

Town of Dewey-Humboldt

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When is a Grading Permit Needed?

In general, a grading permit is required for grading, excavation, fill, or stock piling. It may be exempt disturbance for natural terrain of a site. If the work is determined to be minor, it may be exempt from needing a grading permit. Anyone proposing to perform any grading not covered under the exemptions listed below should assume a grading permit is required and submit drawings of the work to be done. Building Safety Staff, in reviewing the drawings will evaluate the need for a permit and / or more detailed plans.

The drawings mentioned above should show the existing terrain (topography) and the terrain after the work will be done. Drainage features both before and after the work, also needs to be clearly identified, as well as property lines, roads, and existing buildings. Cut and fill slopes must be set back from property lines at least two (2) feet.

To be exempt, grading would have to meet the following criteria:

Excavation (removal) of earth which is:

1. less than two (2) feet in depth; AND
2. which does not create a cut slope greater than five (5) feet in height; OR
3. steeper than one unit vertical in 2 units horizontal.

OR

Fill (placement) of earth which is:

1. less than one (1) foot in depth; AND
2. placed on natural (undisturbed) terrain; WITH
3. a slope flatter than 1 unit vertical in 5 units horizontal (20% slope); AND
4. not intended to support structures; AND
5. This does not exceed 50 cubic yards on one lot.

For more details on grading requirements and drawing requirements, please ask for a copy of the Grading Interpretation Booklet.