

Brace Farms

From: Lutte.Todd@epamail.epa.gov
Sent: Monday, September 12, 2011 11:59 AM
To: bracefarms@verizon.net
Cc: Fodse, Michael M ; Lazos.Pamela@epamail.epa.gov; earljbrown@erieconservation.com
Subject: Beaver danm removal on the Waterford Farm

Mr. Robert Brace and Ms. Ronda Brace

Per our phone conversation from a few weeks back and my last site visit I want to relay our discussions about the work which you wish to perform on your Waterford farm. During the site visit I provided you with an aerial photo depicting a polygon outlining the 30 acres of jurisdictional wetlands which was part of the consent decree. As that CD states this 30 acres is the extent of jurisdictional waters subject to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act on areas which are subject to the C.D. generally south of South Hill Lane and west of Greenlee road. Due to the presence of Beaver Dams that have developed on the property water has backed up and you desire to remove these dams. This activity may be undertaken provided there is no discharge of dredge or fill material to Waters of the US and is done in compliance with the directions of the PA Fish and Boat Commission and the US Army Corps of Engineers and the Erie County Conservation District.

Due to the beaver dams, water has backed up the channel which crosses South Hill Lane and as a result sediment has accumulated within the channel further blocking the culvert which flows under South Hill Lane. It is our understanding that once the beaver dams are removed you wish to clean the channel and the culvert so that the water, which is currently encroaching into your agricultural fields, can drain properly. Authorization for those agricultural ditch maintenance activities is not required from this office and may also be authorized under the Corps of Engineers nation wide permits.

To verify the necessity of a permit I have been in contact with Mike Fodse of the US Army Corps of Engineers Pittsburgh District 412-395-7575 who is willing to meet you on site to discuss the above mentioned activities.

If you have any questions please let me know.

Thanks
Todd Lutte

