

429 Reserved

430 Earth Disturbance and Clearcutting Permit

430.1 Intent

The intent of this Section is to regulate earth disturbance activities in order to assure compliance with Section 421, Buffers For Waterbodies and Wetlands, of this Ordinance, and to protect soil resources and water quality.

430.2 Permit

A. Except in cases where zoning or subdivision and land development approval has been otherwise granted, any activity that will result in the initial or cumulative earth disturbance or clear cut timber harvest of more than one-half acre of land area for purposes of land development shall require a zoning permit and/or other applicable approvals for such land development prior to any earth disturbance or clear-cutting. This provision, however, shall not be construed to limit the rights of any landowner to clear land for purposes of continued lawn use, farm, forestry or wildlife management over an extended period of time where no other land development is proposed.

B. Reserved.

430.3 Plan

The Applicant shall include with the application for a zoning permit a plan setting forth the details of the earth disturbance or clearcutting activity in accord with Section 602.2 of this Ordinance; and including any additional information deemed necessary by the Township.

430.4 Soil Erosion and Sedimentation and Stormwater Control

Any earth disturbance or clearcutting activity shall comply with Section 407.14 of this Ordinance and no earth disturbance or clearcutting shall be permitted within fifty (50) feet of any waterbody or stream.

430.5 Revegetation/Reforestation

The plan shall include provisions for the revegetation and/or reforestation of any disturbed or clearcut areas.

430.6 Exemption

The provisions of this Section 430 shall not apply to the following:

A. Agricultural Operations Exclusion - Any land disturbance associated with agricultural activities operated in accordance with a Conservation Plan or a Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Plan approved by the County Conservation District is exempt from the Earth Disturbance Permit requirement of this Section of the Ordinance.

B. Forest Management Operations Exclusion - Any land disturbance with any forest management operations which is following the PA DEP's management practices contained in DEP Publication "Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Guidelines for Forestry" and is operating under a Conservation Plan and Forest Management Plan is exempt from the Earth Disturbance Permit requirements of this Section of this Ordinance.