



## LAKE COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

106 FOURTH AVENUE EAST  
POLSON, MT 59860-2175

PH: 406-883-7235 FAX: 406-883-7205  
E-MAIL: [planning@lakemt.gov](mailto:planning@lakemt.gov)

---

### SANDBAGGING IN FLOODPLAINS

**The temporary placement of sandbags within the regulated Special Flood Hazard Area (also known as the 100-year floodplain) for flood control during a flooding emergency does not require a floodplain development permit from the Lake County Planning Department.**

However, please note the following:

- Sandbags and sand cannot be placed without a permit in areas not projected to have or currently experiencing flood activities.
- After the flooding emergency has passed, sandbags and sand placed in the regulated Special Flood Hazard Area (also known as the 100-year floodplain) must be removed within 30-days after the event.
- It is the property owner's responsibility to remove and dispose of sandbags. All sandbags and materials must be properly disposed of. Do not use the sand for fill, landscaping, or other purposes.
- If sandbags and sand are placed in the regulated Special Flood Hazard Area (also known as the 100-year floodplain) and you want to keep them permanently, you must apply for and receive a Floodplain Development Permit from the Lake County Planning Department. Note that depending on where the artificial obstruction is located, it may require certification of proper design by a licensed engineer or architect to receive a floodplain development permit. Also note that depending on the scope of the project, it may additionally require other approvals from other jurisdictions.
- Please feel free to contact the Lake County Planning Department at (406) 883-7235 with questions regarding the Lake County Floodplain Regulations.

It is the property owner's responsibility to ensure all other applicable agency's requirements are met.