New Buildings and Filling in Floodplain Areas of Rusk County

**Is the proposed location of the structure or fill in a mapped floodplain?**

- Yes
- No

**Is the property located in an area where the floodplain has been studied?**

- Yes
- No

- The owner will need to employ a registered surveyor or licensed engineer to obtain elevations on the property in order to determine whether the location of the building or fill is below the base flood elevation (BFE).
- Areas below the BFE are subject to the floodplain ordinance requirements.

- A base flood elevation will need to be established for the property by a licensed engineer and approved by the WI DNR before a permit can be issued by the zoning office.

- Floodplain Ordinance requirements do not apply. However, keep in mind that if a walkout basement is being installed, the first floor elevation must be above the Base Flood Elevation, so elevations will likely be required. Permits may still be necessary under other ordinances such as shoreland, comprehensive or private sewage.

- Contiguous dry land access above regional flood elevation and wide enough for wheeled rescue and relief vehicles shall be provided to land outside of floodplain. (s. 4.3 (2)(c), Rusk County Floodplain Zoning Ordinance)

- Lands that are filled in order to remove them from floodplain must be filled to two feet above the RFE. (s. 1.5 (5), Rusk County Floodplain Zoning Ordinance)

The degree of flood protection provided by the ordinance is considered reasonable for regulatory purposes. Larger floods may occur or the flood height may be increased by man-made or natural causes, such as ice jams and bridge openings restricted by debris. The ordinance does not imply that areas outside of the delineated floodplain or permitted land uses within the floodplain will be totally free from flooding. Warning and Disclaimer of Liability for Rusk County is in s 1.5 (10), Rusk County Floodplain Zoning Ordinance. Other county ordinances apply for new buildings, including Rusk County Shoreland Zoning Ordinance, Rusk County Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance and Rusk County Private Sewage System Ordinance. Contact Zoning Office for more information.