

## **Forest Conservation Requirements for Building Permits**

When applying for a building permit show any forest conservation easements on the property. Also, show the area that will be disturbed by your project. For small projects like decks, there may be no real disturbance, but for larger projects like pools, pole buildings, and houses there will be. Disturbance is defined as the cutting of trees, clearing, grading, grubbing, excavating, filling, or otherwise modifying the existing topography or forested features. Disturbance is shown graphically with a limit-of-disturbance (LOD) line. The LOD shall include any of the following that apply to your project:

- (1) The foundation of any proposed dwelling plus a setback of at least 60 feet from the outside perimeter of the foundation. If a prior dwelling was demolished and the proposed dwelling is being constructed on essentially the same footprint, the 60 foot setback does not apply;
- (2) The foundation of any proposed accessory structure;
- (3) The proposed septic area including initial and replacement areas;
- (4) The proposed driveway;
- (5) Any other proposed grading or disturbance;
- (6) Any existing, non-permitted disturbance occurring after December 8, 1992 (the effective date of the Carroll County Forest Conservation Code).

Reporting the square footage of the LOD is also critical. For forest conservation purposes, the square footage of the forested LOD must be reported, and the square footage of total LOD must be reported.