



## Michigan Department of Environmental Quality Water Resources Division

The Water Resources Division (WRD) offers an expedited permit review process dependent on work load for public transportation agencies for selected minor projects contained in Part 301, Inland Lakes and Streams, Part 303, Wetlands Protection, and the Floodplain Regulatory Authority, Part 31, Water Resources, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended. An expedited review provides the WRD staff the opportunity to review a project without conducting a site inspection, thereby allowing for permit decisions to be made in two to three weeks.

This expedited application process is only available for those public transportation projects listed below, provided the information requested on the following page is submitted in full with a complete application.

The minor project **must** be entirely described by one or more of the following criteria to be eligible for an expedited review.

1. Bridge/culvert extensions on a stream or drain. Total extensions for both ends combined shall not exceed 24 feet. (Up to 8 feet in end sections may also be added).
2. Replacement/installation of headwalls, wingwalls and/or up to 8 foot end sections.
3. Clean out of accumulated sediment/debris within 10 feet of the upstream or downstream end of the bridge/culvert. No fill shall be placed to access the site. Spoils shall be placed in an upland (non-floodplain/non-wetland) location.
4. Placement of clean, graded, appropriately sized riprap/broken concrete for the following purposes. (Broken concrete, if used, must be free of any exposed re-bar and no larger than 24 inches in any dimension. Broken concrete is not allowed on designated natural rivers).
  - a. Stream bank stabilization around the inlet or outlet of the bridge or culvert.
  - b. Scour protection, provided the riprap does not extend above the normal (non-scoured) channel invert.
  - c. At the outlet of a stormwater outlet pipe.
5. Replacement of stormwater outlet pipes conforming to the side slopes of the stream/drain. Riprap shall be placed in accordance with item number 4.
6. Placement of clean fill together with bio-engineering techniques or clean graded appropriately sized riprap to repair eroded areas along a stream bank. Riprap shall be placed in accordance with item number 4. The placement of fill/riprap must not exceed an average of 2 cubic yards per running foot along the stream bank and a maximum of 300 cubic yards.
7. Safety improvements for public road projects as defined in the Minor Project Categories found in Part 303 that impact less than 0.1 acres of wetland. These include flattening of road slopes to meet minimum safety standards, construction of standard shoulder widths, installation of guardrail flares, intersection improvements, elimination of roadside obstacles, and the addition of a lane for safety reasons.
8. The replacement of wetland equalizer culverts that extend beyond the road footprint (see item number 4, page 2).

For more information on whether a specific project application is eligible for expedited review, please contact the Transportation Specialist in the appropriate WRD office. Applications must be submitted by mail to the appropriate office listed below.

**Upper Peninsula**  
 MDEQ-WRD  
 Transportation Specialist  
 420 Fifth Street  
 Gwinn, Michigan 49841  
 906-346-8561

**Gaylord (Northern Lower)**  
 MDEQ-WRD  
 Transportation Specialist  
 2100 West M-32  
 Gaylord, Michigan 49735-9282  
 989-705-3429

**Lansing (SE/SW Michigan)**  
 MDEQ-WRD  
 Transportation Specialist  
 P.O. Box 30458  
 Lansing, Michigan 48909  
 517-335-3473 (SE)  
 517-373-4667 (SW)

**General transportation information, permit requirements and staff area of coverage may be found at [www.michigan.gov/deqtransportationreview](http://www.michigan.gov/deqtransportationreview).**



## Expedited Review for Transportation Projects

*To be considered for an expedited review the following must be provided:*

- 1. A completed MDEQ application for permit, including appropriate drawings with the application signed by the transportation agency or their authorized agent. See the checklist and sample drawings provided with the application for more information. The application may be signed by the owner's agent with a letter from the owner authorizing the agent to apply for the permit. Permit fees are generally not required for public transportation agencies. **The permit application form can be found at [www.michigan.gov/jointpermit](http://www.michigan.gov/jointpermit)**
- 2. This sheet should be submitted with the completed application. The appropriate boxes on this sheet should be checked. The appropriate minor project listed on page one must be identified here: \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. Photographs of the proposed work site labeled to identify what is being shown and with the direction of the photo clearly indicated. For bridge or culvert projects, a minimum of 5 photographs are required: looking downstream, looking upstream, looking at downstream outlet, looking at upstream inlet, looking along the roadway over the top of the structure.
- 4. For wetland equalizer culverts, photographs must be provided along with a copy of the USGS quad map documenting that a regulated stream does not exist at the site. Existing and proposed invert elevations and lengths must be the same and documented in Section 14 of the application for permit. If the replacement culvert does not exceed the footprint of the road toe of slope, then it is exempt, provided there is no regulated stream at this site and the existing invert is not changed.
- 5. Transportation agencies must have a proper soil erosion/sedimentation control plan (or permit) on file and at the job site in accordance with Part 91, Soil Erosion and Sedimentation of the NREPA prior to beginning construction.

***Applications that are incomplete or do not meet the requirements listed above for expedited review will be forwarded to the Lansing Transportation and Flood Hazard Unit for normal processing and site inspection.***

Acceptance of an application for permit does not guarantee issuance of a permit. Applications are reviewed and permitted or denied in accordance with applicable regulations. It is the applicant's responsibility to read and follow all permit conditions and to conduct the activity in accordance with the permitted plans.