

# 2016-2017 Anacortes Municipal Code Updates

Information Sheet – Updated December 23, 2016

## Critical Areas

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### DESCRIPTION

Critical areas include wetlands, areas with critical recharging effect on aquifers used for potable water, fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas, frequently flooded areas, and geologically hazardous areas. The Growth Management Act requires that local jurisdictions periodically review and revise, if needed, critical areas regulations pursuant to WAC 365-196-610.

The City's initial approach to the update is to consider whether there have been updates to state statutes, other local codes and best available science that should be incorporated into the regulations. Another goal is to improve clarity and straightforwardness in administering the code. The last major update of the critical areas regulations occurred in 2005.

### STATUS

An introductory study session meeting with the Planning Commission is planned in Winter, 2016/2017.

### DOCUMENTS

The City's existing critical areas regulations can be reviewed in [AMC 17.70](#).

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