



Resilient Environment Department
URBAN PLANNING DIVISION

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TECHNICAL BULLETIN
No. 2013-4

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SUBJECT: UPD GENERAL ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE LICENSE REQUIREMENTS FOR CONSTRUCTION AND REPAIR OF DOCKS, SEAWALLS, BULKHEADS

PURPOSE: This Technical Bulletin is intended to clarify requirements and procedures for obtaining a General Environmental Resource License for the construction, addition and or repair of docks, seawalls and bulkheads in Broward County.

AFFECTED PARTIES: Municipal agencies issuing permits or approvals for the construction, addition and or repair of docks, seawalls and bulkheads in Broward County. Any contractor, developer, landowner and others who are going to construct or repair docks, seawalls or bulkheads in any artificial or natural lake, canal or other surface water located within Broward County.

OVERVIEW: The process for obtaining a General License is a streamlined one, usually completed within three days. The general license process recognizes that certain minor projects present a limited environmental risk and the process required for obtaining this Environmental Resource license has been simplified. Nevertheless, the process will ensure that necessary precautions were taken by the applicant to protect wetlands, water quality, public drinking water supply, fish and wildlife. Minor projects eligible for this streamlined process are described more fully below.

DISCUSSION: The Urban Planning Division and Environmental Permitting Division regulate most construction activities in and around the waters of Broward County. These activities include dredging new lakes and canals, any work within a wetland area, work in and over surface waters on projects such as, but not limited to, docks, seawalls, bulkheads, piers and pilings. Section 27-336 of the Broward County Code allows for a General Environmental Resource License to be issued for certain minor work associated with the activities noted above.

To be eligible for a General Environmental Resource License, the project must fall into one of the categories listed below. Upon successful completion of the process, plans will be approved and a General Environmental Resource License is issued.

**PROJECTS ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE A
GENERAL ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE
LICENSE**

1. The repair or replacement of existing docks, provided that no additional water ward fill is used and the new or repaired dock is not enlarged beyond a total of five hundred (500) square feet over-water surface area for the new and existing structure.
2. The repair, maintenance, or restoration of existing functional seawalls no more than one (1) foot water ward of their original authorized location.

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3. The installation of private, noncommercial docks of five hundred (500) square feet or less of over-water surface area, where no dredging or filling is required except to install the pilings.
4. The construction, repair, maintenance or operation of any permitted storm water control structure.
5. The installation of natural lime rock rip- rap at the water ward face of an existing vertical bulkhead provided that the rip- rap is clean and free of debris, that no sea grasses are covered by the rip-rap, that no dredging or other filling is conducted and that the rip-rap is placed at a slope no steeper than 2H: 1V and that no interference to other riparian property rights, or navigation occurs.
6. The repair or replacement of existing functional headwalls, pipes, or culverts provided that they are otherwise in compliance with this Chapter and are in artificially created waterways that discharge water for storm water runoff. The pipes must be replaced in the original size and configuration and all elevations must be the same as the pre-replacement condition. Pipe or culvert material may change from the original but must not change the discharge capabilities of the original design.

All water quality protection features must be utilized and the rerouting of water bodies is not authorized by this general license except by pumps, pipes or cofferdams. Wetland areas may not be impacted as a result of this activity.

Special Note: Projects that are larger in scale than those listed or involve dredging and/or impact wetlands are required to obtain a regular Environmental Resource License.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR A GENERAL ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE LICENSE

1. A completed general license application.
2. Four (4) legible sets of drawings on 8 1/2" X 11" sheets. These drawings should include:
 - a. A vicinity map showing location and extent of the project as proposed.
 - b. A plan view and cross-sectional drawing identifying the engineering and environmental conditions existing at the site.
 - c. A plan view and cross-sectional view drawing identifying the engineering and environmental conditions as they are proposed to exist after the completion of the project.
 - d. Mean high water elevations, mean low water elevations and bottom elevations if the project is located in a tidal canal.
 - e. A survey of the project site.
3. A licensing fee applies and payable by, cash check, or credit card. Checks should be made payable to the Broward County Board of County Commissioners.

FURTHER INFORMATION: For further information concerning UPD review and approval of plans to be submitted for building permits or for questions concerning this technical bulletin, please contact the URBAN PLANNING DIVISION at (954) 357-6666 ext 2.