



BROCHURE # 31

SHORELINE EXEMPTIONS



This handout is intended to give you basic guidance on certain activities within the shoreline area that are exempt from the formal Shoreline Substantial Development Permit process.



The project will be reviewed for consistency with the policies and provisions of the Shoreline Management Act, and the Kitsap County Shoreline Management Master Program (Kitsap County Code Title 22). Exemptions may include

DOES MY PROJECT QUALIFY FOR A SHORELINE EXEMPTION?

Common examples of exempt activities include small, low cost projects, and repair and maintenance activities. A complete list of activities that qualify for an exemption may be viewed on-line under Kitsap County Code Section 22.500.100(C)(3) at <http://www.codepublishing.com/wa/kitsapcounty/>. The Washington Administrative Code (WAC 173-27) requires that the exemptions shall be narrowly construed.

If a shoreline exemption is requested for repair and maintenance of a structure or development that was completed after adoption of the Shoreline Management Act in 1972 but was not previously permitted, a Shoreline Substantial Development Permit may be required to bring the structure or development into compliance with the Act.

WHAT IS THE PROCESS FOR OBTAINING A SHORELINE EXEMPTION?

Requests for exemptions must be submitted to Kitsap County Department of Community Development (DCD) for review and approval. The application and submittal checklist are [available online](#).

conditions of approval to ensure consistency with the Act.

Upon review of the exemption request, the County decision will be mailed or delivered to the applicant and other interested parties. If the project qualifies for an exemption, the County will issue a letter of approval along with a "Notice of Exemption" to be posted on site prior to construction. The applicant will then post the exemption notice on the project site for a period of ten days directly following the issuance of the exemption.

ARE THERE OTHER PERMITS THAT MAY BE REQUIRED?

A building permit may also be required for certain structures. Some projects may also require a SEPA Determination.

Exempt activities located at or below the ordinary high water mark of the shoreline may also require Hydraulic Project Approval (HPA) from Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. For questions regarding which activities may also require HPA, please visit <http://wdfw.wa.gov/licensing/hpa/>.

For more information regarding exemptions, please refer to the [Kitsap County website](#) and Kitsap County Code titles 22.500.100(C)(3) and 19.300.315(K)(1-3). You may also call (360)377-5777 and request to speak with an Environmental Planner at DCD.