Wetlands and Waterways Protection Program
Application Fee Schedule and Guidelines
(EFFECTIVE JULY 17, 2026)

A JOINT FEDERAL/STATE APPLICATION FOR THE ALTERATION OF ANY FLOODPLAIN, WATERWAY, TIDAL OR NONTIDAL WETLAND IN MARYLAND is required for all proposed projects not explicitly exempted in COMAR.

Fee Exempt Projects (APPLICATION REQUIRED)
WETLANDS AND WATERWAYS PROTECTION PROGRAM
Type of Activity:
1. Any activity proposed by: a. State Agencies; b. Municipalities; or c. Counties, Bi-county or Multicounty Agencies.
2. Performance of agricultural best management practices approved by a Soil Conservation District.
3. Performance of forestry best management practices prepared by a registered forester and approved by a Soil Conservation District.
4. Restorative/Enhancement Projects such as: a. Stream Restoration; b. Vegetative shoreline stabilization; c. Wetland creation; or d. Any other project in which the primary effect is to enhance the State's wetland or water resources.
5. Aquaculture activities for which DNR has issued a permit under Title 4, Subtitle 11A of the Natural Resources Article.

Payment Instructions for Applications Requiring Fees

For applications requiring fees, please send the applicable **application fee** and a **copy of the first page of the application** to:

Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE)
P.O. Box 2057
Baltimore, MD, 21203-2057
PCA: 13910 **OBJ**: 4142

Note: ***Tier II fees will be invoiced separately and should not be included at time of application submission.***

Fee Schedule A (Nontidal)

With the exception of the Tier II Review fee, **fees are not additive**; use the highest fee for the activity(ies) proposed. If the proposed nontidal wetland and waterway activity is not listed in this table, then use **Fee Schedule C**.

An additional Tier II Review fee applies to activities in this FEE SCHEDULE A if the activity is at least partially located in a Tier II watershed. Please note that the Tier II Review fee (**see Fee Schedule D**) will be invoiced only after MDE reviews the initial application and determines that the fee applies.

NONTIDAL WETLAND AND WATERWAY PROJECTS

Activity	Activity Parameters	Application Required	Application Fee Required
Non-habitable structures *Including but not limited to; Driveways, Decks, Pools, Sheds, Fences*	Permanent impacts ≤ 1,000 square feet	YES	$392.00
In-kind repair and replacement of existing infrastructure in nontidal wetlands *(Infrastructure is defined as: the structures such as roads, bridges, culverts, utilities, etc. that supports the general public and do not meet the definition of a residential activity)*		YES	$654.00
Structural shoreline stabilization, including in-kind repair or replacement of existing infrastructure, located on or adjacent to a **State-owned Lake**		YES	$292.00

Fee Schedule B (Tidal)

Fees are not additive; use the highest fee for the activity(ies) proposed.
If the proposed tidal wetland activity is not listed in this table, then use **Fee Schedule C**

TIDAL WETLAND PROJECTS

Activity	Activity Parameters	Application Required	Application Fee Required
Replacement Bulkhead	Replacement bulkhead is proposed ≤ 18 inches channelward of the existing, functional[1] bulkhead	YES	$654.00
Platform and/or finger pier	**Platform** / **Finger Pier**: Fixed or floating on an existing functional[1] pier / ≤ 2; Total area of all proposed platform(s)[2] and finger pier(s) is ≤ 200 square feet.	YES	$392.00
Mooring piles	Installation of a maximum of 6 piles	YES	$392.00
Boat lift/hoist or Personal Watercraft (PWC) Lift	Installation of pilings associated with lift	YES	$387.00
Installation of a boatlift or Personal Watercraft (PWC) lift on **existing pilings**	No new outer piling to be installed	YES	NO FEE
Construction of a Living Shoreline[3]		YES	NO FEE
In-kind repair (RIK) and replacement of functional structures located within jurisdictional tidal wetlands.[4]	Applications for RIK projects do not require an application. Applications received for RIK will be charged a project review fee	NO	$392

[1] "Functional" means performing at least 85 percent of the action that a structure was originally designed to perform (COMAR 26.24.01.02(20).
[2] COMAR 26.24.04.02B(3). Total platform space of existing and proposed platforms must be ≤ 200 square feet.
[3] Construction of a Living Shoreline must be the only activity proposed on the application; otherwise, the appropriate fee for the other proposed activities shall apply.
[4] Must adhere to the definitions found in COMAR 26.24.01.02B(20)(24)(45). No increase of width, length, or height of the existing, previously authorized or "grandfathered", functional structure.

Fee Schedule C

An additional Tier II Review fee applies to the activities in this Fee Schedule if the activity is at least partially located in a Tier II watershed. Tier II Review fee (**see Fee Schedule D**) will be invoiced only after MDE reviews the initial application and determines that the fee applies.

Activities not exempted or described in Fee Schedule A or B	Area of Impact	Application Fee Required
Minor Project[1][3] *(Including but not limited to; Tidal Geotechnical Sampling, Beach Nourishment, Revetments etc.)*	<5,000 Square Feet	$985.00
Major Project [2][3]	<1/4 Acre	$1,960.00
	≥ ¼ Acre To < ½ Acre	$3,909.00
	≥ ½ Acre To < ¾ Acre	$5,857.00
	≥ ¾ Acre To < 1 Acre	$7,817.00
	≥ 1 Acre	$9,765.00/ Acre
Minor Modification[3] *(State Authorization has been issued and is currently active, the complete project meets the definition of minor project)*	<5,000 Square Feet	$332.00
Major Modification[3] *(State Authorization has been issued and is currently active, the complete project meets the definition of major project)*	≥5,000 Square Feet	$1,960.00

[1] **Minor projects** include the following:

1. Projects proposing to impact less than 5,000 square feet of wetlands, waterways, including the 100-year floodplain.
2. **A project that proposes residential activities**:
    a. ***Residential Activity*** means a noncommercial activity that is conducted on residential property
        i. ***Residential Property*** means improved property that is used primarily as a residence or unimproved property that is zoned for use as a residence. Includes:
            1. Property owned by a homeowner's association
            2. A condominium
        ii. A ***Residential Property*** does not include:
            1. A commercial building
            2. A marina
            3. A residential apartment complex or building
3. Mining Activities

[2] **Major Projects** include the following:

1. A project that proposes to permanently impact 5,000 square feet or more of wetlands or waterways, including the100 year floodplain.
2. A project that is located in an area identified as potentially impacting a nontidal wetland of special State concern.
3. A project that requires the issuance of a public notice by the Department.

[3] **Maintenance** of previously authorized activities or structures that are not already exempted are not considered new permanent impacts for purposes of the application fees and are not subject to fees above the minimum for Minor or Major Project categories ($985 or $1,960). Modification fees apply.

Fee Schedule D

Applicants should not submit payment until receiving an invoice from MDE

An additional Tier II Review fee applies to the activities in FEE SCHEDULE A and C if the activity is at least partially located in a Tier II watershed[1].
Tier II Review fee will be invoiced only after MDE reviews the initial application and determines that the fee applies.

Activities not Fee Exempted or Described in Fee Schedule B	Tier II Review Application Fee Required Upon Invoice from MDE[2]
Minor Project or Minor Modification (as defined above)	$402.00
Major Project or Major Modification (as defined above)	$1,608.00

[1] These fees apply if any portion of the proposed activity's footprint is within a Tier II watershed as identified on MDE's map located at: https://mdewin64.mde.state.md.us/WSA/TierIIWQ/index.html.
[2] This fee is in addition to those fees specified in FEE SCHEDULE A and C.

Tidal Wetland Activities Requiring a Public Notice

Activity	Activity Parameters
New bulkhead	> 300 linear feet and/or > 10 feet channelward of the mean high water line
Replacement bulkhead	> 18 inches channelward of the existing bulkhead or > 10 feet channelward of the existing bulkhead when a stone toe protection is included
Revetment projects	> 500 linear feet and/or > 10 feet channelward of the mean high water line
Living shoreline/marsh creation	> 500 linear feet and/or > 35 feet channelward of the mean high water line
New stormwater discharge	Discharge within the critical area extending more than 10' channelward of the mean high water line
Dredging projects	> 1,500 square feet and/or > 100 cubic yards of material
Boat ramp	> 12 feet wide and/or are > 30 feet channelward of the mean high water line
Groin, Jetty, Breakwater	Groins extending more than 25' channelward of the mean high water line
Any other activities substantially affecting tidal wetlands as required by law	