18, 2008.

The adoption of the new rules, follows a year-and-a-half of planning and rulemaking that included seven joint meetings with the District's Technical Advisory Committee (with representatives from State agencies, Chisago and Washington counties, Metropolitan Council, and the Cities of Chisago City, Forest Lake, Scandia, Wyoming, and the recently annexed Wyoming Township) and Citizen Advisory Committee.

The District will imple-

ment its rules in part through a permitting program for new and re-development. The new rules clarify the requirements of the District's permit program regarding stormwater management, erosion control, buffers, shoreline and streambank alteration, stream and lake crossings, and floodplain alterations.

The rules also include procedural requirements and include regulations on exceptions and variance. Contact the District offices at 651-209-9753 or visit www.clflwd.org to determine when a permit may be required.

Also included in the District's new regulatory and permitting program is

the establishment of a permit fee and field inspection fee deposit schedule. The intent of the fee requirement is to reimburse the District's administrative, inspection, and enforcement expenses as provided under Minnesota Statutes.

Pursuant to the Board's action, the rules are effective as of Feb. 1, 2009, and apply to any activity subject to the rules occurring on or after Feb. 1 unless before that date the activity received:

(a) final written comments from the District in its development review capacity as exercised before adoption of these rules;

(b) preliminary plat

approval from the local land use authority; or

(c) if not subject to plat approval, all local grading, building and other land alteration permits required for the activity.

Watershed District boundaries, copies of the adopted rules, guidance documents, permit applications and checklists and fee schedules are available from the CLFLWD offices at 220 North Lake Street, Forest Lake or the District's website at www.clflwd.org.

Contact Administrator/Limnologist Randy Anhorn at 651-209-9753 or e-mail randy.anhorn@clflwd.org for more information.

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