PA Pond Permit Cheat Sheet

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lakepennsylvania.us

Project	What's usually needed	Who
Weed or algae chemicals	Any herbicide or algaecide in a pond needs a joint DEP/PFBC Chapter 91 permit first, at any amount.	DEP (with PFBC)
Stocking any fish	File PFBC's free Notice of Stocking before stocking any pond; keep a copy on site; no pet-store fish.	PFBC
Grass carp	PFBC grass carp permit needed for each waterbody before buying or stocking; $85 fee, returned if denied.	PFBC
Lowering the water	Over 1 acre (or with another state permit): PFBC drawdown permit, 30+ days ahead, no fee.	PFBC (with DEP)
Docks, walls, fill	Docks, piers, walls and fill in or touching any pond or lake are regulated 'water obstructions'. GP-2: small docks of 750 square feet or less and launch ramps; $175 registration.	DEP or delegated conservation district
Dredging	Restoring a small man-made pond's original depth is waived from Chapter 105; E&S, PNDI and drawdown rules still apply.	DEP; conservation district
New pond or dam	Dam permit if drainage > 100 acres, depth > 15 feet or storage > 50 acre-feet (on a watercourse). On-stream or wetland ponds need DEP approval even when small; off-stream ponds usually do not.	DEP; conservation district; NRCS
Stream intake	GP-4: intakes and outfalls; not in HQ/EV waters or wetlands; $200 registration. Withdrawals averaging over 10,000 gallons a day (30-day average) must be registered with DEP.	DEP
Fish habitat	GP-1: fish habitat structures; PFBC approval first; not in wetlands; $50 registration.	DEP, with PFBC approval

Always: Digging? Digging with machines? Notify PA One Call (811) 3 to 10 business days ahead, homeowners included. · Earthwork? E&S practices always; written E&S plan from 5,000 square feet; NPDES permit from 1 acre. · Check with your township or borough too: local rules and permits can apply. · Someone else owns the water? Their approval first.

Your project, step by step, with the date each fact was checked: lakepennsylvania.us/permits

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