

NO.210 – CLEARING & GRADING

Overview

All clearing and grading work requires a permit.

Definitions

CLEARING

Limbing, pruning, topping, trimming, cutting or removal of vegetation or other organic plant matter by physical, mechanical, chemical or other means.

GRADING

Excavation, filling, removing the duff layer or any combination thereof.

Code References

OPERATING CONDITIONS AND STANDARDS OF PERFORMANCE
SMC 21.03.070.I

CLEARING AND GRADING PERMIT REQUIRED- EXCEPTIONS
SMC 21.03.070.E

Questions?

Submit Project Guidance
Visit the Permit Center

City of Sammamish
801 228th Ave SE
Sammamish, WA 98075
www.sammamish.us

ABOUT CLEARING & GRADING

Before you begin any site work, you must obtain a Clearing & Grading Permit or a Site Development Permit, unless explicitly exempted by [SMC 21.03.070.E](#).

Any activity within critical areas or their buffers, except on publicly owned land ([SMC 21.03.070.E.14](#)), as defined per [SMC 21.04.040.B.71](#), **cannot** be exempted and will always require a permit. State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) review may also be required.

Slope of cut and fill surfaces cannot be steeper than what is safe for the intended use and cannot exceed a ratio of 2:1 (horizontal:vertical), unless approved by the Director. For most areas, clearing and grading activity may occur between May 1 and September 30.

CLEARING & GRADING EXEMPTIONS
PER SMC 21.03.070.E EXEMPTIONS INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Excavation authorized by a Building Permit - Maintenance of existing driveways, lawns, and landscaping - Removal of non-significant trees - Routine maintenance of existing single-family drainage systems that do not exceed 50 cubic yards - Excavations of 10 feet (see Figure 1) - Fills of 5 feet (see Figure 2)

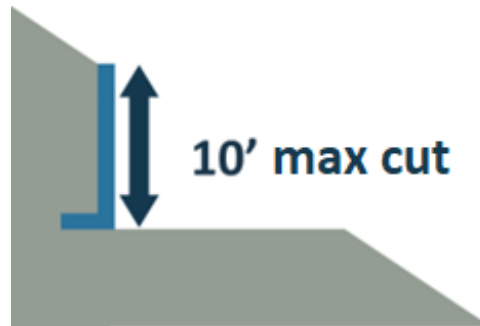


Figure 1: retaining wall for a 10-foot cut

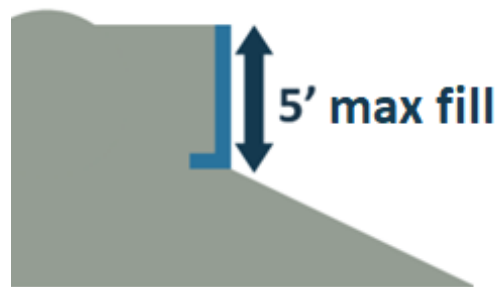


Figure 2: retaining wall for a 5-foot fill