

Grading Permit Exemption

The Grading Ordinance of San Mateo County authorizes the Resource Conservation District (RCD) to issue a Grading Permit Exemption in the following circumstances: projects where the land to be cleared is for natural resource management; agricultural use of land that is operated in accordance with a conservation plan approved by and implemented according to the practices of the RCD or when it is determined by the RCD that such use will not cause excessive erosion or sediment losses; purposes of soil conservation that have been approved by the RCD; agricultural water impoundments not exceeding the minimum limitations of the State Dams and Reservoir Act of 1967 when designed, observed, and approved by the RCD; or repair storm damage consisting of slide repair, debris removal and water impoundment replacement on agricultural lands carried out under the purview of the RCD or NRCS. A Grading Permit Exemption is not allowed to resolve grading violations.

The process for obtaining a Grading Permit Exemption (GRX) is as follows.

1. Consult with the local NRCS- RCD partnership office in Half Moon Bay to determine if the proposed project is eligible for a GRX.
2. Review (or have engineer/consultant review) NRCS federal standards and specifications for conservation practices by calling the NRCS or reviewing the NRCS website at <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/standards/nhcp.html>.
3. Seek advice from the San Mateo County Planning and Building Division to determine if any additional County permits are needed. Please note that a GRX does not exempt an applicant from any other permit requirements, including County, State or federal permits or authorizations.
4. Submit proposal packet to RCD with the following information:
 - Application form
 - Project description including goals and objectives, activities to be undertaken, equipment to be used, and natural resource conservation benefits.
 - Project location map with project boundaries, and driving directions for accessing project
 - Project design or drawings²
 - Project implementation schedule
5. Schedule an on-site visit with the NRCS and/or RCD to review the project and obtain conservation technical assistance.
6. Revise project proposal as appropriate based on recommendations from NRCS and/or RCD staff and submit any revisions to the RCD.
7. Applicant work with RCD staff to schedule consideration of GRX at a publicly noticed meeting of the RCD Board of Directors.
8. RCD Board of Directors considers application and approves or denies the GRX.
9. Upon approval of the GRX:

- Applicant pays fee to RCD based on size of project (see fee schedule below).
- RCD submits approved GRX to San Mateo County Planning and Building Division staff.
- County provides RCD and applicant with Planning permit identification number.

10. Upon completion of project:

- Applicant, consultant/ engineer, or NRCS submit letter to RCD verifying compliance with approved standards and specifications.
- RCD notifies County of project completion.

Yards of Dirt to be Moved:

	<u>Fee</u>
1 up to 100 cubic yards	\$ 500.00
101 up to 1,000 cubic yards	\$ 750.00
1,001 up to 5,000 cubic yards	\$ 1,000.00
5,001 up to 10,00 cubic yards	\$ 1,250.00
10,001 cubic yards & above	\$ 1,500.00

RCD/NRCS assistance for programs over 10,000 CY will be determined on a case by case basis.

Application for Certificate of Exemption from Grading Permit

INSTRUCTIONS

Please read the Grading Permit Exemption Application Process document prior to submitting your proposal for a Grading Permit Exemption from the RCD. The RCD will only review applications from applicants who have discussed their project with the San Mateo County Planning and Building Division. Approval of a Grading Permit Exemption does not exclude the applicant from other necessary permits. Please submit your fee with your application. Fee schedule is on the second sheet.

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Name: _____

Area to be Cleared: _____

APN/s: _____

Conservation Purpose: _____

Site Address/Location: _____

Cubic Yards to be Moved: _____

Please check allowable GRX circumstance:

- Land to be cleared is for natural resource management
- Agricultural use of land that is operated in accordance with a conservation plan
- Soil conservation

- Agricultural water impoundments not exceeding the minimum limitations of the State Dams and Reservoir Act of 1967
- Repair storm damage consisting of slide repair or debris removal
- Water impoundment replacement on agricultural lands

AGENCY INFORMATION AND CERTIFICATION

Applicant Name: _____

Agency Name (if applicable): _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Did you seek advice from San Mateo County Planning and

Building Division? Yes No

I hereby certify that the statements furnished in this form and in the attached exhibits present the data and information required for this initial evaluation to the best of my ability, and that the facts, statements, and information presented are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. If any of the facts represented here change, it is my responsibility to inform the RCD.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

RCD USE

RCD Board Approval

Signature: _____

Paid in Full: _____ Check Number: _____ Amount: _____

Name: _____

Date Submitted to SMC: _____

Date: _____

County GRX Number: _____