Coastal
CAMA Minor Development Permit (Coastal Area Management Act)

What Activities Require This Permit? You must obtain a CAMA (Coastal Area Management Act) Minor Development Permit for your project if it meets all of the following conditions:

- it is in one of the 20 counties covered by CAMA;
- it is considered "development" under CAMA;
- it is in, or it affects, an Area of Environmental Concern (AEC) established by the Coastal Resources Commission (CRC);
- it doesn't qualify for an exemption;
- project requires no other state or federal permit(s).

What Is The Purpose of This Permit? CAMA Minor Development Permits are required for projects, such as single-family houses, that don't require major permits or general permits. CAMA minor development permits are intended to protect, manage and promote the environment, public trust rights, and the economy of the North Carolina coast.

Who Issues This Permit? Contact the CAMA local permit officer for the community where your project is located. Local permit officers (LPOs) are local government employees – often building inspectors, zoning administrators or planners – who have been trained by the Division of Coastal Management to administer minor permits for their localities. If your local government does not have a CAMA local permit officer, contact your DCM district office:


How Much Will This Permit Cost? You must pay a $100 application fee to cover the costs of processing the application. This should be paid with a check made out to the local government and must be paid when you submit your application to the local permit officer.

What Are My Payment Options for Permit Application Fees? Applications fees may be paid by check or money order.

If Paying by Check, Who do I Make the Check Payable to and Where Do I Send the Check? Checks should be made out to the local government and must be paid when you submit your application to the local permit officer.

Where Can I Get The Application For This Permit? Contact the CAMA local permit officer for the community where your project is located. If your local government does not have a CAMA local permit officer, contact your DCM district office: http://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/coastal-management/about-coastal-management/staff-listing. You can also download minor permit application forms from the DCM Web page at: http://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/coastal-management/coastal-management-permits/minor-permit-applications.

How Long Will It Take To Review My Application? Most minor permits can be reviewed in 25 days, the time allowed under the Coastal Area Management Act.

Where Do I Submit My Application? Submit the complete application to the CAMA Local permit officer for the community where the project is located. If your local government does not have a CAMA local permit officer, contact your DCM district office. A list of LPOs is available on DCM’s Web site located at the following link: http://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/coastal-management/coastal-management-permits/local-coastal-permit-officers.

How Long Is My Permit or License or Certificate Valid? New CAMA minor permits, except beach bulldozing when authorized through issuance of a CAMA minor permit, shall expire on Dec. 31 of the third year following the year of permit issuance.

Notes/Comments: The Coastal Area Management Act defines development as: "any activity in a duly designated area of environmental concern...involving, requiring or consisting of the construction or enlargement of a structure; excavation; dredging; filling; dumping; removal of clay, silt, sand, gravel or minerals; bulkheading; driving of pilings; clearing or alteration of land as an adjunct of construction; alteration or removal of sand dunes; alteration of the shore, bank or bottom of the Atlantic Ocean or any sound, bay, river, creek, stream, lake or canal" {NCGS 113A-103(S)(a)}. The 20 coastal counties are: Beaufort, Bertie, Brunswick, Camden, Carteret, Chowan, Craven, Currituck, Dare, Gates,
Notes/Comments Continued: Hertford, Hyde, New Hanover, Onslow, Pamlico, Pasquotank, Pender, Perquimans, Tyrrell and Washington.


Link: http://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/coastal-management/coastal-management-permits/minor-permit-applications

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