

Lincoln County Reclamation Checklist and Code Citations

IMPORTANT: The checklist below is based on a restatement of the reclamation plan requirements of Chapter 12.04 of Lincoln County Code. However, it is only a summary, and users should refer to the code text itself when interpretations are needed or in order to resolve any ambiguities. The checklist is included both to assist in the process of preparing and submitting a complete reclamation plan for review and for use by plan reviewers. Should you have questions on the need for your plan to include a given item, please contact the Lincoln County Land Services Department.

Lincoln County Code 12.04 Sec. 13(a): RECLAMATION PLAN REQUIRED. All operators who conduct or plan to conduct nonmetallic mining shall submit to Lincoln County a reclamation plan that meets all of the following requirements and complies with the reclamation standards of subsection (11).

SITE INFORMATION: *Lincoln County Code 12.04 Sec. 13(b): The reclamation plan shall include information sufficient to describe the existing natural and physical conditions of the site, including, but not limited to:*

MAPS: Maps of the nonmetallic mining site including the general location, property boundaries, the aerial extent, geologic composition and depth of the nonmetallic mineral deposit, the distribution, thickness and type of topsoil, the location of surface waters and the existing drainage patterns, the approximate elevation of ground water, as determined by existing hydrogeological information. In specific instances where the existing hydrogeological information is insufficient for purposes of the reclamation plan, the applicant may supplement the information with the opinion of a licensed professional geologist or hydrologist.

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| <input type="checkbox"/> General location | <input type="checkbox"/> Areal extent of the mining area. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Property boundaries | <input type="checkbox"/> Location of surface waters |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Approximate groundwater depth | <input type="checkbox"/> Existing Drainage Patterns |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Geologic composition and depth of the mineral deposit | <input type="checkbox"/> Distribution, thickness, and type of topsoil |

EXISTING TOPOGRAPHY: Shown on contour maps of the site at 10-foot intervals on slopes exceeding 10% and 5-foot intervals on slopes less than 10%.

LOCATION OF MANMADE FEATURES: Location of manmade features on or near the site.

PREVIOUSLY MINED AREAS (If Applicable): For proposed nonmetallic mining sites that include previously mined areas, a plan view drawing showing the location and extent of land previously affected by nonmetallic mining, including the location of stockpiles, wash ponds and sediment basins.

BIOLOGICAL INFORMATION: Information available to the mine operator on biological resources, plant communities, and wildlife use at and adjacent to the proposed or operating mine site.

POST-MINING LAND USE: *Lincoln County Code 12.04 Sec. 13(c): The reclamation plan shall specify a proposed post-mining land use for the nonmetallic mine site. The proposed post-mining land use shall be consistent with local land use plans and local zoning at the time the plan is submitted, unless a change to the land use plan or zoning is proposed. The proposed post-mining land use shall also be consistent with all applicable local, state, or federal laws in effect at the time the plan is submitted. Land used for nonmetallic mineral extraction in areas zoned under an exclusive agricultural use ordinance pursuant to §91.75, [Wis.] Stats., shall be restored to agricultural use.*

Note: A proposed post-mining land use is necessary to determine the type and degree of reclamation needed to correspond with that land use. The post-mining land use will be key in determining the reclamation plan. Final slopes, drainage patterns, site hydrology, seed mixes and the degree of removal of mining-related structures, drainage structures and sediment control structures will be dictated by the approved post-mining land use.

□ RECLAMATION MEASURES: *Lincoln County Code 12.04 Sec. 13(d): The reclamation plan shall include a description of the proposed reclamation, including methods and procedures to be used and a proposed schedule and sequence for the completion of reclamation activities for various stages of reclamation of the nonmetallic mining site. The following shall be included:*

□ EARTHWORK AND GRADING: A description of the proposed earthwork and reclamation, including final slope angles, high wall reduction, benching, terracing and other structural slope stabilization measures and if necessary a site-specific engineering analysis performed by a registered professional engineer as provided by subsection (11)(e)1. or 2.

□ TOPSOIL: The methods of topsoil or topsoil substitute material removal, storage, stabilization and conservation that will be used during reclamation.

□ TOPOGRAPHY: A plan or map which shows anticipated topography of the reclaimed site and any water impoundments or artificial lakes needed to support the anticipated future land use of the site.

□ STRUCTURES: A plan or map which shows surface structures, roads and related facilities after the cessation of mining.

□ ITEMIZED COST: The estimated cost of reclamation for each stage of the project or the entire site if reclamation staging is not planned.

□ REVEGETATION PLAN: A revegetation plan which shall include timing and methods of seed bed preparation, rates and kinds of soil amendments, seed application timing, methods and rates, mulching, netting and any other techniques needed to accomplish soil and slope stabilization.

□ REVEGETATION STANDARDS: Quantifiable standards for revegetation adequate to show that a sustainable stand of vegetation has been established which will support the approved post-mining land use. Standards for revegetation may be based on the percent vegetative cover, productivity, plant density, diversity or other applicable measures.

□ EROSION CONTROL: A plan and, if necessary, a narrative showing erosion control measures to be employed during reclamation activities. These shall address how reclamation activities will be conducted to minimize erosion and pollution of surface and groundwater.

□ INTERIM RECLAMATION (Optional): A description of any areas which will be reclaimed on an interim basis sufficient to qualify for the waiver of fees pursuant to subsections (29)(b) and (d), and which will be subsequently disturbed prior to final reclamation. Descriptions shall include an identification of the proposed areas involved, methods of reclamation to comply with the standards in subsection (11) and timing of interim and final reclamation.

☐ **LONG TERM SAFETY:** A description of how the reclamation plan addresses the long-term safety of the reclaimed mining site. The description shall include a discussion of site-specific safety measures to be implemented at the site and include measures that address public safety with regard to adjacent land uses.

☐ **CRITERIA FOR SUCCESSFUL RECLAMATION:** *Lincoln County Code 12.04 Sec. 13(e): The reclamation plan shall contain criteria for assuring successful reclamation in accordance subsection (11)(h).*

☐ **CERTIFICATION OF A RECLAMATION PLAN:** *Lincoln County Code 12.04 Sec. 13 (f): The operator shall provide a signed certification that reclamation will be carried out in accordance with the reclamation plan. If the operator does not own the land, the landowner or lessor, if different from the operator, or owner, shall also provide signed certification that they concur with the reclamation plan and will allow its implementation.*

☐ **FINANCIAL ASSURANCE:** *Lincoln County Code 12.04 Sec. 14(a): All operators of nonmetallic mining sites in Lincoln County shall prepare and submit a proof of financial assurance.*

Note: Please see full Lincoln County Code 12.04 for more information on financial assurance.

☐ **SUBMITTING THE PLAN:** *Lincoln County Code 12.04 Sec. 13(h): Lincoln County Planning and Zoning shall approve, conditionally approve or deny the reclamation plan submitted under this section in writing in accordance with subsection (16)(d) for mines that apply for a reclamation permit in conformance with subsection (12)(c). Conditional approvals of reclamation plans shall be made according to subsection (16)(g) and denials of reclamation plans shall be made pursuant to subsection (17). The operator shall keep a copy of the reclamation plan approved under this subsection at the mine site or, if not practicable, at the operator's nearest place of business.*