



District of Highlands – Development Permit Areas (DPAs) FAQ Sheet

What Are Development Permit Areas?

Under the [Local Government Act](#), municipalities can designate **Development Permit Areas (DPAs)** in their [Official Community Plan](#) to protect sensitive land features.


In the District of Highlands, DPAs help manage:

- **Steep slopes**
 - **Water and riparian areas**
 - **Sensitive vegetation and ecosystems**
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Do I Need a Permit?

If your property is within a DPA, you must obtain a [Development Permit](#) before:

- Constructing a building
- Adding to or altering an existing structure
- Altering land and or removing vegetation/trees
- Subdividing land

 Learn more about DPAs and how they may affect your property [here](#).

Development Permit Questions? Contact:

District of Highlands

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