

## WE HAVE STAFF TO HELP YOU



Generally, the larger a proposed activity is in scope, the more extensive the Flood Control Permit process may become.

It is in the best interest of the project proponent to contact the LACDPW before a Flood Control Permit application is submitted. LACDPW staff will be able to advise and answer crucial questions that will help permit applicants navigate the permit process. This will help to ensure that all major concerns are recognized early on in the process.

### KEY FLOOD CONTROL PERMIT ISSUES

The fundamental issues that the LACDPW considers when permit applications are submitted are:

- 1) Will the proposed activity affect the current flood control capabilities?
- 2) Will the proposed activity affect water conservation?
- 3) Will the proposed activity affect the LACFCD's ability to operate and maintain the facility?
- 4) Is the proposed use compatible with and appropriate for the intended use of the LACFCD facility and LACDPW policy?



For further information or to make an appointment, please contact the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, Land Development Division – Permits Section at (626) 458-3129 or visit the permits website at <http://dpw.lacounty.gov/permits>. Permits Section staff will assist the project proponents in facilitating a meeting to address concerns before a Flood Control Permit application is submitted.

### Los Angeles County Department of Public Works



900 South Fremont Avenue  
Alhambra, CA 91803

(626) 458-3129

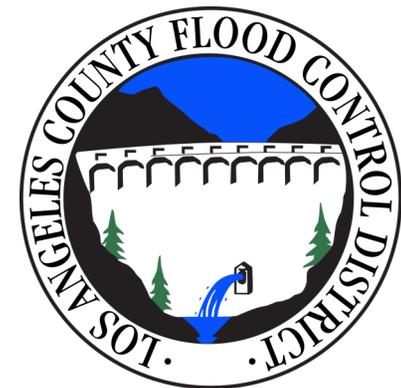
Monday - Thursday  
7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
Except on Holidays

LACFCD Flood Permit Guidance v4.2.1

## LOS ANGELES COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT



## GUIDANCE FOR FLOOD CONTROL PERMITS

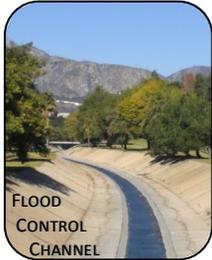


<http://dpw.lacounty.gov>



# LACFCD FLOOD CONTROL PERMITS

It is highly recommended – and encouraged – that project proponents contact the LACFCD before a permit application is submitted in order to discuss preliminary concerns.



FLOOD CONTROL CHANNEL

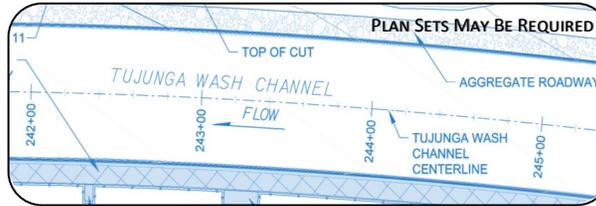
The Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LACFCD) provides flood protection and water conservation in over 3,000 square miles within the County of Los Angeles. To effectively serve the residents of the

county, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works (LACDPW) operates and maintains 15 major dams, 162 debris basins, 530 miles of open channels, 2,800 miles of underground storm drains, over 78,000 catch basins, 62 pump plants, 27 spreading grounds and 22 miles of sea water barrier projects.

## WHY DO YOU NEED A FLOOD CONTROL PERMIT?

A Flood Control Permit is required to ensure that a proposed use does not interfere with the LACFCD's operation and maintenance responsibilities. LACDPW receives numerous permit applications for a variety of activities including, but **not limited** to:

- New Flood Control or Water Conservation Facility Construction
- Recreational and Greenway Improvements
- Landscaping and Habitat Enhancement
- Modifications to Existing Facilities
- BMP Installation for Water Quality Improvements
- Temporary Access / Filming / Events
- Temporary Discharge of Non-Stormwater



## FLOOD CONTROL PERMIT TYPES

The LACFCD accepts applications and issues Flood Control Permits for many types of projects. Processing simple requests for access and filming permits takes approximately 2 weeks while permit requests needing extensive engineering review may take several reviews of up to 4 to 6 weeks each. This timeframe does not include the time needed for other agency approvals or acquiring entitlements. Fees are charged to cover the costs of plan review, permit preparation and inspection. Some of the most common Flood Control Permit types are:

- **ACCESS PERMITS** are required for temporary uses of LACFCD right of ways. Examples include, but are not limited to, community or educational events, volunteer trash cleanup events, access to personal property for maintenance activities adjacent to LACFCD right of way, or for filming.
- **CONSTRUCTION PERMITS** allow encroachment onto and/or alteration of LACFCD right of way for new construction. A few examples of permitted activities are storm drain realignment, landscaping, bikeway construction, extension of an adjacent facility/structure, or installation of structural BMP devices.
- **CONNECTION PERMITS** are required when a private citizen, developer, or agency proposes to connect a drainage system to an existing LACFCD facility. Examples include, but are not limited to, connecting a small pipe to the rear of a catch basin or a new storm drain connecting to a larger storm drain or channel.
- **TEMPORARY DISCHARGE PERMITS** allow for the temporary discharge of non-stormwater such as water well start up, municipal water supply system flushing, swimming pool discharge, etc.

## OTHER ITEMS TO CONSIDER...

Some important issues to identify early on in the permitting process are:

- ⇒ **IS A USE OR MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT REQUIRED?** Depending on the scope, timeframe, and/or perpetual maintenance requirements of the proposed activity, the LACFCD may also require the project proponent to enter into a use or maintenance agreement.
- ⇒ **WILL THE U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS (USACE) BE INVOLVED?** Although the LACFCD owns the vast majority of the flood control system, if the proposed activity will affect a USACE constructed facility, then their approval is necessary. The USACE will require that a permit be obtained for the proposed improvements affecting the federally-built facility or its rights of way. This permit, known as a "408 Permit", is in addition to the LACFCD's Flood Control Permit. Also, the USACE may have their own different or specific policies as to how a facility can be used.
- ⇒ **DOES THE LACFCD HAVE FEE OR EASEMENT PROPERTY RIGHTS?** If the LACFCD has fee ownership, then the LACFCD is the sole owner of the land. If LACFCD only has easement rights, the project proponent will be conditioned to obtain permission from the underlying fee owner before start of work.
- ⇒ **IS LOCAL JURISDICTION APPROVAL REQUIRED?** If the Flood Control Permit application is for a site within a local city or other jurisdictional boundary, additional approval may be required from that agency. The Flood Control Permit only conveys the LACFCD's permission to the extent of its jurisdiction.
- ⇒ **IS THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA) TRIGGERED?** Depending on the proposed scope of the activity in the Flood Control Permit application, compliance with CEQA may be deemed necessary.

