

## Shoreline Maintenance Exemption Checklist



Certain activities in navigable waters are exempt from needing a permit under [Chapter 30](#). Use this checklist to determine if your project qualifies for an exemption.

Your proposed project is eligible if it meets **all** the following conditions:

- **Wild Rice:** The activity **may not** be conducted in an area with floating bogs or wild rice.
  - *Note: The Surface Water Data Viewer maps wild rice areas at the following website: [WDNR Surface Water Data Viewer](#).*
- **Invasive Species:** All equipment or portions of equipment used for the maintenance activity should be decontaminated for invasive species and viruses before and after use following the most recent Department approved BMPs to avoid the spread of invasive species. These protocols and practices can be found on the Department website at <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Invasives/bmp.html> and at <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Invasives/documents/EquipOper.pdf>.
- **Federal and State Threatened and Endangered Species:** This exemption does not address threatened and endangered species. Applicants are required to comply with Wisconsin's Endangered Species Law (s. 29.604, Wis. Stats.) and the Federal Endangered Species Act. To determine if the project is in compliance, visit the [NHI Public Portal](#), and enter the project area to generate an Endangered Resources (ER) Preliminary Assessment. Read the ER Preliminary Assessment carefully to determine follow-up steps, if needed.

### RIPARIAN/FILL

- The shoreline maintenance activity must occur in the shoreline area between the ordinary high-water mark and the water's edge within the riparian zone O interest and only in the following waterbody shorelines:
  - *Lake Superior*
  - *Lake Michigan*
  - *Green Bay*
  - *Sturgeon Bay*
  - *Sawyer's Harbor*
  - *Fox River from its mouth up to the dam at De Pere*
- A riparian owner may only complete the following maintenance activities on their riparian land that abuts the shoreline under this exemption:
  - *Level or groom sand or soil so long as the area is made up of unconsolidated material predominately composed of sand, rock, and pebble.*
  - *Remove debris or mow vegetation from the riparian land that abuts the shoreline area.*
- No material may be brought in from offsite sources to do the maintenance work. The activity may not interfere with the rights of other riparian owners.
- The activity may not involve the filling of a coastal wetland or alteration of a coastal dune.
- No material removed from the riparian zone adjacent to the shoreline area may be used to conduct the activity.