



NEWS RELEASE

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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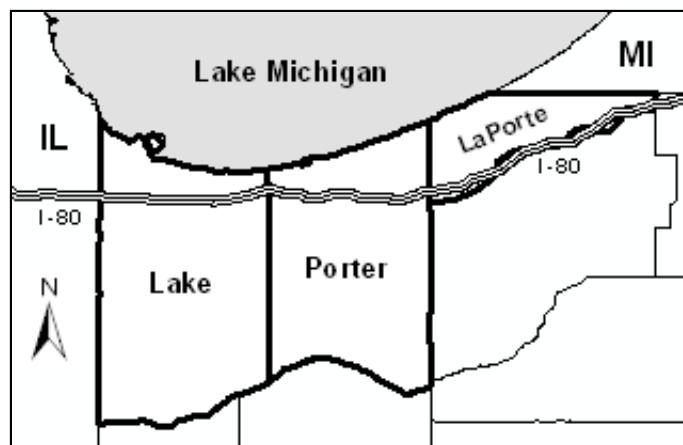
Corps, IDEM team up to remind land owners when permits are required

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Chicago District and the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) are partnering to remind private, public, and commercial land owners that permits are required if wetlands and/or streams are impacted.

Wetlands are areas that are occasionally or permanently inundated by water and support vegetation that is adapted for life in saturated soil. Wetlands are a valuable resource because they help prevent flooding, improve water quality, and provide wildlife habitat. Streams can vary greatly in size and flow and are important for maintaining water quality, reducing downstream flooding and erosion, and providing corridors for fish and wildlife migration. In Indiana, streams and wetlands are protected under the federal Clean Water Act of 1972, by Indiana's State Isolated Wetlands Law, and by associated state water quality regulations.

Permits from the Corps and/or IDEM may be required for filling, draining, altering, or working in streams and wetlands. Streams and wetlands can be difficult to identify and many land owners do not realize there are streams or wetlands on their property. Failure to obtain the proper permits can result in legal action and may result in restoring the site, civil fines, criminal fines, and/or imprisonment. To prevent such violations, coordinate with Corps and IDEM in the early stages of your project. The Corps and IDEM are committed to working with landowners to achieve project goals and remain in compliance with regulations.

The Chicago District Corps' regulatory boundaries in Indiana include Lake and Porter counties and the approximate northern 1/3rd of LaPorte County:



If landowners located within our boundaries are unsure if there are wetlands on their property, please contact the Chicago District Corps' Regulatory Branch at 312-846-5530. For media inquiries, contact the Corps' Public Affairs Office at 312-846-5331 or email: ChicagoDistrict.PAO @usace.army.mil.

Information regarding state regulations can be obtained by calling IDEM's Wetland Program at 317-233-8448 or toll free (in Indiana) at 800-451-6027.

If you are located outside of the Corps' Chicago District boundaries, you can find your local Corps district here: http://www.usace.army.mil/CECW/Pages/cecwo_reg.aspx.

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