

WETLAND CROSSINGS: BOARDWALKS



Where wetlands exist adjacent to lakeshore, boardwalks are an approved option for accessing the lake. The Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act (WCA) considers an elevated boardwalk a reasonable and prudent alternative to using fill to access the lake. The posts and pilings needed to support the boardwalk do not count as a wetland impact or 'fill.' The City of Crosslake allows up to a 8 foot wide elevated boardwalk with a Shoreland Alteration Permit.

City of Crosslake Land Use Ordinance: Section 26-319—BOARDWALKS:

A boardwalk used for lake access over wetlands within the structure setback area shall require a Shoreland Alteration Permit and meet the following standards:

- Shall not exceed eight (8) feet in width on residential properties and water-oriented commercial properties;
- May be placed on temporary or permanent supports;
- May have railings attached;
- Shall meet property line setbacks.



The above width restriction and need for a permit only apply within the structure setback.



Boardwalks may be used in conjunction with the De Minimis Exemption provision in the Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act that allows either 100 or 400 sq ft of wetland fill in the Shoreland Zone of a lake (within 1000 ft) or stream (within 300 ft). The amount allowed depends on the wetland type and can only be used outside the building setback. The above, right photo shows a landowner using 400 sq ft of fill to extend a 4 ft wide path 100 ft into the wetland and then using an elevated boardwalk the rest of the way.



Questions??? Contact P & Z Staff at (218) 692-2689, crosslakepz@cityofcrosslake.org

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