

UMD 503 – Post-Construction Storm Water Management BMP

Title: **Shoreline Protection – Construction and Development Setback Requirements**

Construction and development setback requirements help our streams by protecting a narrow strip of natural area along each bank from damage. These buffers filter pollutants and soil out of surface water before they reach the stream, slow the flow of water to the stream in a rain event, hold the soil on the stream's bank, and shade the waterway from the sun.

The MPCA requires a 100 foot buffer for all construction sites adjacent to special waters. Permit MN R10001 Appendix A.C.3. Buffer zone, states "An undisturbed buffer zone of not less than 100 linear feet from the special water shall be maintained at all times. Exceptions from this requirement for areas, such as water crossings or limited water access, are allowed if the Permittee fully documents in the SWPPP the circumstances and reasons that the buffer encroachment is necessary. All potential water quality, scenic and other environmental impacts of these exceptions must be minimized and documented in the SWPPP for the project." While this requirement is for 1 acre or greater projects, any work within this zone should be limited to storm water improvements and the repair or removal of existing facilities. Any work within this zone may require special MPCA and / or MNDNR approval.

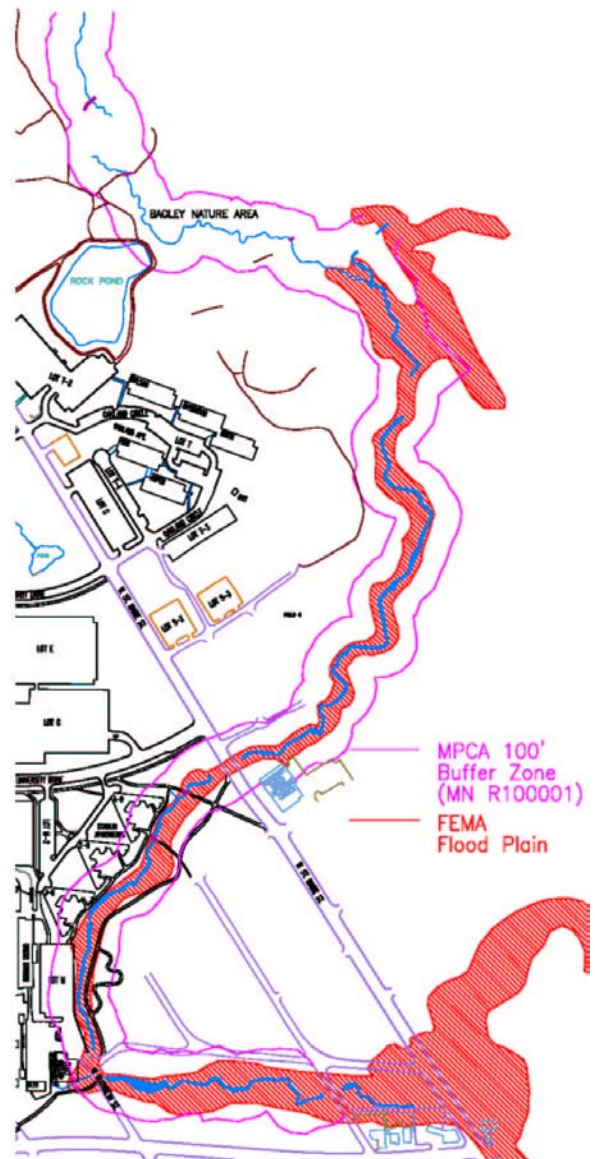
The University of Minnesota Duluth has property along several designated special waters. They are:

- West Branch of Tischer Creek
- Tischer Creek
- Lester River
- East Branch of Amity Creek
- Lake Superior

There is also a Federal Emergency Management Agency designated flood plain area for the West Branch of Tischer Creek. No building structures are allowed within this area and changes to the flood plain capacity or flow path need to be approved by the MNDNR.

For more information about why buffer zones are important, the Connecticut River Joint Commission has a several fact sheets at <http://www.crjc.org/riparianbuffers.htm>.

To better understand the water quality impacts of construction and development see the Duluth Streams website "Preserve Water Quality by Understanding Stream Impacts" at <http://duluthstreams.org/understanding/impact.html>.



Responsible Party: University of Minnesota Duluth Storm Water Steering Committee

Contact: UMD Facilities Management (218) 726-8262

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