

We thank you for your time spent taking this survey.
Your response has been recorded.

Below is a summary of your responses

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2023 Annual Shoreland Activities Survey

Directions: Please answer the following questions for your county's 2023 activities within the shoreland area (1000 feet from lakes and 300 feet from rivers or the extent of the floodplain, whichever is greater). This survey is ten pages in length. All questions are required unless otherwise noted. You will not be able to move onto the next page until all required questions are answered.

This format is NEW for 2023! The new format will allow you to exit an unfinished survey and return to it later to complete it. Please note that the software saves your responses every time you advance to the NEXT PAGE, so if you leave a survey in the middle of a page it will not record the part that you filled out.

At the end of the survey, you will have an opportunity to download a pdf of your responses.

To receive a shoreland grant in 2024, this form must be completed by February 1, 2024.

If you have any questions, please contact:

Kathleen Metzker, DNR Land Use Hydrologist
500 Lafayette Road St. Paul, MN 55155-4032

(651) 259-5694
kathleen.metzker@state.mn.us

Select Your County

Steele

2023 Shoreland Block Grant Amount (\$)

3914

List the number of shoreland variance approvals in 2023 (if zero, please enter '0' in the box):

OHWL setback:

0

Of these, how many were in the SIZ?

0

Bluff setback:

0

Of these, how many were in the BIZ?

0

Septic System
Setback:

0

Impervious coverage:

0

Building Height:

0

Approximately how many approved variances for the items above involved new construction on a conforming lot?

- ☐ All
☐ Most

- ☐ About Half
- ☐ Hardly any
- ☒ **None**

How many variances were approved in 2023 to allow guest cottages or guest quarters on lots not meeting the minimum lot size for duplexes?

0

How many variances were approved in 2023 to allow small contiguous lots in common ownership to be individually developed or sold and not combined as required by Minn. Stat. 394.36 Subd. 5(d)?

0

How does your county identify small contiguous lots in common ownership that are required to be combined under Minn. Stat. 394.36 Subd. 5(d) (ie, those less than 66% of the minimum lot area required by shoreland rules)?

GIS Mapping and recorded deeds

How does your county enforce the combination of small contiguous lots in common ownership?

with-holding of building permits

Did your county approve any subdivisions (with or without variances) in 2023 where the lots did not meet the lot area and width standards?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ **No**

Did you typically require conditions of approval on variances approved in 2023?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☒ **Did not approve any variances in 2023**

For approximately how many variance inquiries in 2023 were alternative solutions found (thus reducing the actual number of variance applications)?

☒ **All**

☐ Most

☐ About half

☐ Hardly any

☐ None

What approaches were most effective in helping owners pursue better solutions?

denial of past variance requests reduces land owners motivation to seek new variances.

Does your county require septic system compliance (system upgrades) whenever a variance or permit of any kind is granted?

☒ **Yes**

☐ No

What were the total number of lots created in 2023?

Shoreland PUD:

0

Standard lot and block
subdivision:

0

Lot splits (administrative subdivision):

0

Were there any resort conversions in your county?

☐ Yes

☒ No

How many seasonal campgrounds are in shoreland districts in your county?

1

How many applications did you receive for seasonal campgrounds in 2023?

0

Do you review these as a commercial shoreland PUD or a residential shoreland PUD?

no

How many land use permits did your county issue in shoreland areas in 2023 for new construction on previously undeveloped lots:

0

How many land use permits did your county issue in shoreland areas for 2023 for redevelopment (e.g., expansion of structures, substantial improvements, new structures added to developed lots):

3

How many permits for grading and filling within the SIZ, BIZ, and steep slopes were issued in 2023?

3

To what extent do you think grading and filling within the SIZ, BIZ, and steep slopes were permitted vs. done without a permit?

unknown

Does your county generally inspect the work?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

If so, how does your county inspect the work? Check all that apply.

- ☐ on-site inspection prior to construction
- ☒ **on-site inspection during construction**
- ☐ on-site inspection after construction
- ☐ as-built drawings and measurements required after construction
- ☐ other

If other, please describe

How does your county administer and enforce the shoreland vegetation provisions that prohibit intensive vegetation clearing and limit selective cutting in the SIZ, BIZ, and on steep slopes on residential and commercial properties? Check all that apply.

- ☒ **complaint-based**
- ☐ specify quantifiable standards for cutting in ordinance
- ☐ require permit
- ☐ inspection
- ☐ other
- ☐ N/A; we don't administer shoreland vegetation provisions

If other, please describe:

Did your county update or amend its shoreland ordinance in 2023?

☐ Yes

☒ No

If so, describe the nature of the change:

Does your county have plans to amend its shoreland ordinance in 2024?

☐ Yes

☒ No

Who do you notify by email at the DNR 10 days prior to a public hearing and within 10 days of final decisions on applications for shoreland variances, CUPs, and ordinance amendments? (please identify the name of your DNR area hydrologist):

Todd Peipho

Have any townships in your county taken on shoreland and floodplain zoning administration in 2023? If yes, please list the township(s) and describe any cooperative agreements between your county and township(s):

no

What shoreland-related trainings, guidance, or tools do your staff or Board of Adjustment need?

Have any new or unanticipated issues arisen in the past year that you would like the DNR to address or provide guidance on? If yes, please describe:

Did your county pursue or consider pursuing any partnerships, special initiatives, education and outreach efforts or unique higher standards to protect shorelands in 2023? If yes, please describe, and if it is a higher standard in your ordinance, please cite the provision:

Did your county pursue or consider pursuing any efforts to reduce impacts from or adapt to changing climate conditions? Efforts could include education and outreach, zoning changes, partnerships, or other special initiatives, in 2023? If yes, please describe. If it was a zoning change, please cite the provision:

Contact person and title:

email address:

Phone number:

