

# TACOMA POWER

## SHORELINE USE PERMIT GUIDELINES

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- **How do I know if I need a Shoreline Use Permit (SUP)?**
  - If you have any structures or uses below the 742-foot elevation mark (for Lake Cushman) or below the 482-foot elevation mark (for Lake Kokanee), or within the 10-foot lateral strip adjacent, then you will need a SUP.
- **Who is eligible for consideration for Shoreline Use Permits?**
  - Owners/lessees of property adjacent to Tacoma Power's shoreline lands.
  - Those with interest in enhancing or maintaining fish or wildlife habitat.
  - Those who are requesting to establish a commercial use or public recreation facility.
- **I already have a permit from Tacoma Power, am I covered?**
  - If you have a SUP in your name with a five-year term for all the structures and uses on Tacoma Power's shoreline property outside your lot, then yes, you are covered.
  - If you have an old permit with no expiration date, then you need to be re-permitted under our new five-year SUP permit.
- **The previous lessee received a permit from Tacoma Power for my shoreline structures, am I covered?**
  - You will need a new SUP permit issued in your name as Tacoma Power permits are not transferable.
- **I turned in the Shoreline Questionnaire in 2014, wasn't that my permit?**
  - No, the shoreline questionnaire was not a permit. Its purpose was to assist us with completing a survey of shoreline structures that was required by our federal license for operating our dams.
- **What are the drawing expectations?**
  - Drawings can be done on the computer or by hand; they need to include plan views and elevation view/cross section that include the necessary specific information listed. Complete requirements are listed in SUSPG section 7.1.6 (See SUSPG for complete details: [https://www.mytpu.org/file\\_viewer.aspx?id=3533](https://www.mytpu.org/file_viewer.aspx?id=3533)).
  - Mason County requires engineering calculations on structures such as docks, floats, bulkheads and stairs. They may require engineered drawings on some projects.
- **Are measurements/plans expected to be from a licensed professional?**
  - A licensed engineer must be involved in projects that include structural shoreline stabilization plans (for example bulkheads or retaining walls). You can draw your own plans for docks and other non-structural shoreline uses as long as they include all the required information. Complete requirements are listed in the SUSPG Appendix B Section 4: Shoreline Stabilization Measures ([https://www.mytpu.org/file\\_viewer.aspx?id=3533](https://www.mytpu.org/file_viewer.aspx?id=3533)).

- **What is the application fee?**
  - A new permit application ranges from \$300 to \$600; subject to change to reflect necessary processing.
  - Shoreline structural modification – ranges from no charge to \$750.
  - Additional charges may be required for work which requires ground disturbance.
- **Do I qualify for permit fee waivers?**
  - Those lessees who returned the completed shoreline survey by the 2014 deadline are eligible for permit application fee waivers for the first five-year permit. Tacoma will determine your waiver status at the time of application.
- **Are there any other fees?**
  - Cultural resources survey: A \$100 fee plus a \$900 deposit are required when ground disturbance has occurred or is planned. Following completion of the survey, any unused balance of the deposit will be refunded, or an invoice issued for any balance owing.
  - Regulatory permits: If your proposal requires Mason County, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, and/or U.S. Army Corps of Engineers permits, then there are fees associated with obtaining those permits.
- **What involvements are necessary with other agencies?**
  - After an initial pre-application meeting with Tacoma Power, you submit an application to Tacoma Power and, if the project is acceptable, receive a letter approving you to move forward with regulatory permitting. You will consult with Mason County, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (as needed) to obtain other required permits.
  - Applicants must submit copies of any required regulatory permits or approvals from other state and federal regulatory agencies as part of their Shoreline Use Permit application.
- **How long does the application process take?**
  - Our expected processing time is approximately 90 days following receipt of a complete application, which includes confirmation that all other necessary regulatory permits have been issued and that cultural resources have not, or will not, be affected as a result of the proposed use. Please note that cultural resources surveys can only be completed when lake levels are lower and typically take place between September and March, which may delay our ability to complete a permit review.
  - If there is repair work to be completed or new structures to be constructed, then once you have obtained regulatory permits and the cultural resources survey has been completed, Tacoma Power will issue you a short-term license for construction. Once completed and approved the five-year SUP will follow.
- **What are the requirements of an applicant/permittee?**
  - Contact Tacoma Power for authorization prior to any shoreline use ([wwright@cityoftacoma.org](mailto:wwright@cityoftacoma.org), (253) 441-4180).
  - Provide Tacoma Power the requested information necessary to evaluate for permissible use.
  - Cooperate with, and obtain permits from, local, state and federal agencies as needed.
  - Comply with terms and conditions of any authorization granted.

# TACOMA POWER SHORELINE USE PERMIT GUIDELINES APPLICANT RESOURCE LIST

- **Tacoma Power Shoreline Use Homepage**
  - [TacomaPower.com/CushmanShoreline](http://TacomaPower.com/CushmanShoreline)
- **Tacoma Power Shoreline Use Specifications and Permitting Guidelines (SUSPG)**
  - [http://www.mytpu.org/file\\_viewer.aspx?id=3533](http://www.mytpu.org/file_viewer.aspx?id=3533)
- **Tacoma Power Shoreline Use Permit Application**
  - [http://www.mytpu.org/file\\_viewer.aspx?id=19394](http://www.mytpu.org/file_viewer.aspx?id=19394)
- **Mason County Mapping Tools**
  - <http://www.co.mason.wa.us/gis/>
- **Mason County Shoreline Master Program**
  - <https://www.co.mason.wa.us/community-services/smp-update/index.php>
- **JARPA Permitting Tools**
  - [http://www.epermitting.wa.gov/site/alias\\_resourcecenter/jarpa/9983/jarpa.aspx](http://www.epermitting.wa.gov/site/alias_resourcecenter/jarpa/9983/jarpa.aspx)
- **Ordinary High Water Mark Identification**
  - [http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/sma/st\\_guide/jurisdiction/ohwm.html](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/sma/st_guide/jurisdiction/ohwm.html)
  - Refers to the line on the shore established by the fluctuations of water and indicated by physical characteristics such as a clear, natural line impressed on the bank, shelving, changes in the character of soil, destruction of terrestrial vegetation, the presence of leaf or organic litter and debris, or other appropriate means that consider the characteristics of the surrounding areas.
- **Native Western Washington Plants**
  - <http://www.wnps.org/landscaping/herbarium/index.html>