

**Conservation Authorities Act**  
**Loi sur les offices de protection de la nature**

**ONTARIO REGULATION 158/06**

**ESSEX REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY: REGULATION OF DEVELOPMENT,  
INTERFERENCE WITH WETLANDS AND ALTERATIONS TO SHORELINES AND  
WATERCOURSES**

**Consolidation Period:** From February 8, 2013 to the [e-Laws currency date](#).

Last amendment: 55/13.

Legislative History: 55/13.

*This Regulation is made in English only.*

**Definition**

1. In this Regulation,

“Authority” means the Essex Region Conservation Authority. O. Reg. 158/06, s. 1.

**Development prohibited**

2. (1) Subject to section 3, no person shall undertake development or permit another person to undertake development in or on the areas within the jurisdiction of the Authority that are,

(a) adjacent or close to the shoreline of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River System or to inland lakes that may be affected by flooding, erosion or dynamic beaches, including the area from the furthest offshore extent of the Authority’s boundary to the furthest landward extent of the aggregate of the following distances:

- (i) the 100 year flood level, plus an allowance for wave uprush and other water related hazards,
- (ii) the predicted long term stable slope projected from the existing stable toe of the slope or from the predicted location of the toe of the slope as that location may have shifted as a result of shoreline erosion over a 100-year period,
- (iii) where a dynamic beach is associated with the waterfront lands, an allowance of 30 metres inland to accommodate dynamic beach movement, and
- (iv) an allowance of 15 metres inland;

(b) river or stream valleys that have depressional features associated with a river or stream, whether or not they contain a watercourse, the limits of which are determined in accordance with the following rules:

- (i) where the river or stream valley is apparent and has stable slopes, the valley extends from the stable top of bank, plus 15 metres, to a similar point on the opposite side,
- (ii) where the river or stream valley is apparent and has unstable slopes, the valley extends from the predicted long term stable slope projected from the existing stable slope or, if the toe of the slope is unstable, from the predicted location of the toe of the slope as a result of stream erosion over a projected 100 year period, plus 15 metres, to a similar point on the opposite side,
- (iii) where the river or stream valley is not apparent, the valley extends the greater of,

(A) the distance from a point outside the edge of the maximum extent of the flood plain under the applicable flood event standard, plus 15 metres, to a similar point on the opposite side, and

(B) the distance from the predicted meander belt of a watercourse, expanded as required to convey the flood flows under the applicable flood event standard, plus 15 metres, to a similar point on the opposite side;

(c) hazardous lands;

(d) wetlands; or

(e) other areas,

- (i) where development could interfere with the hydrologic function of a wetland, including areas within 120 metres of all provincially significant wetlands and wetlands greater than 2 hectares in size, and areas within 30 metres of wetlands less than 2 hectares in size, or

- (ii) in river or stream valleys that are not apparent and in shoreline flood hazard lands where development could be impacted by flood levels aggravated by vehicle-generated waves, ice-jamming or other factors, in which cases the horizontal extent of the regulated area is increased by adding an allowance of 0.3 metres to the applicable flood event standard. O. Reg. 158/06, s. 2 (1); O. Reg. 55/13, s. 1 (1, 2).

(2) All areas within the jurisdiction of the Authority that are described in subsection (1) are delineated as the “Regulation Limit” shown on a series of maps filed at the head office of the Authority under the map title “Ontario Regulation 97/04: Regulation for Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses”. O. Reg. 55/13, s. 1 (3).

(3) If there is a conflict between the description of areas in subsection (1) and the areas as shown on the series of maps referred to in subsection (2), the description of areas in subsection (1) prevails. O. Reg. 55/13, s. 1 (3).

**Permission to develop**

3. (1) The Authority may grant permission for development in or on the areas described in subsection 2 (1) if, in its opinion, the control of flooding, erosion, dynamic beaches, pollution or the conservation of land will not be affected by the development. O. Reg. 158/06, s. 3 (1).

(2) The permission of the Authority shall be given in writing, with or without conditions. O. Reg. 158/06, s. 3 (2).

(3) Subject to subsection (4), the Authority’s executive committee, or one or more employees of the Authority that have been designated by the Authority for the purposes of this section, may exercise the powers and duties of the Authority under subsections (1) and (2) with respect to the granting of permissions for development in or on the areas described in subsection 2 (1). O. Reg. 55/13, s. 2.

(4) A designate under subsection (3) shall not grant a permission for development with a maximum period of validity of more than 24 months. O. Reg. 55/13, s. 2.

**Application for permission**

4. A signed application for permission to undertake development shall be filed with the Authority and shall contain the following information:

1. Four copies of a plan of the area showing the type and location of the proposed development.
2. The proposed use of the buildings and structures following completion of the development.
3. The start and completion dates of the development.
4. The elevations of existing buildings, if any, and grades and the proposed elevations of buildings and grades after the development.
5. Drainage details before and after the development.
6. A complete description of the type of fill proposed to be placed or dumped.
7. Such other technical studies or plans as the Authority may request. O. Reg. 158/06, s. 4; O. Reg. 55/13, s. 3.

**Alterations prohibited**

5. Subject to section 6, no person shall straighten, change, divert or interfere in any way with the existing channel of a river, creek, stream or watercourse or change or interfere in any way with a wetland. O. Reg. 158/06, s. 5.

**Permission to alter**

6. (1) The Authority may grant permission to straighten, change, divert or interfere with the existing channel of a river, creek, stream or watercourse or to change or interfere with a wetland. O. Reg. 158/06, s. 6 (1); O. Reg. 55/13, s. 4 (1).

(2) The permission of the Authority shall be given in writing, with or without conditions. O. Reg. 158/06, s. 6 (2).

(3) Subject to subsection (4), the Authority’s executive committee, or one or more employees of the Authority that have been designated by the Authority for the purposes of this section, may exercise the powers and duties of the Authority under subsections (1) and (2) with respect to the granting of permissions for alteration. O. Reg. 55/13, s. 4 (2).

(4) A designate under subsection (3) shall not grant a permission for alteration with a maximum period of validity of more than 24 months. O. Reg. 55/13, s. 4 (2).

**Application for permission**

7. A signed application for permission to straighten, change, divert or interfere with the existing channel of a river, creek, stream or watercourse or change or interfere with a wetland shall be filed with the Authority and shall contain the following information:

1. Four copies of a plan of the area showing plan view and cross-section details of the proposed alteration.
2. A description of the methods to be used in carrying out the alteration.

3. The start and completion dates of the alteration.
4. A statement of the purpose of the alteration.
5. Such other technical studies or plans as the Authority may request. O. Reg. 158/06, s. 7; O. Reg. 55/13, s. 5.

**Cancellation of permission**

**8.** (1) The Authority may cancel a permission granted under section 3 or 6 if it is of the opinion that the conditions of the permission have not been met. O. Reg. 158/06, s. 8 (1); O. Reg. 55/13, s. 6 (1).

(2) Before cancelling a permission, the Authority shall give a notice of intent to cancel to the holder of the permission indicating that the permission will be cancelled unless the holder shows cause at a hearing why the permission should not be cancelled. O. Reg. 158/06, s. 8 (2).

(3) Following the giving of the notice under subsection (2), the Authority shall give the holder at least five days notice of the date of the hearing. O. Reg. 158/06, s. 8 (3); O. Reg. 55/13, s. 6 (2).

**Period of validity of permissions and extensions**

**9.** (1) The maximum period, including an extension, for which a permission granted under section 3 or 6 may be valid is,

(a) 24 months, in the case of a permission granted for projects other than projects described in clause (b); and

(b) 60 months, in the case of a permission granted for,

(i) projects that, in the opinion of the Authority or its executive committee, cannot reasonably be completed within 24 months from the day the permission is granted, or

(ii) projects that require permits or approvals from other regulatory bodies that, in the opinion of the Authority or its executive committee, cannot reasonably be obtained within 24 months from the day permission is granted. O. Reg. 55/13, s. 7.

(2) The Authority or its executive committee may grant a permission for an initial period that is less than the applicable maximum period specified in subsection (1) if, in the opinion of the Authority or its executive committee, the project can be completed in a period that is less than the maximum period. O. Reg. 55/13, s. 7.

(3) If the Authority or its executive committee grants a permission under subsection (2) for an initial period that is less than the applicable maximum period of validity specified in subsection (1), the Authority or its executive committee may grant an extension of the permission if,

(a) the holder of the permission submits a written application for an extension to the Authority at least 60 days before the expiry of the permission;

(b) no extension of the permission has previously been granted; and

(c) the application sets out the reasons for which an extension is required and, in the opinion of the Authority or its executive committee, demonstrates that circumstances beyond the control of the holder of the permission will prevent completion of the project before the expiry of the permission. O. Reg. 55/13, s. 7.

(4) When granting an extension of a permission under subsection (3), the Authority or its executive committee may grant the extension for the period of time requested by the holder in the application or for such period of time as the Authority or its executive committee deems appropriate, as long as the total period of validity of the permission does not exceed the applicable maximum period specified in subsection (1). O. Reg. 55/13, s. 7.

(5) For the purposes of this section, the granting of an extension for a different period of time than the period of time requested does not constitute a refusal of an extension. O. Reg. 55/13, s. 7.

(6) The Authority or its executive committee may refuse an extension of a permission if it is of the opinion that the requirements of subsection (3) have not been met. O. Reg. 55/13, s. 7.

(7) Before refusing an extension of a permission, the Authority or its executive committee shall give notice of intent to refuse to the holder of the permission, indicating that the extension will be refused unless,

(a) the holder requires a hearing, which may be before the Authority or its executive committee, as the Authority directs; and

(b) at the hearing, the holder satisfies the Authority, or the Authority's executive committee, as the case may be,

(i) that the requirements of clauses (3) (a) and (b) have been met, and

(ii) that circumstances beyond the control of the holder will prevent completion of the project before the expiry of the permission. O. Reg. 55/13, s. 7.

(8) If the holder of the permission requires a hearing under subsection (7), the Authority or its executive committee shall give the holder at least five days notice of the date of the hearing. O. Reg. 55/13, s. 7.

(9) After holding a hearing under subsection (7), the Authority or its executive committee shall,

- (a) refuse the extension; or
- (b) grant an extension for such period of time as it deems appropriate, as long as the total period of validity of the permission does not exceed the applicable maximum period specified in subsection (1). O. Reg. 55/13, s. 7.

(10) Subject to subsection (11), one or more employees of the Authority that have been designated by the Authority for the purposes of this section may exercise the powers and duties of the Authority under subsections (2), (3) and (4), but not those under subsections (6), (7), (8) and (9). O. Reg. 55/13, s. 7.

(11) A designate under subsection (10) shall not grant an extension of a permission for any period that would result in the permission having a period of validity greater than 24 months. O. Reg. 55/13, s. 7.

**Appointment of officers**

**10.** The Authority may appoint officers to enforce this Regulation. O. Reg. 158/06, s. 10.

**Flood event standards**

**11.** (1) The applicable flood event standards used to determine the maximum susceptibility to flooding of lands or areas within the jurisdiction of the Authority are the 100 Year Flood Event Standard, the March 1985 Flood Event Standard and the 100 year flood level plus wave uprush, described in Schedule 1. O. Reg. 158/06, s. 11 (1).

(2) The 100 Year Flood Event Standard applies to all watersheds within the area of jurisdiction of the Authority except for,

- (a) the main branch and the east branch (Silver Creek) of the Ruscom River, and its tributaries within the Town of Lakeshore and the Town of Kingsville, where the March 1985 Flood Event Standard applies; and
- (b) the main and north branch of Canard River in the Town of LaSalle, Concessions I and II, and on the main branch of the Canard River in the Town of Amherstburg, Concessions I, II, III and IV, where the March 1985 Flood Event Standard applies. O. Reg. 158/06, s. 11 (2).

**12.** REVOKED: O. Reg. 55/13, s. 8.

**13.** OMITTED (REVOKES OTHER REGULATIONS). O. Reg. 158/06, s. 13.

**SCHEDULE 1**

1. The 100 Year Flood Event Standard means rainfall, snowmelt, or a combination of rainfall and snowmelt, producing at any location in a river, creek, stream or watercourse a peak flow that has a probability of occurrence of one per cent during any given year.

2. The March 1985 Flood Event Standard means the flood levels observed, surveyed and mapped along portions of prescribed watercourses that exceeded the 100 year Flood Event Standard.

3. The 100 year flood level means the peak instantaneous still water level plus an allowance for wave uprush and other water-related hazards for Lake St. Clair, Lake Erie and the Detroit River in the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River System that has a probability of occurrence of one per cent during any given year.

O. Reg. 158/06, Sched. 1.

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