

WATER BODY PROTECTIONS

Brooklyn Center's updated Zoning Code puts in place protections for its major water bodies in support of and adherence to state laws and regulations. Because these protections are guided at the state level, the City has limited capacity to adjust and customize requirements beyond what is outlined in state law.

1. Minnesota River Corridor Critical Area Program (MRCCA)

MRCCA is a state, regional, and local protective guideline applied to a 71 mile stretch of the Mississippi River. MRCCA provides development standards along the River with the goal of protecting water quality and natural habitats. These updated guidelines were created by the MN Department of Natural Resources, and require each of the 25 metro cities and townships within the MRCCA boundary to create and pass a MRCCA ordinance. MRCCA guidelines *only apply* to land within a MRCCA district.

2. Shoreland Ordinance

The Shoreland Ordinance creates development provisions around Palmer Lake, Upper Twin Lake, Middle Twin Lake, Ryan Lake, and the Mississippi River. Like MRCCA, Shoreland also seeks to protect ecological and recreational resources. These guidelines, managed by the MN DNR, are established based on the type and classification of the body of water, and *only apply* to land on or near the above mentioned water bodies.



What Are The Impacts of MRCCA & Shoreland On Property Owners?

Both the MRCCA & Shoreland Ordinances provide guidance on what, where, and how property owners can build near water bodies while outlining protections for vegetation and wildlife. These guidelines apply *in addition* to any base zoning that might exist for your property. The most notable impacts property owners can expect is regulations ensuring new development isn't constructed too close to bodies of water, and that critical natural resources aren't lost. If your property isn't immediately adjacent a water body but still within an MRCCA or Shoreland district, you likely will see minimal impacts when building a new structure on your property. Before building in either a Shoreland or MRCCA district, it is recommended a property owner consult with the City Planning Department.

What If My Property Is In Both The MRCCA And Shoreland District?

In cases where land exists within both a MRCCA and Shoreland district area, the more restrictive requirements apply. The only land that falls within both districts however are those located within 300 feet of the Mississippi River. To confirm where your property is located in relation to each district, it is recommended you review the City's zoning maps, the State's interactive MRCCA map, or consult with the City's Community Development Department.

To read Brooklyn Center's MRCCA and Shoreland Ordinances or view applicable maps, visit:

BecomingBrooklynCenter.com/zoning

