What is a Registrable Project?

A proposed project must not be registered if the project
• would result in the loss or alteration of a Class 3 (seasonal), 4 (semi-permanent) or 5 (permanent) wetland;
• would result in the drainage of Class 6 or 7 soils (agriculture capability) or unimproved organic soils;
• would result in the transfer of water between watersheds;
• would have a negative impact on fish spawning or rearing habitats or would interfere with fish passage;
• is inconsistent with an approved watershed plan; or
• would violate any restrictions on the use of land that is the subject of a conservation agreement.

The registration process is intended to streamline the approval process for lower-risk/lower-impact water drainage and water retention projects. Seven project classes are eligible to proceed through the registration process.

Class A — Minor surface drains construction
Construction of surface drains with a depth not exceeding 12 inches below natural prairie level. Proposed projects must not result in the drainage of Class 6 or 7 soils (agriculture capability) or unimproved organic soils.

Class B — Agricultural subsurface tile drain construction
Construction of subsurface tile drains and all associated water control works that have a drainage coefficient equal to or less than 3/8 inch over a 24-hour period on agricultural lands.
In addition, proposed projects must:
• Be designed and signed by a person who has successfully completed an approved tile drainage course;
• Be located at least 50 m from the normal edge of a Class 3, 4 or 5 wetland or any other wetland that is the subject of a conservation agreement;
• Have an average depth of all lateral pipe not exceeding 36 inches;
• Have a header pipe that is not perforated,
• Have all outlets equipped with control devices that can control or stop drainage flows out of the tile; and
• Not result in the drainage of Class 6 or 7 soils (agriculture capability) or unimproved organic soils.

Class C — Water control works for new crossings
Construction of water control works related to new access crossings that do not constrict water flow.
Projects must show the size of the immediate upstream and downstream culverts and demonstrate that the culvert in the proposed project will:
• be equal in size to the upstream and downstream culverts, or if one of those culverts is a larger size, be equal in size to the larger culvert, and
• have its invert elevation at the bottom of the drain.

Class D — Minor culvert changes
Replacing an existing culvert with a culvert that does not change the hydraulic capacity of the culvert by more than 15%, as long as there is no change in the invert elevation of the culvert.
Proposed projects must include a pre-construction topographical survey that shows the location, size and invert elevation of existing culverts.

Class E — Water control works involved in wetland restoration or enhancement
Construction of water control works that are not higher than natural prairie level and retain less than 25 acre-feet of water that are constructed to restore a wetland or increase the area of an existing wetland.
In addition, proposed projects must include:
• a pre-construction topographical survey of the proposed water control works that also shows the maximum flooding associated with the water control works;
• if the water control works will flood land owned by other persons at full supply level, a flood easement or other agreement from those owners consenting to the flooding;
• written approval from any owner of land immediately downstream of the project whose land would see a reduction in water flow due to the project, unless the applicant has obtained a written exemption from a water resource officer.

Class F — Construction of small dams
Construction of dams less than 2.5 m in height that retain less than 25 acre-feet of water.
Proposed projects must include:
• a pre-construction topographical survey of the dam site;
• a design plan for the dam that is stamped by a professional engineer or signed by a certified engineering technician or certified engineering technologist which
    - confirms that the dam structure and all related water control works are able to safely accommodate a 1:100 year flood event, and
    - shows the maximum anticipated flooding associated with the dam;

• if the dam will flood land owned by other persons at full supply level, a flood easement or other agreement from those owners consenting to the flooding;
• written approval from any owner of land immediately downstream of the dam whose land would see a reduction in water flow due to the operation of the dam, unless the applicant has obtained a written exemption from a water resource officer.

Class G — Construction of small dry dams
Construction of dams for the purpose of flood control that:
• do not exceed 1 m in height;
• retain less than 25 acre feet of water on a temporary basis; and
• have an outlet that allows for a continuous flow of water.

Proposed projects must include:
• a pre-construction topographical survey of the dam site that also shows the maximum flooding associated with the dam; and
• if the dam will flood land owned by other persons at full supply level, a flood easement or other agreement from those owners consenting to the flooding.