

## Cochise County Engineering and Natural Resources/Floodplain Division checks

Prior to construction start-up, 1) any proposed construction or disturbance of an area equal to or greater than one (1) acre proposed to be altered or 2) disturbed area or where imperviousness increases by more than fifty (50%) percent from the existing conditions (if parcel is less than an acre), a drainage analysis shall be required. This report shall be certified by an Arizona Registered Professional Civil Engineer.

If an area to be disturbed as small as one-tenth of an acre (0.1 acre) is proposed within a Waters of the United States (WOTUS), a permit from the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACOE) may be required. Please contact their Regulatory Division, Arizona-Nevada Area Office, 602-230-6956.

- A Clearing Permit must be obtained from Cochise County. Please contact: <https://www.cochise.az.gov/development-services/home>. The drainage analysis shall be forwarded to the Cochise County Engineering Department/Floodplain Division for review and approval.
- A Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) may be required from the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) if outside of Cochise County's Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4). This will also include a Notice of Intent (NOI) to clear land. A copy of the NOI must be submitted to Cochise County if ADEQ requires a SWPPP. For more information, please contact: <https://azdeq.gov/AZPDES/CGP>
- If the area to be disturbed is within the Cochise County MS4 area, a copy of the SWPPP is required to be submitted to The Cochise County Engineering Department/Floodplain Division for review and approval per Cochise County's Stormwater Ordinance (CCSO). A post-construction stormwater management plan along with an Operation and Maintenance Plan (Section 11.08 of the CCSO) must be submitted to the Department at the time the Stormwater Site Plan is submitted (see Section 8.02.02, paragraph 3 of the CCSO) that must include BMP's to control discharges of pollutants, erosion and sediment transport to the maximum extent practicable. This post-construction stormwater management plan must consider possible water quality impacts and explain in sufficient detail the post-construction BMP's to be followed by the owner and all who work on the site. These BMP's must ensure that erosion will be minimized, sediment transport managed and that controls for other pollutants and wastes are in place to the maximum extent practicable during the post-construction operation phase.
  - Check if your area is within Cochise County's MS4 area. Go to: <https://cochise.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=cb4fc995f40043e29e665d9e88007f08>, enter your parcel number/s, click on the layers list and check the USA Urban Areas (MS4) and incorporated Limit layers.
  - If your project is within Unincorporated Cochise County, the SWPPP requirements shall follow Cochise County Stormwater Ordinance: <https://www.cochise.az.gov/DocumentCenter/View/798/Stormwater-Ordinance-PDF>
- A Notice to Clear Native Plants permit may be required from the Arizona Department of Agriculture. If required, submit a copy to Cochise County. For more information, please contact: <https://agriculture.az.gov/plantsproduce/native-plants>
- A Drainage Analysis will be required. This includes, but not limited to, Grading Plans, Site Plans, and Drainage Reports prepared by an Arizona Registered Civil Engineer. Please contact the Cochise County Engineering and Natural Resources Department/ Floodplain Division for a copy of the Floodplain Regulations for Cochise County (November 2023) or download from: <https://www.cochise.az.gov/DocumentCenter/View/735/Floodplain-Regulations-PDF>
  - As a part of the Drainage Analysis, the engineer shall demonstrate that no adverse impacts (increases in water Surface Elevation or increases in flow velocities) to adjacent parcels, or adjacent roads shall occur due to the proposed development. Refer to Section 5.1.A of the Cochise County Floodplain Regulations (2023, or latest revision). If a/multiple detention/retention basin/s is/are proposed, the increase in stormwater runoff shall be detained/retained on site to meet the adverse impact requirement. Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) Requirement for Floodplain and Floodway Delineation in Riverine Environments (SS-2-96) shall be followed. Contact the Floodplain Administrator for allowable

methods or if methods proposed are acceptable.

- Onsite flows shall not cause adverse impacts on adjacent parcels due to proposed development shall be demonstrated.
- Section 5.6 of the Cochise County Floodplain Regulations, states that any land disturbance that occurs within a regulatory floodplain (Q100 > 500cfs) or FEMA special flood hazard area requires a Floodplain Use Permit (FPUP).
- Any residential and or commercial development shall require that finished floors shall be elevated a minimum of one (1) foot above the determined water surface elevation from the drainage analysis.
- Erosion hazard setbacks shall follow Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) State Standard for Watercourse System Sediment Balance (SS5-96). Standards Manual for Drainage Design and Floodplain Management in Tucson, Arizona, City of Tucson Department of Transportation, 1989, may also be used for Rip-Rap and/or concrete structures.
- Bank Stabilization shall follow ADWR State Standard for Watercourse Bank Stabilization (SS7-98). Standards Manual for Drainage Design and Floodplain Management in Tucson, Arizona, City of Tucson Department of Transportation, 1989, may also be used for Rip-Rap and/or concrete structures.

- If Dry wells are proposed for retaining water onsite Starting September 24, 2022, NEW drywells and drywells wishing to MODIFY will need to be “inventoried” with EPA. The myDEQ application and the website will provide the required links to the EPA website for an easy transition:  
<https://www.epa.gov/uic/forms/underground-injection-well-registration-epas-pacific-southwest-region-9#form>

For more information through ADEQ Drywell Registration see their website:

[https://azdeq.gov/drywell\\_registration](https://azdeq.gov/drywell_registration)

- Fees for associated Floodplain Use permits are within Section 7 of within the Floodplain Regulations for Cochise County (November 2023): <https://www.cochise.az.gov/DocumentCenter/View/735/Floodplain-Regulations-PDF>
- Fees for associated drainage analyses are within the Development Services Fee Schedule (Effective July 1, 2022): <https://www.cochise.az.gov/DocumentCenter/View/7580>, See Sections 11 Planning – Subdivisions (Drainage Report). Other sections that apply to fees [Sections 8 – Non-Residential Permits, Section - 10 Planning (Special Use, Comprehensive Plan Amendments, Master Development Plans, and Zoning Amendments)]
- When reviewable items are submitted, the review process will begin. Upon review approval and fee payment/s received, permits will be issued.