



Department of
Environmental
Conservation

The NYS Coastal Program & Lake Erie Permitting

Coastal Section

Bureau of Flood Protection and Dam Safety

October 17, 2024

Today's Presenter

Shaimus Ryan

Assistant Engineer, Floodplain Management
Bureau of Flood Protection and Dam Safety
Division of Water

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

6274 East Avon Lima Road, Avon, NY 14414

P: (585) 226-5327 | shaimus.ryan@dec.ny.gov



Coastal Erosion Hazard Area (CEHA) Program

CEHA shown in red

Regulations:

NY ECL Article 34 –
Coastal Erosion Hazard Areas
Act

6 NYCRR Part 505 –
Coastal Erosion Management

Local Laws

*Nearly all activities
within the CEHA
require permits*



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Purpose of the CEHA Program:

1) Protect existing human property and existing natural features.



Lake Ontario Shoreline



Eastern Lake Ontario



2) Ensure that new structures are placed a safe distance from areas of erosion

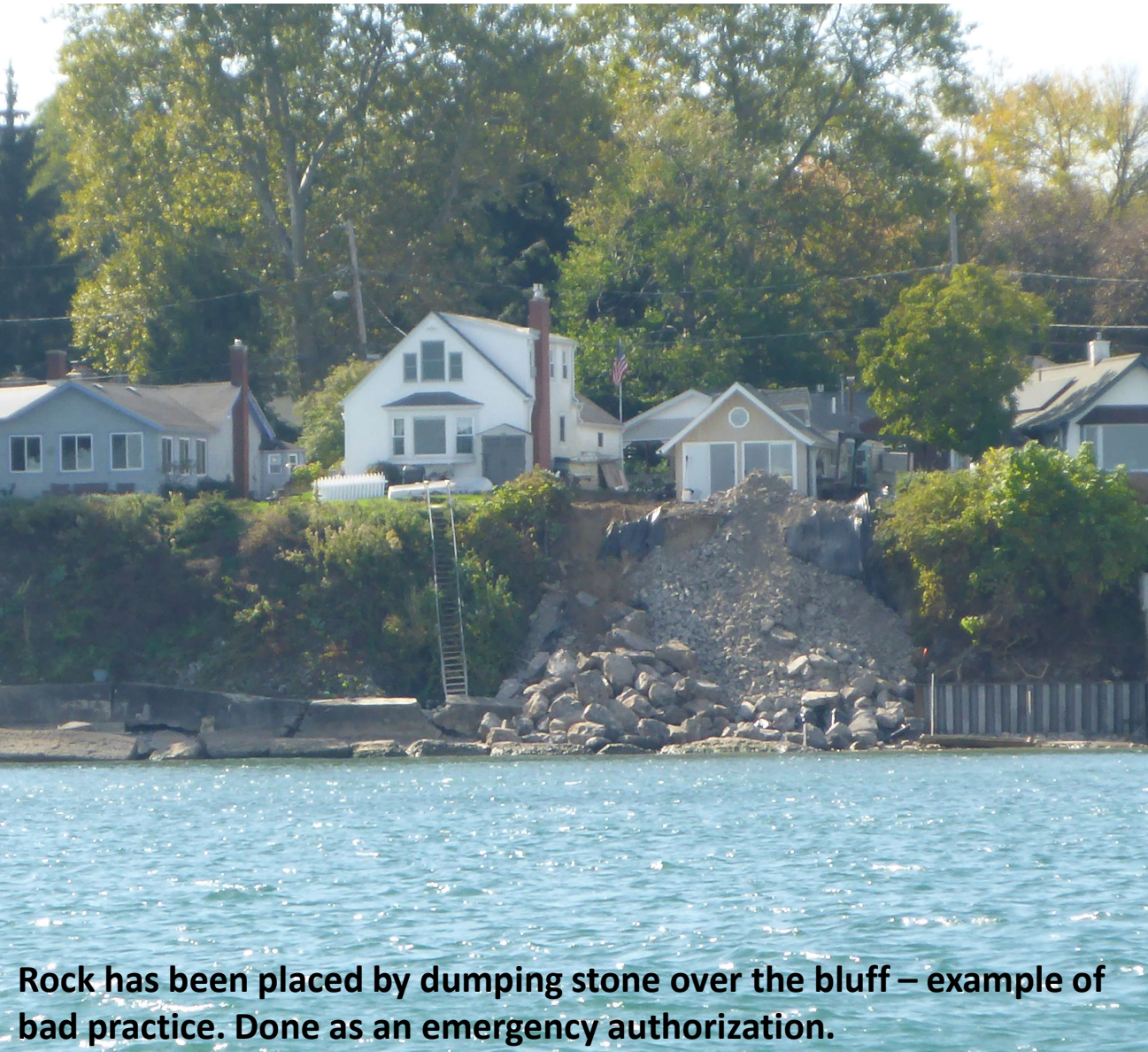
3) Restrict public investment which will encourage new permanent development in erosion hazard areas.



- 4) Prevent the use of public funds to protect private property, except:
 - To protect human life.
 - When public benefits outweigh costs.



Seawall constructed next to Hamburg Clock Tower



5) Review the design of erosion control structures to ensure that they are:

- A) Necessary for a given location
- B) Built properly to protect human property and natural features.

*Town of Greece, Lake
Ontario*



6) Minimize coastline hardening.

Administration of CEHA Program

- All Coastal Erosion Hazard Area maps can be downloaded at:

<https://www.dec.ny.gov/fs/projects/coastal/>

Administered by Local Community:

- Town of Sheridan:
 - James Crowell, Code Enforcement Officer
- Town of Dunkirk:
 - Ryan Mourer, Code Enforcement Officer

All others administered by the State.

County	Community	Certified
Chautauqua	Dunkirk (C)	
Chautauqua	Dunkirk (T)	✓
Chautauqua	Hanover (T)	
Chautauqua	Pomfret (T)	
Chautauqua	Portland (T)	
Chautauqua	Ripley (T)	
Chautauqua	Sheridan (T)	✓
Chautauqua	Silver Creek (V)	
Chautauqua	Westfield (T)	
Erie	Brant (T)	
Erie	Evans (T)	
Erie	Hamburg (T)	



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CEHA Restrictions: Natural Protective Feature Area

- No grading, excavating, clear-cutting, or constructing new structures which are not water-dependent or for erosion protection
- All water-dependent structures (docks, etc.) or erosion protection structures require a permit. Most other activities require a permit as well.

Coastal Erosion Hazard Area Map



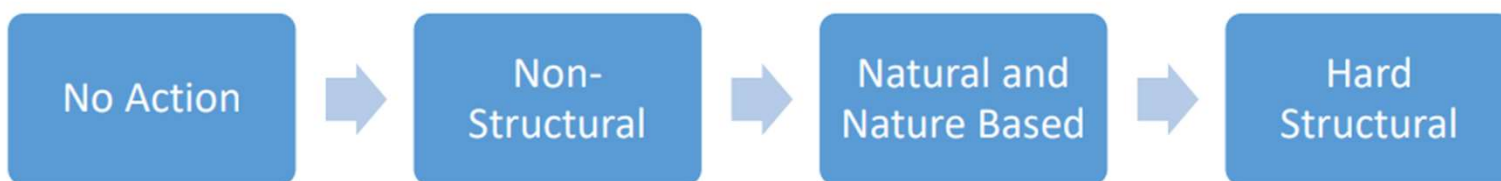
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Coastal Erosion Hazard Area (CEHA) Program

For a permit to be issued, the project must have:

- Justification: Is reasonable and necessary
- Alternatives: Consider alternatives for any hard structures
- Will not likely cause a measurable increase in erosion
- Prevents or minimizes adverse impacts

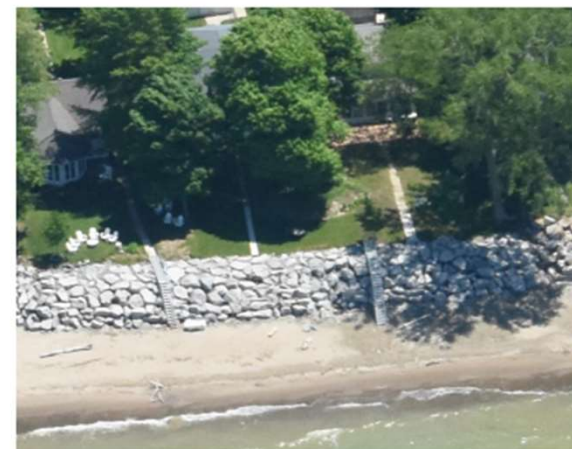
Erosion Protection Alternatives



Non-structural



Nature-based



Hard structural



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Permit Application Requirements

Information to Include:

- 1) Permit application form (General Permit or Joint Application Form)
- 2) Location map and aerial photo (Google Maps or Bing Maps)
- 3) Stamped and signed survey
- 4) Project description
- 5) Written description of how you meet permit issuance standards
 - Why is the project needed?
 - Have you considered reasonable alternatives?
 - Will your project cause a measurable increase in erosion at the proposed site or at other locations?
- 6) Recent photos of project site

Information to Include (continued):

- 7) Description of construction methods and materials
 - Access Route
 - Debris/structure removal prior to work commencement
 - Quantity of material to be removed and disposal location
 - Material placement methods
 - Equipment
 - Quantity of material to be used above and below MHWL
- 8) Project plans (site plan and cross-section plan)
- 9) Planting plan
- 10) Long-term maintenance plan

Coordination with DEC

NYSDEC Region 9 Permits

Lisa Czechowicz: 716-851-7165 dep.r9@dec.ny.gov

Coastal Erosion Management Section – Albany

Matt Chlebus, P.E.: 518-402-8139 matthew.chlebus@dec.ny.gov

Western Flood Hub

Beth Geldard, P.E.: 585-226-5452 beth.geldard@dec.ny.gov

Shaimus Ryan, EIT: 585-226-5327 shaimus.ryan@dec.ny.gov

Report Violations: 1-844-DEC-ECOS (1-844-332-3267)



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Thank You

SHAIMUS RYAN

Environmental Engineer
Western Hub Section
Bureau of Flood Protection & Dam Safety
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Any Questions?