

INITIATE ACTION BY ORGANIZATION

Community organization is the key to successful emergency shore protection measures. There are several good reasons for organizing groups of property owners in a coordinated approach to erosion control. Example has shown that where individuals have attempted to go it alone, the results have often been ineffective, individual protective structures have been damaged due to continuing erosion on unprotected adjacent properties (flanked) and failed. A well-planned, coordinated, and properly constructed system of shore protection work extending for a considerable distance will capture economy of scale in construction resulting in a lower cost per lineal foot of protection.

The community, or a group of property owners, should organize its resources to respond to the existing situation. Civil defense directors can provide helpful hints on how to organize your manpower and resources into a unit. An existing property owners association would provide a basis for initial action.

The objective of organization is to prepare and implement a plan for shore protection. This plan may consist of some or all of the following:

- administration—delegation of responsibilities, funding, and accounting.
- preconstruction planning—assessment of the existing situation, inventory of existing shore protection works and their effectiveness, maps of the shoreline area, and establishment of surveillance points for photographs and surveying.
- with the aid of an engineer develop a plan of protection, construction drawings, specifications, and a handbook for maintenance.

PERMIT REQUIREMENTS

Federal and State permits are required prior to the construction of any work in, under, across, or on the banks of navigable waters of the United States. In general, both Federal and State permits are required prior to the initiation of construction of shore protection structures along the shores of the Great Lakes, lakeward of the high water mark. The highwater mark is a specific elevation on each of the Great Lakes which establishes a plane above which Federal permits are not required. State and Federal highwater mark elevations vary on some of the Great Lakes. As a result in some cases a Federal permit may be required where a State permit may not. It is suggested that if there is any doubt as to the necessity for a permit the appropriate State and Corps district office be contacted for the determination. Federal permits are issued by the Corps of Engineers, only after a state permit or waiver thereof has been obtained. Upon receipt of application for permit, the Corps District Office is required to issue a Public Notice describing the proposed work for comment or objection by interested parties. The normal advertising period is 30 days; however, where the applicant indicates urgency for the work the advertising period can be reduced. Normally, if no objection is received, the District Engineer is authorized to issue the permit. A pamphlet, EP 1145-2-1, 1 November 1977, entitled "U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Permit Program, a Guide for Applicants", describing the procedures for applying for a Federal permit, may be obtained free of charge from any Corps of Engineers' district office.

District Engineer
U.S. Army Engineer District,
Buffalo
1776 Niagara Street
Buffalo New York 14207

District Engineer
U.S. Army Engineer District
Detroit
P.O. Box 1027
Detroit, Michigan 48231

District Engineer
U.S. Army Engineer District
Chicago
219 South Dearborn Street
Chicago, Illinois 60604

District Engineer
U.S. Army Engineer District
St. Paul
1135 U.S. Post Office and
Customhouse
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

Information regarding the procedures for applying for a state permit should be obtained from the following state agencies:

Chief Waterway Engineer
State of Illinois
Division of Water
Resource Management
201 West Monroe Street
Springfield, Illinois 26706

Chief, Division of Water
Indiana Dept. of Natural
Resources
605 State Office Building
Indianapolis, Indiana 46325

Chief, Submerged Lands
Unit
Division of Land Resource
Programs
Michigan Department of
Natural Resources
P.O. Box 30028
Lansing, Michigan 48909

Minnesota Dept. of Natural
Resources
Div. of Water, Soils &
Minerals
Centennial Office Building
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

Central Permit Agent
New York State Water
Resources Commission
State Campus
Albany, New York 12226

Staff Coordinator
Ohio Dept. of Natural
Resources
Ohio Dept. Building,
Room 815
65 South Front Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Chief Engineer
Pennsylvania Department of
Environmental Resources
P.O. Box 1467
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania
17120

Director, Bureau of Water and
Shoreland Management
Division of Environmental
Protection
Wisconsin Dept. of Natural
Resources
Box 450
Madison, Wisconsin 53702