



US Army Corps of Engineers®  
Chicago District

**CHICAGO DISTRICT  
2017 REGIONAL PERMIT PROGRAM  
REVISED JANUARY 10, 2020**

**4. MINOR DISCHARGES AND DREDGING**

RP4 authorizes the following types of activities:

1. Minor discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States. The quantity of discharged material or the volume of area excavated must not exceed 50 cubic yards below the ordinary high water mark (OHWM). The discharge must not cause the loss of more than 0.10 acres of Waters of the United States.
2. Minor dredging of no more than 50 cubic yards below the OHWM from navigable Waters of the United States (Section 10 waters). This RP does not authorize the return water from a contained disposal area. The return water from a contained disposal area is administratively defined as a discharge of dredged material by 33 CFR 323.2(d), even though the disposal of the discharged materials occurs on the upland which does not require a section 404 permit.
3. Single Family Residence: The discharge of dredged or fill material must not exceed 0.25 acres into waters of the United States. This permit is for construction or expansion of a single-family residence (including house, garage, driveway, etc.), provided the activity is a single and complete project. This RP is used only once per residence. An individual may use this RP for a single-family home to be used as a personal residence only. The term “individual” refers to natural person or persons and does not include a corporation, partnership or similar entity. Sufficient vegetated buffers must be maintained adjacent to all open water, streams and wetlands. There is no volumetric limitation for activities processed under this item. For projects that impact over 0.10 acres of waters of the U.S., the permittee is required to provide compensatory mitigation.

Authorization under RP4 is subject to the General Conditions of the Regional Permit Program beginning on page 6 of this document. In addition, the following requirements must be addressed in writing and submitted with the notification:

- a. All projects will be processed under Category I.
- b. This RP does not authorize stream diversions or construction of new channels connected to navigable waters.
- c. Fill in waters of the U.S. for the construction of septic systems and septic system buffer areas is not permissible.

- d. This RP does not authorize residential, commercial and institutional developments.
- e. This permit does not authorize temporary construction activities.
- f. This RP may not be used for the placement of fill in boat slips.
- g. Authorization under RP4 is subject to individual water quality certification under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act only when there is a discharge of dredged and/or fill material, pursuant to Section 404 in the following waters:
  - 1) Fox River (including the Fox Chain of Lakes)
  - 2) Lake Michigan
  - 3) Pettibone Creek
  - 4) Kankakee River