

2022 Annual Shoreland Activities Survey

Directions: Please answer the following questions for your county's 2022 activities within the shoreland area (*1000 feet from lakes and 300 feet from rivers or the extent of the floodplain, whichever is greater*). This survey is six pages in length. All questions are required unless otherwise noted. You will not be able to move onto the next page until all required questions are answered. There is an option to “save” your survey, but clicking this button does not submit your survey to the DNR. **You must click “submit” on the last page of the survey in order for the DNR to receive your responses.** If you would like a copy of your complete responses for your records, please print your survey before you submit. A PDF copy of your survey responses will be sent to you when the survey is closed. To receive a shoreland grant in 2023, this form must be completed by **February 1, 2023.**

If you have any questions, please contact:
Kathleen Metzker, DNR Land Use Hydrologist
500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, MN 55155-4032
(651) 259-5694
kathleen.metzker@state.mn.us

County Name:

Koochiching ▼

**2022 Shoreland
Block Grant
Amount (\$)**

2722

Variances

List the number of shoreland variance approvals in 2022 (if zero, please enter "0" in the box):

A) OHWL setback: 2

Of these, how many were in the SIZ? 0

B) Bluff setback: 0

Of these, how many were in the BIZ? 0

C) Septic system setback: 0

D) Impervious coverage: 0

E) Building height: 3

Approximately how many approved variiances for items A through E above involved new construction on a conforming lot?

- All
 Most
 About half
 Hardly any
 None

How many variiances were approved in 2022 to allow guest cottages or guest quarters on lots not meeting the minimum lot size for duplexes?

three - All lots met required duplex lot area however they did not meet required duplex lot width

How many variiances were approved in 2022 to allow small contiguous lots in common ownership to be individually developed or sold and not combined as required by Minn. Stat. 394.36 Subd. 5(d)?

None

How does your county identify small contiguous lots in common ownership that are required to be combined under Minn. Stat. 394.36 Subd. 5(d) (ie, those less than 66% of the minimum lot area required by shoreland rules)?

Koochiching County requires all lots meet minimum width & area standards for sale or development

How does your county enforce the combination of small contiguous lots in common ownership?

all parcel divisions must be reviewed and approved through a land division application process

Did your county approve any subdivisions (with or without variances) in 2022 where the lots did not meet the lot area and width standards?

- Yes
- No

How many lots did not meet the minimum lot size and/or width standard?

Please explain why these decisions were made.

Did you typically require conditions of approval on variances approved in 2022?

- Yes
- No
- N/A: Did not approve any variances in 2022

For approximately how many **variance inquiries** in 2022 were **alternative solutions** found (thus reducing the actual number of variance applications)?

- All
- Most
- About half
- Hardly any
- None
- N/A: No variance inquiries were received in 2022

What approaches were most effective in helping owners pursue better solutions?

Does your county require septic system compliance (system upgrades) whenever a variance or permit of any kind is granted?

- Yes
- No

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Lots & Land Subdivisions

What were the total number of lots created in 2022?

Shoreland PUD: 0

Standard lot and block
subdivision: 0

Lot Splits (administrative
subdivision): 12

Were there any resort conversions in your county?

Yes

No

How many conversions?

How many lots were created?

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Permits

How many land use permits did your county issue in shoreland areas in 2022 for **new construction on previously undeveloped lots**:

13

How many land use permits did your county issue in shoreland areas in 2022 for **redevelopment** (e.g., expansion of structures, substantial improvements, new structures added to developed lots):

19

How many permits for grading and filling within the SIZ, BIZ, and steep slopes were issued in 2022?

0

To what extent do you think grading and filling within the SIZ, BIZ, and steep slopes were permitted vs. done without a permit?

two sites corrected by property owners after review with County and DNR

Does your county generally inspect the work?

Yes

No

If so, how and when? Check all that apply.

On-site inspection prior to construction

On-site inspection during construction

On-site inspection after construction

As-built drawings and measurements required after construction

Other

Other, please describe:

How does your county administer and enforce the shoreland vegetation provisions that prohibit intensive vegetation clearing and limit selective cutting in the SIZ, BIZ, and on steep slopes on residential and commercial properties? Check all that apply.

- Complaint-based
- Specify quantifiable standards for cutting in ordinance
- Require permit
- Inspection
- Other

Other, please describe:

ESD provides fact sheets in the issuance of building /land use permits

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Planning & Administration

Did your county update or amend its shoreland ordinance in 2022?

Yes

No

Describe the nature of the change:

You have left characters left in your response.

Does your county have plans to amend its shoreland ordinance in 2023?

Yes

No

Who do you notify by email at the DNR 10 days prior to a public hearing and within 10 days of final decisions on applications for shoreland variances, CUPs, and ordinance amendments? (Please identify the name of your DNR Area Hydrologist):

Rian Reed - Grand Rapids

Have any townships in your county taken on shoreland and floodplain zoning administration **in 2022**? If yes, please list the township(s) and describe any cooperative agreements between your county and township(s):

You have left characters left in your response.

Koochiching County does not have any organized Townships

Are you aware of any townships in your county which intend to take on shoreland and floodplain zoning administration **in 2023**? If yes, please list the township(s):

You have left characters left in your response.

No

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Resources/Training/Other

All of the following questions are optional.

What shoreland-related trainings, guidance, or tools do your staff or Board of Adjustment need?

You have left characters left in your response.

The Board of Adjustment welcomes any onsite assistance by the DNR during site inspections. Due to travel distance this seldom happens.

Have any new or unanticipated issues arisen in the past year that you would like the DNR to address or provide guidance on? If yes, please describe:

You have left characters left in your response.

No

Did your county pursue or consider pursuing any partnerships, special initiatives, education and outreach efforts or unique higher standards **to protect shorelands in 2022?** If yes, please describe, and if it is a higher standard in your ordinance, please cite the provision:

You have left characters left in your response.

In 2022 Koochiching County updated the Floodplain ordinance

Did your county pursue or consider pursuing any efforts to reduce impacts from or adapt to changing climate conditions in 2022? (Efforts could include education and outreach, zoning changes, partnerships, or other special initiatives.) If yes, please describe. If it was a zoning change, please cite the provision:

You have left characters left in your response.

no

If you have any additional comments or questions on any shoreland-related issues, please enter them here:

You have left characters left in your response.

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Contact Information

County: Koochiching

Contact Person & Title:

Matthew Gouin

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Phone Number:

2182831157

Thank you for completing the survey!

If you would like an immediate copy of your responses for your records, please be sure to click "Print" below before you submit. You will also be sent a PDF of your responses by e-mail when the survey closes.

After printing, be sure to click "Submit" to send your responses to the DNR.

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