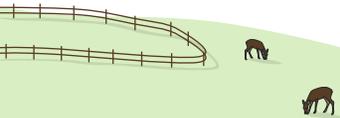


Homeowners

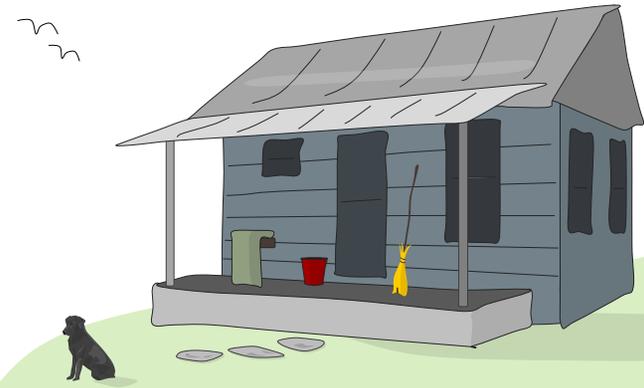
During the plan approval stage for your home, the developer committed to providing a Floodplain Easement on your property in order to meet the requirements of the Carroll County Floodplain Management Ordinance passed in April 2004. The purpose of this ordinance is to protect human life and health, minimize property damage, encourage appropriate construction practices to minimize future damage, and to protect water supply, sanitary sewer disposal, and natural drainage.

Floodplains are an important asset to the community. They perform vital natural functions such as:

- Temporary storage of floodwaters;
- Moderation of peak flood flows;
- Maintenance of water quality;
- Prevention of erosion;
- Provision of habitat for diverse natural wildlife populations; and
- Improved aesthetics.



Carroll County
Bureau of Resource Management
225 N. Center Street
Westminster, MD 21157



Floodplain Easements

Carroll County Department of Land & Resource Management
Bureau of Resource Management

ccgovernment.carr.org/ccg/resmgmt/
pvarga@ccg.carr.org
410.386.2844



Definition

A floodplain easement is a legally enforceable agreement between a landowner and the county/municipality for the purpose of conserving the floodplain.

Prohibited Activities

The following structures, practices, and activities are not allowed within the easement:

- 1** Soil disturbance by filling, grading, stripping of topsoil, plowing, cultivating, or other practices;
- 2** Storing or dumping of any material including, but not limited to, yard waste, appliances, automobiles, garbage, trash, chemicals, pesticides, or construction debris;
- 3** Composting or broadcast spreading of yard waste;
- 4** Storing, maintaining or operating motorized vehicles except on designated roads and driveways, for emergency use and maintenance, or as otherwise authorized.
- 5** Housing or maintaining domestic animals and/or activities involving the construction of kennels, stables, or barns, disposal of manure, grazing of livestock resulting in the destruction of natural vegetation and soil disturbance, or any activity resulting in the destruction of vegetation and exposure of soil to erosion; and
- 6** Burning of vegetation.

Permitted Activities

The following structures, practices, and activities are permitted within the easement after review and approval by the holder of easement (county/municipality).

- 1** Driveways, bridges, and utilities are permitted if no other feasible alternative exists and minimal disturbance will occur. These structures shall be located, designed, constructed, and maintained to provide maximum erosion control, minimize impacts on wildlife and aquatic habitats, and maintain hydrologic processes and water quality. Following any disturbance, the impacted area will be restored in compliance with methods approved by the easement holder.
- 2** Stream restoration activities are permitted.
- 3** Scientific studies including water quality monitoring and stream gauging are permitted.
- 4** Allowing forests to naturally regenerate or planting trees is permitted; however, reforestation projects should be undertaken with advice and guidance from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources and Agriculture and conducted in compliance with the Carroll County Forest Conservation Ordinance and subsequent revisions.

- 5** Maintaining a dense and vigorous cover of non-lawn vegetation which may be mowed or harvested no more than twice a year to a height of no less than six inches is permitted. Control of noxious weeds and multiflora rose is also permitted provided the soil exposed by the treatment process is immediately stabilized.
- 6** Development is permitted if it is in compliance with Chapter 38, *Floodplain and Storm Drainage Areas Subject to Flooding by Surface Waters or Running Streams* as adopted and codified in Section 170-15 (59) of the Code of Public Local Laws and Ordinances of Carroll County, and Chapter 153, *Floodplain Management*.

