

Chapter 17

Kewaunee County Non-Metallic Mining Reclamation Ordinance

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PART I - GENERAL

- 17.01 Title. Kewaunee County Nonmetallic Mining Reclamation Ordinance.
- 17.02 Purpose. The purpose of this ordinance is to establish a local program to ensure the effective reclamation of nonmetallic mining sites on which nonmetallic mining takes place in Kewaunee County after the effective date of this ordinance, in compliance with Chapter NR 135, Wisconsin Administrative Code and Subchapter I of Chapter 295, Wisconsin Statutes.
- 17.03 Statutory Authority. This ordinance is adopted under authority of Section 295.13(1), Wisconsin Statutes; Section NR 135.32, Wisconsin Administrative Code; and Section 59.51, Wisconsin Statutes.
- 17.04 Restrictions Adopted Under Other Authority. The purpose of this ordinance is to adopt and implement the uniform statewide standards for nonmetallic mining reclamation required by Section 295.12(1)(a), Wisconsin Statutes and contained in Chapter NR 135, Wisconsin Administrative Code. It is not intended that this ordinance repeal, abrogate, annul, impair or interfere with any existing rules, regulation, ordinances or permits not concerning nonmetallic mining reclamation previously adopted pursuant to other Wisconsin law.
- 17.05 Interpretation. In their interpretation and application, the provisions of this ordinance shall be held to be the applicable requirements for nonmetallic mining reclamation and shall not be deemed a limitation or repeal of any other power granted by the Wisconsin Statutes outside the reclamation requirements for nonmetallic mining sites required by subchapter I of Chapter 295, Wisconsin Statutes and Chapter NR 135, Wisconsin Administrative Code. Where any terms or requirements of this ordinance may be inconsistent or conflicting, the more restrictive requirements or interpretation shall apply. Where a provision of this ordinance is required by Wisconsin Statutes, or by a standard in Chapter NR 135, Wisconsin Administrative Code, and where the provision is unclear, the provision shall be interpreted to be consistent with the Wisconsin Statutes and the provisions of Chapter NR 135, Wisconsin Administrative Code.
- 17.06 Severability. Should any portion of this ordinance be declared unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this ordinance shall not be affected.
- 17.07 Applicability.
- (1) Overall Applicability. The requirements of this ordinance apply to all operators of nonmetallic mining sites within Kewaunee County operating on or commencing to operate after August 1st, 2001 except as exempted in **sub. (2)** and for nonmetallic mining sites located in a city, village or town within Kewaunee County that has adopted an ordinance pursuant to Section 295.14, Wisconsin Statutes, and Section NR 135.32(2), Wisconsin Administrative Code. This ordinance does not apply to nonmetallic mining sites where nonmetallic mining permanently ceases before August 1, 2001. This ordinance applies to nonmetallic mining conducted by or on behalf of the State of Wisconsin, by or on behalf of a municipality, or for the benefit or use of the state or any state agency, board, commission or department, except for the waiver of financial assurance in **s. 17.14(4)**.
 - (2) Exemptions. This ordinance does not apply to the exempt activities listed in Section NR 135.02(3), Wisconsin Administrative Code, including:
 - (a) Nonmetallic mining at a site or that portion of a site that is subject to permit and reclamation requirements of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources under secs. 30.19, 30.195 or 30.20, Stats., and complies with Chapter NR 340, Wisconsin Administrative Code.

- (b) Excavations subject to the permit and reclamation requirements of secs. 30.30 or 30.31, Wisconsin Statutes.
- (c) Excavations or grading by a person solely for domestic or farm use at that person's residence or farm, including pond excavations if all excavated material remains on the site.
- (d) Excavations or grading conducted for the construction, reconstruction, maintenance or repair of a highway, railroad, airport facility, or any other transportation facility where the excavation or grading is entirely within the property boundaries of the transportation facility.
- (e) Grading conducted for preparing a construction site or restoring land following a flood or natural disaster.
- (f) Excavations for building construction purposes conducted on the building site.
- (g) Nonmetallic mining at nonmetallic mining sites that affect less than one acre of total area over the life of the mine.
- (h) Any mining operation, the reclamation of which is required in a permit obtained under ch. 293, Wisconsin Statutes.
- (i) Any activities required to prepare, operate or close a solid waste disposal facility under ch. 289, Wisconsin Statutes, or a hazardous waste disposal facility under ch. 291, Wisconsin Statutes, that are conducted on the property where the facility is located, but an applicable nonmetallic mining reclamation ordinance and the standards established in this ordinance apply to activities related to solid waste or hazardous waste disposal that are conducted at a nonmetallic mining site that is not on the property where the solid waste or hazardous waste disposal facility is located, such as activities to obtain nonmetallic minerals to be used for lining, capping, covering or constructing berms, dikes or roads.
- (j) Nonmetallic mining for highway, railroad, airport or other transportation facility:
 1. Nonmetallic mining conducted to obtain stone, soil, sand or gravel for construction, reconstruction, maintenance or repair of a highway, railroad, airport, or any other transportation facility or part thereof, if the nonmetallic mining is subject to the requirements of the Wisconsin Department of Transportation concerning the restoration of the nonmetallic mining site.
 2. This exemption only applies to a nonmetallic mining operation with limited purpose and duration where the Wisconsin Department of Transportation actively imposes reclamation requirements and the operator reclaims the nonmetallic mining site in accordance with these requirements. The duration of the exemption shall be specific to the length of the Wisconsin Department of Transportation contract for construction of a specific transportation project.
 3. If a nonmetallic mining site covered under **subds. 1. and 2.** is used to concurrently supply materials for projects unrelated to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation project, the exemption in this paragraph still applies, provided that the site is fully reclaimed under Wisconsin Department of Transportation contract and supervision.
- (k) Dredging for navigational purposes, to construct or maintain farm drainage ditches and for the remediation of environmental contamination and the disposal of spoils from these activities.

- (l) Removal of material from the bed of Lake Michigan by a public utility pursuant to a permit under s. 30.21, Wisconsin Statutes.
- 17.08 Administration. The provisions of this ordinance shall be administered by the Kewaunee County Land & Water Conservation Department, located at 925 Marquette Drive, Kewaunee WI 54216.
- 17.09 Effective Date. The provisions of this ordinance shall take effect on June 1, 2001 or the date of adoption by the Kewaunee County Board of Supervisors, whichever is later.
- 17.10 Definitions. Definitions for the purposes of this ordinance are those contained in Section NR 135.03, Wisconsin Administrative Code, including:
- (1) "Alternative requirement" means an alternative to the reclamation standards of this ordinance provided through a written authorization granted by the Kewaunee County Land & Water Conservation Department pursuant to **s. 17.18**.
 - (2) "Applicable reclamation ordinance" means a nonmetallic mining reclamation ordinance, including this ordinance, that applies to a particular nonmetallic mining site and complies with the requirements of this ordinance, Chapter NR 135, Wisconsin Administrative Code and subchapter I of ch. 295, Wisconsin Statutes.
 - (3) "Borrow site" means an area outside of a transportation project site from which stone, soil, sand or gravel is excavated for use at the project site, except the term does not include commercial sources.
 - (4) "Contemporaneous reclamation" means the sequential or progressive reclamation of portions of the nonmetallic mining site affected by mining operations that is performed in advance of final site reclamation, but which may or may not be final reclamation, performed to minimize the area exposed to erosion, at any one time, by nonmetallic mining activities.
 - (5) "Department" means the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.
 - (6) "Environmental pollution" has the meaning in s. 295.11(2), Wisconsin Statutes.
 - (7) "Existing mine" means a nonmetallic mine where nonmetallic mining takes place on or before August 1, 2001.
 - (8) "Financial assurance" means a commitment of funds or resources by an operator to a regulatory authority that satisfies the requirements in **s. 17.14** and is sufficient to pay for reclamation activities required by this ordinance.
 - (9) "Landowner" means the person who has title to land in fee simple or who holds a land contract for the land. A landowner is not a person who owns nonmetallic mineral rights to land, if a different person possesses title to that land in fee simple or holds a land contract for that land.
 - (10) "Municipality" means any city, town or village.
 - (11) "Nonmetallic mineral" means a product, commodity or material consisting principally of naturally occurring, organic or inorganic, nonmetallic, nonrenewable material. Nonmetallic minerals include, but are not limited to, stone, sand, gravel, topsoil, asbestos, beryl, diamond, clay, coal, feldspar, peat, and talc.
 - (12) "Nonmetallic mining" or "mining" means all of following:

- (a) Operations or activities at a nonmetallic mining site for the extraction from the earth of mineral aggregates or nonmetallic minerals for sale or use by the operator. Nonmetallic mining includes use of mining equipment or techniques to remove materials from the in-place nonmetallic mineral deposit, including drilling and blasting, as well as associated activities such as excavation, grading and dredging. Nonmetallic mining does not include removal from the earth of products or commodities that contain only minor or incidental amounts of nonmetallic minerals, such as commercial sod, agricultural crops, ornamental or garden plants, forest products, Christmas trees or plant nursery stock.
 - (b) Processes carried out at a nonmetallic mining site that are related to the preparation or processing of the mineral aggregates or nonmetallic minerals obtained from the nonmetallic mining site. These processes include, but are not limited to stockpiling of materials, blending mineral aggregates or nonmetallic minerals with other mineral aggregates or nonmetallic minerals, blasting, grading, crushing, screening, scalping and dewatering.
- (13) "Nonmetallic mining reclamation" or "reclamation" means the rehabilitation of a nonmetallic mining site to achieve a land use specified in a nonmetallic mining reclamation plan approved under this ordinance, including removal or reuse of nonmetallic mining refuse, grading of the nonmetallic mining site, removal, storage and replacement of topsoil, stabilization of soil conditions, reestablishment of vegetative cover, control of surface water and groundwater, prevention of environmental pollution and if practicable the restoration of plant, fish and wildlife habitat.
- (14) "Nonmetallic mining refuse" means waste soil, rock and mineral, as well as other natural site material resulting from nonmetallic mining. Nonmetallic mining refuse does not include marketable by-products resulting directly from or displaced by the nonmetallic mining that are scheduled to be removed from the nonmetallic mining site within a reasonable period of time after extraction.
- (15) "Nonmetallic mining site" or "site" means all contiguous areas of present or proposed mining described in **par. (a)**, subject to the qualifications in **par. (b)**.
- (a) Nonmetallic mining site means the following:
 1. The location where nonmetallic mining is proposed or conducted.
 2. Storage and processing areas that are in or contiguous to areas excavated for nonmetallic mining.
 3. Areas where nonmetallic mining refuse is deposited.
 4. Areas affected by activities such as the construction or improvement of private roads or haulage ways for nonmetallic mining.
 5. Areas where grading or regrading is necessary.
 6. Areas where nonmetallic mining reclamation activities are carried out or structures needed for nonmetallic mining reclamation, such as topsoil stockpile areas, revegetation test plots, or channels for surface water diversion, are located.
 - (b) "Nonmetallic mine site" does not include any of the following areas:
 1. Those portions of sites listed in **par. (a)** not used for nonmetallic mining or purposes related to nonmetallic mining after August 1, 2001.
 2. Separate, previously mined areas that are not used for nonmetallic mineral extraction after August 1, 2001 and are not contiguous to mine sites, including separate areas that are connected to active mine sites by public or private roads.

3. Areas previously mined but used after August 1, 2001 for a non-mining activity, such as stockpiles of materials used for an industrial process unrelated to nonmetallic mining, examples of which include an asphalt plant, concrete batch plant, block and tile operation or other industry that uses products produced from nonmetallic mining.
- (16) "Operator" means any person who is engaged in, or who has applied for a permit to engage in, nonmetallic mining, whether individually, jointly or through subsidiaries, agents, employees, contractors or subcontractors.
 - (17) "Registered geologist" means a person who is registered as a professional geologist pursuant to ss. 443.037 and 443.09, Wisconsin Statutes.
 - (18) "Registered professional engineer" means a person who is registered as a professional engineer pursuant to ss. 443.04 and 443.09, Wisconsin Statutes.
 - (19) "Regulatory authority" means Kewaunee County, through the Kewaunee County Land & Water Conservation Department, for nonmetallic mine sites located within its jurisdiction.
 - (20) "Replacement of topsoil" means the replacement or redistribution of topsoil or topsoil substitute material to all areas where topsoil was actually removed or affected by nonmetallic mining for the purposes of providing adequate vegetative cover and stabilization of soil conditions needed to achieve the approved post-mining land use and as required by the reclamation plan approved pursuant to this ordinance.
 - (21) "Solid waste" means any garbage, refuse, sludge from a waste treatment plant, water supply treatment plant or air pollution control facility and other discarded or salvageable materials, including solid, liquid, semisolid or contained gaseous materials resulting from industrial, commercial, mining and agricultural operations, and from community activities, but does not include solids or dissolved material in domestic sewage, or solid or dissolved materials in irrigation return flows or industrial discharges which are point sources subject to permits under ch. 283, Wisconsin Statutes, or source material, special nuclear material or by-product material, as defined in s. 254.31 (1), Wisconsin Statutes.
 - (22) "Topsoil" means the surface layer of soil which is generally more fertile than the underlying soil layers, which is the natural medium for plant growth and which can provide the plant growth, soil stability and other attributes necessary to meet the success standards approved in the reclamation plan.
 - (23) "Topsoil substitute material" means soil or other unconsolidated material either used alone or mixed with other beneficial materials and which can provide the plant growth, site stability and other attributes necessary to meet the success standards approved in the reclamation plan.
 - (24) "Unreclaimed acre" or "unreclaimed acres"
 - (a) "Unreclaimed acre" or "unreclaimed acres" means those unreclaimed areas in which nonmetallic mining has occurred after August 1, 2001 and areas where nonmetallic mining reclamation has been completed but is not yet certified as reclaimed under **s. 17.29(3)**. However, the term does not include any areas described in **par. (b)**.
 - (b) "Unreclaimed acre" or "unreclaimed acres" does not include:
 1. Those areas where reclamation has been completed and certified as reclaimed under **s. 17.29(3)**.

2. Those areas previously affected by nonmetallic mining but which are not used for nonmetallic mining after August 1, 2001.
3. Those portions of nonmetallic mining sites which are included in a nonmetallic mining reclamation plan approved pursuant to this ordinance but are not yet affected by nonmetallic mining.
4. Areas previously mined but used after August 1, 2001 for a non-mining activity, such as stockpiling of materials used for an industrial activity such as an asphalt plant, concrete batch plant, block and tile operation or other industry that uses products produced from nonmetallic mining.
5. For purposes of fees under s. 17.27, those areas within a nonmetallic mining site which the Kewaunee County Land & Water Conservation Department has determined to have been successfully reclaimed on an interim basis in accordance with s. 17.29(3).

PART II – STANDARDS

17.11 Standards. Standards, and application thereof, shall be as set out in Subchapter II, “Standards”, Chapter NR 135, Wisconsin Administrative Code, including:

- (1) General standards.
 - (a) Refuse and other solid wastes. Nonmetallic mining refuse shall be reused in accordance with a reclamation plan. Other solid wastes shall be disposed of in accordance with applicable rules of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources adopted pursuant to chs. 289 and 291, Wisconsin Statutes.
 - (b) Area disturbed and contemporaneous reclamation. Nonmetallic mining reclamation shall be conducted, to the extent practicable, to minimize the area disturbed by nonmetallic mining and to provide for nonmetallic mining reclamation of portions of the nonmetallic mining site while nonmetallic mining continues on other portions of the nonmetallic mining site.
 - (c) Public health, safety and welfare. All nonmetallic mining sites shall be reclaimed in a manner so as to comply with federal, state and local regulations governing public health, safety and welfare.
 - (d) Habitat restoration. When the land use required by the reclamation plan approved pursuant to this ordinance requires plant, fish or wildlife habitat, it shall be restored, to the extent practicable, to a condition at least as suitable as that which existed before the lands were affected by nonmetallic mining operations.
 - (e) Compliance with environmental regulations. Reclamation of nonmetallic mining sites shall comply with any other applicable federal, state and local laws including those related to environmental protection, zoning and land use control.
- (2) Surface water and wetlands protection. Nonmetallic mining reclamation shall be conducted and completed in a manner that assures compliance with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources’ water quality standards for surface waters and wetlands contained in Chapters NR 102 through NR 105, Wisconsin Administrative Code. Before disturbing the surface of a nonmetallic mining site and removing topsoil, all necessary measures for diversion and drainage of runoff from the site to prevent pollution of waters of the state shall be installed in accordance with the reclamation plan approved pursuant to this ordinance. Diverted or channelized runoff resulting from reclamation may not adversely affect neighboring properties.
- (3) Groundwater protection.

- (a) Groundwater quantity. A nonmetallic mining site shall be reclaimed in a manner that does not cause a permanent lowering of the water table that results in adverse effects on surface waters or a significant reduction in the quantity of groundwater reasonably available for future users of groundwater.
 - (b) Groundwater quality. Nonmetallic mining reclamation shall be conducted in a manner which does not cause groundwater quality standards in Chapter NR 140, Wisconsin Administrative Code to be exceeded at a point of standards application defined in that chapter.
- (4) Topsoil management.
- (a) Removal. Topsoil and topsoil substitute material shall be removed, protected and redistributed to support reclamation and site stabilization. Topsoil shall be managed as specified in the reclamation plan approved pursuant to this ordinance in order to achieve reclamation to the approved post-mining land use. Topsoil and topsoil substitute material removal shall be performed, as required by the reclamation plan, prior to any mining activity associated with any specific phase of the mining operation.
 - (b) Volume. The operator shall obtain the volume of soil required to perform final reclamation by removal of on-site topsoil or topsoil substitute material or by obtaining topsoil or topsoil substitute material as needed to make up the volume of topsoil as specified in the reclamation plan approved pursuant to this ordinance. Existing resources that may be used to identify the soil present on a site include the Kewaunee County Soil Survey, information obtained from a soil scientist, County Extension Agent or other available resources. Topsoil or topsoil substitute material shall be removed from areas to be affected by mining operations to the depth indicated in the reclamation plan or as determined in the field by a soil scientist, project engineer or other qualified professional.
 - (c) Storage. Once removed, topsoil or topsoil substitute material shall, as required by the reclamation plan approved pursuant to this ordinance, either be used in contemporaneous reclamation or stored in an environmentally acceptable manner. The location of stockpiled topsoil or topsoil substitute material shall be chosen to protect the material from erosion or further disturbance or contamination. Runoff water shall be diverted around all locations in which topsoil or topsoil substitute material is stockpiled.
- (5) Final grading and slopes.
- (a) All areas affected by mining shall be graded in accordance with the reclamation plan approved pursuant to this ordinance to achieve a stable and safe condition consistent with the post mining land use. The reclamation plan may designate areas such as stable slopes and rock faces which do not require final grading.
 - (b) Final reclaimed slopes covered by topsoil or topsoil substitute material may not be steeper than a 3:1 horizontal to vertical incline, unless alternative requirements are approved under s. 17.18, and stable slopes can be demonstrated based on site-specific engineering analysis. The engineering analysis shall show that a minimum acceptable slope stability factor is attainable at a steeper slope and that the post-mining land use specified in the reclamation plan is not adversely affected. When the slope occurs at the edge of a body of water, this approved slope shall extend vertically 6 feet below the lowest seasonal water level. A slope

no steeper than 3:1 shall be created at a designated location or locations, depending on the size of the water body to allow for a safe exit.

- (c) All areas in the nonmetallic mine site where topsoil or topsoil substitute material is to be reapplied shall be graded or otherwise prepared prior to topsoil or topsoil substitute material redistribution to provide the optimum adherence between the topsoil or topsoil substitute material and the underlying material.
- (6) Topsoil redistribution for reclamation. Topsoil or topsoil substitute material shall be redistributed in accordance with the reclamation plan approved pursuant to this ordinance in a manner which minimizes compaction and prevents erosion. Topsoil or topsoil substitute material shall be uniformly redistributed except where uniform redistribution is undesirable or impractical. Topsoil or topsoil substitute material redistribution may not be performed during or immediately after a precipitation event until the soils have sufficiently dried.
- (7) Revegetation and site stabilization. Except for permanent roads or similar surfaces identified in the reclamation plan approved pursuant to this chapter, all surfaces affected by nonmetallic mining shall be reclaimed and stabilized by revegetation or other means. Revegetation and site stabilization shall be in accordance with the approved reclamation plan and shall be performed as soon as practicable after mining activity has permanently ceased in any part of the mine site.
- (8) Assessing completion of successful reclamation.
 - (a) The criteria for assessing when reclamation is complete and, therefore, when the financial assurance may be released shall be specified in the reclamation plan approved pursuant to this ordinance. Criteria to evaluate reclamation success shall be quantifiable.
 - (b) Compliance with the revegetation success standards in the approved reclamation plan shall be determined by:
 1. On-site inspections by the Kewaunee County Land & Water Conservation Department or its agent;
 2. Reports presenting results obtained during reclamation evaluations including summarized data on revegetation, photo-documentation or other evidence that the criteria approved in the reclamation plan to ascertain success have been met; or
 3. A combination of inspections and reports.
 - (c) In those cases where the post mining land use specified in the reclamation plan requires a return of the mining site to a pre-mining condition, the operator shall obtain baseline data on the existing plant community for use in the evaluation of reclamation success pursuant to this section.
 - (d) Revegetation success may be determined by:
 1. Comparison to an appropriate reference area;
 2. Comparison to baseline data acquired at the mining site prior to its being affected by mining; or
 3. Comparison to an approved alternate technical standard.
 - (e) Revegetation using a variety of plants indigenous to the area is favored.

- (9) Intermittent mining. Intermittent mining may be conducted provided that the possibility of intermittent cessation of operations is addressed in an operator's approved reclamation plan, no environmental pollution or erosion of sediments is occurring, and financial assurance for reclamation pursuant to **s. 17.14** is maintained covering all remaining portions of the site that have been affected by nonmetallic mining and that have not been reclaimed.
- (10) Maintenance. During the period of the site reclamation, after the operator has stated that reclamation is complete but prior to release of financial assurance, the operator shall perform any maintenance necessary to prevent erosion, sedimentation or environmental pollution, comply with the standards of this subchapter, or meet the goals specified in the reclamation plan approved pursuant to this ordinance.

PART III - PERMITTING

17.12 Nonmetallic Mining Reclamation Permit Application.

- (1) Required Submittal. All operators of nonmetallic mining sites that operate on or after August 1, 2001 shall apply for a reclamation permit from Kewaunee County. All applications for reclamation permits under this section shall be accompanied by the information required by Section NR 135.18(3), Wisconsin Administrative Code, including:
 - (a) A brief description of the general location and nature of the nonmetallic mine.
 - (b) A legal description of the property on which the nonmetallic mine is located or proposed, including the parcel identification number.
 - (c) The names, addresses and telephone numbers of all persons or organizations who are owners or lessors of the property on which the nonmetallic mining site is located.
 - (d) The name, address and telephone number of the person or organization who is the operator.
 - (e) A certification by the operator of his or her intent to comply with the statewide nonmetallic mining reclamation standards established in Part II.
- (2) Existing Mines. The operator of any existing nonmetallic mining site may apply for an automatic reclamation permit from Kewaunee County by providing the information required by Section NR 135.18(1), Wisconsin Administrative Code, and set forth below no later than on August 1, 2001 to the Kewaunee County Land & Water Conservation Department.
 - (a) The information required by **s. 17.12(1)**.
 - (b) The first year's annual fee, as required by **s. 17.27**.
 - (c) A certification signed by the operator that he or she will provide the Kewaunee County Land & Water Conservation Department with a complete reclamation plan required by **s. 17.13** and financial assurance required by **s. 17.14** no later than the time established pursuant to this ordinance.
- (3) New and Reopened Mines. The operator of any nonmetallic mining site that engages in or plans to engage in nonmetallic mining that will begin operations after August 1st, 2001 or which has not applied for an automatic reclamation permit pursuant to **s. 17.12(2)** shall submit an application that meets the requirements of Section NR 135.18(2), Wisconsin

Administrative Code, including the requirements specified below to the Kewaunee County Land & Water Conservation Department prior to beginning operations. This application shall be accompanied by a plan review fee as specified in **s. 17.26**.

- (a) The information required by **s. 17.12(1)**.
- (b) The plan review and annual fees required by **ss. 17.26 and 17.27**.
- (c) A reclamation plan conforming to **s. 17.13**.
- (d) A certification that the operator will, as a condition of the reclamation permit, provide financial assurance as required by **s. 17.14** upon granting of the reclamation permit and before mining begins.
- (e) To avoid duplication, the permit application and submittals required under this subsection may, by reference, incorporate existing plans or materials that meet the requirements of this ordinance.

17.13 Reclamation Plan.

- (1) Reclamation Plan Requirements. All operators of nonmetallic mining sites subject to this ordinance shall prepare and submit a reclamation plan that meets the requirements of Section NR 135.19, Wisconsin Administrative Code, including:
 - (a) Plan required. An operator who conducts or plans to conduct nonmetallic mining on or after August 1st, 2001 shall submit to the Kewaunee County Land & Water Conservation Department a reclamation plan that meets the requirements of this section and complies with the standards of Part II. To avoid duplication, the reclamation plan may, by reference, incorporate existing plans or materials that meet the requirements of this ordinance.
 - (b) Site information. The reclamation plan shall include information sufficient to describe the existing natural and physical conditions of the site, including, but not limited to:
 1. Maps of the nonmetallic mining site including the general location, property boundaries, the aerial extent, geologic composition and depth of the nonmetallic mineral deposit, the distribution, thickness and type of topsoil, the approximate elevation of ground water, the location of surface waters and the existing drainage patterns. Topsoil or topsoil substitute material required to support revegetation needed for reclaiming the site to approved post-mining land use can be identified using the Kewaunee County Soil Survey or other available information.
 2. Information available to the mine operator on biological resources, plant communities, and wildlife use at and adjacent to the proposed or operating mining site.
 3. Existing topography as shown on contour maps of the site at a two (2) foot contour interval. The required contour interval may vary at the discretion of the Land & Water Conservation Department based on approved post-mining land use chosen and the complexity of the reclamation plan.
 4. Location of manmade features on or near the site.
 5. For existing mines, a plan view drawing showing the location and extent of land previously affected by nonmetallic mining, including the location of stockpiles, wash ponds and sediment basins.

6. Some of or all of the information required above may be shown on the same submittal, i.e. the site map required by **subd. 1.** may also show topography required by **subd. 3.**

(c) Post-mining land use.

1. The reclamation plan shall specify a proposed post-mining land use for the nonmetallic mine site. The proposed post-mining land use shall be consistent with local land use plans and local zoning at the time the plan is submitted, unless a change to the land use plan or zoning is proposed. The proposed post-mining land use shall also be consistent with all applicable local, state, or federal laws in effect at the time the plan is submitted.
2. Land used for nonmetallic mineral extraction in areas zoned under an exclusive agricultural use ordinance pursuant to s. 91.75, Wisconsin Statutes, shall be restored to agricultural use.

(d) Reclamation measures. The reclamation plan shall include a description of the proposed reclamation, including methods and procedures to be used and a proposed schedule and sequence for the completion of reclamation activities for various stages of reclamation of the nonmetallic mining site. The following shall be included:

1. A description of the proposed earthwork and reclamation, including final slope angles, high wall reduction, benching, terracing and other structural slope stabilization measures.
2. The methods of topsoil or topsoil substitute material removal, storage, stabilization and conservation that will be used during reclamation.
3. A plan view or map which shows anticipated topography of the reclaimed site and any water impoundments or artificial lakes needed to support the anticipated future land use of the site.
4. A plan view or map which shows surface structures, roads and related facilities after the cessation of mining.
5. A detailed estimated cost of reclamation for each stage of the project or the entire site if reclamation staging is not planned.
6. A revegetation plan which shall address timing and methods of seed bed preparation; rates and kinds of soil amendments; seed mixture and application timing, methods and rates; and mulching, netting and any other techniques needed to accomplish soil and slope stabilization.
7. Quantifiable standards for revegetation adequate to show that a sustainable stand of vegetation has been established which will support the approved post-mining land use. Standards for revegetation may be based on the percent vegetative cover, productivity, plant density, diversity or other applicable measures.
8. A plan and, if necessary, a narrative addressing erosion control measures to be employed during reclamation activities. This plan shall address how reclamation activities will be conducted to minimize erosion and pollution of surface and groundwater.
9. A description of any areas which will be reclaimed on an interim basis sufficient to qualify for the waiver of fees pursuant to **s. 17.29(2) and (4)** and which will be subsequently disturbed prior to final reclamation. Descriptions shall include an identification of the proposed areas involved, methods of reclamation to comply with the standards in Part II and timing of interim and final reclamation.
10. Some of the information required by this subsection may be combined to avoid duplication, e.g. a single map may show anticipated post-mining

topography required by **subd. 3.** as well as structures and roads as required by **subd. 4.**

11. The reclamation plan shall contain criteria for assuring successful reclamation in accordance **s.17.11(8).**

(e) Certification of reclamation plan.

1. The operator shall provide a signed certification that reclamation will be carried out in accordance with the reclamation plan. The landowner and lessee, if different from the operator, shall also provide signed certification that they concur with the reclamation plan and will allow its implementation, except as provided in **subd. 2.**

2. For the following situations, the landowner and lessee, if different from the mine operator, are not required to submit a written certification in accordance with **subd. 1.** The operator shall provide written evidence that the landowner and lessee, if different from the operator, have been provided with a written copy of the reclamation plan, and that:

a. The mine operator has submitted a reclamation plan for an existing mine in accordance with **s. 17.12(2),** or

b. The operator has submitted a reclamation plan for a new or reopened mine in accordance **s. 17.12(3)** which is located on land for which a lease agreement or memorandum of lease between the landowner and applicant was recorded prior August 1st, 2001.

(f) Approval. The operator shall keep a copy of the reclamation plan required by this section, once approved by the Kewaunee County Land & Water Conservation Department under this ordinance, at the mine site or, if not practicable, at the operator's nearest office or place of business.

(2) Existing Mines. The operator of any nonmetallic mining site that submits an automatic permit application in conformance with **s. 17.12(2)** shall submit the reclamation plan required by **s. 17.13(1)** by a date to be established no later than three (3) years after submittal of the application for an automatic permit (August 1, 2004). The date will be determined after the applications per **s. 17.12(2)** have been received, based on consideration of:

(a) the time needed for the mine operator to prepare the reclamation plan or amend an existing plan,

(b) the needs of the Kewaunee County Land & Water Conservation Department to distribute workload in reviewing reclamation plans, and

(c) other relevant factors.

(3) New Mines. The operator of any nonmetallic mining site not in operation prior to August 1, 2001 that applies for a permit in conformance with **s. 17.12(3)** shall submit the reclamation plan required by **s. 17.13(1)** with its application for a reclamation permit.

(4) Existing Plans and Approvals. To avoid duplication of effort, the reclamation plan required by **s. 17.13(1)** may, by reference, incorporate existing plans or materials that meet the requirements of this ordinance. Previous approvals for nonmetallic mining sites in operation on August 1st, 2001 shall satisfy the requirements of **s. 17.13(1)** if they meet the following requirements:

- (a) The document has been approved by a municipality that has adopted an ordinance pursuant to Section 295.14, Wisconsin Statutes, and Section NR 135.32(2), Wisconsin Administrative Code, and
 - (b) Kewaunee County finds that the document designates a post-mining land use and describes reclamation measures that meet the reclamation standards of this ordinance.
- (5) Approval of Reclamation Plan. Kewaunee County shall approve, conditionally approve or deny the reclamation plan submitted under this section in writing in accordance with **s. 17.16(3)(b)3.** for existing mines and **s. 17.16(4)** for mines that apply for a reclamation permit in conformance with **s. 17.12(3).** Conditional approvals of reclamation plans shall be made according to **s. 17.16(7)** and denials of reclamation plans shall be made pursuant to **s. 17.17.** The operator shall keep a copy of the reclamation plan approved under this subsection at the mine site or, if not practicable, at the operator's nearest place of business.

17.14 Financial Assurance.

- (1) Financial Assurance Requirements. All operators of nonmetallic mining sites in Kewaunee County shall prepare and submit a proof of financial assurance that meets the requirements of Section NR 135.40, Wisconsin Administrative Code, including:
- (a) Notification. Kewaunee County shall provide written notification to the operator of the amount of financial assurance required under **par. (c).**
 - (b) Filing. Following approval of the nonmetallic mining reclamation permit, and as a condition of the permit, the operator shall file a financial assurance with Kewaunee County. The financial assurance shall provide that the operator shall faithfully perform all requirements in this ordinance and the reclamation plan. Financial assurance shall be payable exclusively to Kewaunee County. In cases where one or more other regulatory authorities regulate a nonmetallic mining site, all financial assurance shall be made payable to Kewaunee County only if it currently has primary regulatory responsibility.
 - (c) Amount and duration of financial assurance. The amount of financial assurance shall equal as closely as possible the cost to Kewaunee County of hiring a contractor to complete either final reclamation or progressive reclamation according to the approved reclamation plan. The amount of financial assurance shall be reviewed periodically by Kewaunee County to assure it equals outstanding reclamation costs. Any financial assurance filed with Kewaunee County shall be in an amount equal to the estimated cost for reclaiming all sites the operator has under project permits. Kewaunee County may accept a lesser initial amount of financial assurance provided that the permittee initiates a process to continuously increase the amount of financial assurance until it is adequate to effect reclamation. An escrow account may be established that is based on production gross sales and serves to provide regular payments to an account that is designed to grow to the amount necessary to guarantee performance of reclamation by the expected time of final reclamation. The period of the financial assurance is dictated by the period of time required to establish the post mining land use declared and approved of in the reclamation plan. This may extend beyond the permit if required to accomplish successful and complete implementation of the reclamation plan.
 - (d) Form and management. Financial assurance shall be provided by the operator and shall be by a bond or an alternate financial assurance. Financial assurance shall be payable to Kewaunee County and released upon successful completion of the

reclamation measures specified in the reclamation plan. Alternate financial assurances may include, but are not limited to cash, certificates of deposits, irrevocable letters of credit, irrevocable trusts, established escrow accounts, demonstration of financial responsibility by meeting net worth requirements, or government securities. Any interest from the financial assurance shall be paid to the operator. Certificates of deposit shall be automatically renewable or other assurances shall be provided before the maturity date. Financial assurance arrangements may include, at the discretion of Kewaunee County, a blend of different options for financial assurance including a lien on the property on which the nonmetallic mining site occurs or a combination of financial assurance methods.

- (e) Multiple projects. Any operator who obtains a permit from Kewaunee County for 2 or more nonmetallic mining sites may elect, at the time the second or subsequent site is approved, to post a single financial assurance in lieu of separate financial assurance instruments for each nonmetallic mining site. When an operator elects to post a single financial assurance in lieu of separate financial assurances for each mining site, no financial assurances previously posted on individual mining sites shall be released until the new financial assurance has been accepted by Kewaunee County.
- (f) Multiple jurisdictions. In cases where more than one regulatory authority has jurisdiction, a cooperative financial security arrangement may be developed and implemented by the regulatory authorities to avoid requiring the permittee to prove financial assurance with more than one regulatory authority for the same nonmetallic mining site. Financial assurance is required for each site, except that governmental units are not required to obtain financial assurance.
- (g) Certification of completion and release.
 - 1. The operator shall notify the regulatory authority, by filing a notice of completion, at the time that he or she determines that reclamation of any portion of the mining site or the entire site is complete. Kewaunee County shall inspect the mine site or portion thereof that was the subject of the notice of completion to determine if reclamation has been carried out in accordance with the approved reclamation plan. Kewaunee County may partially release the financial assurance if it determines that compliance with a portion of the reclamation plan has been achieved and requires no waiting period. After determining that reclamation is complete Kewaunee County shall issue a certificate of completion and shall release the financial assurance or appropriately reduce the financial assurance in the case of reclamation of a portion of the mining site.
 - 2. Kewaunee County shall make a determination of whether or not the certification in par. a. can be made within 60 days that the request is received.
 - 3. Kewaunee County may make a determination under this subsection that:
 - a. Reclamation is not yet complete;
 - b. It is not possible to assess whether reclamation is complete due to weather conditions, snow cover or other relevant factors;
 - c. Reclamation is complete in a part of the mine; or
 - d. Reclamation is fully complete.
- (h) Forfeiture. Financial assurance shall be forfeited if any of the following occur:
 - 1. A permit is revoked under s. 17.24 and the appeals process has been completed.
 - 2. An operator ceases mining operations and fails to reclaim the site in accordance with the reclamation plan.

- (i) Cancellation. Financial assurance shall provide that it may not be canceled by the surety or other holder or issuer except after not less than a 90 day notice to the Kewaunee County Land & Water Conservation Department in writing by registered or certified mail. Not less than 30 days prior to the expiration of the 90-day notice of cancellation, the operator shall deliver to Kewaunee County a replacement proof of financial assurance. In the absence of this replacement financial assurance, all mining shall cease until the time it is delivered and in effect.
- (j) Changing methods of financial assurance. The operator of a nonmetallic mining site may change from one method of financial assurance to another. This may not be done more than once a year unless required by an adjustment imposed pursuant to **par. (I)**. The operator shall give the Kewaunee County Land & Water Conservation Department at least 60 days notice prior to changing methods of financial assurance and may not actually change methods without the written approval of Kewaunee County.
- (k) Bankruptcy notification. The operator of a nonmetallic mining site shall notify the regulatory authority by certified mail of the commencement of voluntary or involuntary proceeding under bankruptcy code, 11 USC, et seq., naming the operator as debtor, within 10 days of commencement of the proceeding.
- (l) Adjustment of financial assurance. Financial assurance may be adjusted when required by Kewaunee County. Kewaunee County may notify the operator in writing that adjustment is necessary and the reasons for it. Kewaunee County may adjust financial assurance based upon prevailing or projected interest or inflation rates, or the latest cost estimates for reclamation.
- (m) Net worth test.
 1. Only an operator that meets the definition of “company” in s. 289.41 (1) (b), Wisconsin Statutes, may use the net worth method of providing financial assurance.
 2. The operator shall submit information to the regulatory authority in satisfaction of the net worth test requirements of s. 289.41 (4), Wisconsin Statutes. The criteria in secs. 289.41 (6) (b), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h) and (i), Wisconsin Statutes, shall apply.
 3. An operator using the net worth test to provide financial assurance for more than one mine shall use the total cost of compliance for all mines in determining the net worth to reclamation cost ratio in accordance with s. 289.41 (6), Wisconsin Statutes.
 4. Determinations under the net worth test shall be done in accordance with s. 289.41 (5), Wisconsin Statutes.
 5. In addition, the operator shall submit a legally binding commitment to faithfully perform all compliance and reclamation work at the mine site that is required under this chapter.
- (2) Existing Mines. The operator of any nonmetallic mining site that submits an automatic permit application in conformance with **s. 17.12(2)** shall submit the financial assurance required by **s. 17.14(1)** by a date to be established between one (1) and three (3) years after submittal of the application for an automatic permit. The date will be determined after the applications per **s. 17.12(2)** have been received, based on consideration of:
 - (a) the time needed for the mine operator to prepare the reclamation plan or amend an existing plan,

- (b) the needs of the Kewaunee County Land & Water Conservation Department to distribute workload in reviewing reclamation plans, and
 - (c) other relevant factors.
- (3) New Mines. The operator of any nonmetallic mining site that applies for a reclamation permit in conformance with **s. 17.12(3)** shall submit the proof of financial assurance required by **s. 17.14(1)** as specified in the reclamation permit issued to it under this ordinance.
- (4) Public Nonmetallic Mining. The financial assurance requirements of this section do not apply to nonmetallic mining conducted by the State of Wisconsin, a state agency, board, commission or department, or a municipality.

17.15 Public Notice and Right of Hearing.

- (1) New Mines. Kewaunee County shall, except as provided in **s. 17.15(2)**, provide public notice and the opportunity for a public informational hearing as set forth below:
- (a) Public notice.
 1. Except as provided in **sub. (2)** for existing mines, when Kewaunee County receives an application to issue a reclamation permit, it shall publish a public notice of the application no later than 30 days after receipt of a complete application that satisfies **s. 17.12(3)**.
 2. The notice shall briefly describe the mining and reclamation planned at the nonmetallic mining site. The notice shall be published as a class 2 notice pursuant to s. 985.07(2), Wisconsin Statutes, in the official newspaper(s) of Kewaunee County. The notice shall mention the opportunity for public hearing pursuant to this section and shall give the locations at which the public may review the application and all supporting materials including the reclamation plan.
 3. Copies of the notice shall be forwarded by Kewaunee County to the applicable local zoning board, applicable local planning organization, the county's Zoning Administrator and owners of land within 300 feet of the boundaries of the parcel or parcels of land on which the site is located.
 - (b) Hearing. Except as provided in **sub. (2)** for existing mines, Kewaunee County shall provide for an opportunity for a public informational hearing on an application or request to issue a nonmetallic mining reclamation permit as follows.
 1. If it conducts a zoning-related hearing on the nonmetallic mine site, Kewaunee County shall provide the opportunity at this hearing to present testimony on reclamation-related matters. This opportunity shall fulfill the requirement for public hearing for a nonmetallic mining reclamation permit required by this section. Kewaunee County shall consider the reclamation-related testimony in the zoning-related hearing in deciding on a permit application pursuant to this chapter.
 2.
 - a. If there is no opportunity for a zoning-related hearing on the nonmetallic mine site as described in **subd. 1.**, opportunity for public hearing required by this section shall be provided as follows. Any person residing within, owning property within, or whose principal place of business is within 300 feet of the boundary of the parcel or parcels of

land in which the nonmetallic mining site is located or proposed may request a public informational hearing. Kewaunee County shall hold a public hearing if requested by any of these persons within 30 days of the actual date of public notice under **sub. (1)**. This public informational hearing shall be held no sooner than 30 days nor later than 60 days after being requested. The hearing shall be conducted as an informational hearing for the purpose of explaining and receiving comment from affected persons on the nature, feasibility and effects of the proposed reclamation. If a public informational hearing is requested the following procedures will be adhered to.

- i. County Conservationist or designee will be the presiding officer.
 - ii. Presiding officer will open the public informational hearing and make a concise statement of its scope and purpose.
 - iii. Any affected person will be given an opportunity to appear and present their view on the subject matter of the public informational hearing.
 - iv. Any person desiring to participate, whether on his/her own behalf or in a representative capacity, shall give his/her name and address, the name(s) and address(es) of any persons being represented, and the capacity in which he/she is representing such person(s).
 - v. Statements may be submitted in written form (prior to the start of the hearing) or oral form.
 - vi. The presiding officer shall determine the order in which people may make presentations, the length of presentations, and impose other limitations deemed prudent if the presentations are unduly repetitious.
 - vii. Clarifying questions of those who speak may be allowed by the presiding officer. Cross-examination of those who speak will not be permitted.
- b. The subject matter and testimony at the informational hearing shall be limited to reclamation of the nonmetallic mine site.

(2) Existing Mines.

- (a) No public notice or informational hearing is required for a nonmetallic mining reclamation permit issued pursuant to **s. 17.16(2)** for an existing mine, except as provided in **par. (c)**.
- (b) If the regulatory authority accepts a previously approved reclamation plan for that mine as provided in **s. 17.16(3)(b)2.a.**, no further public notice or informational hearing is required.
- (c) If Kewaunee County requires the submittal of a new reclamation plan, public notice and the opportunity for public informational hearing shall be provided following the receipt of the reclamation plan in accordance **s. 17.15(1)**. In this case, the subject matter and testimony at that hearing, if held, shall be limited to the new reclamation plan.

(3) Local Transportation-Related Mines. No public notice or informational hearing is required for a nonmetallic mining reclamation permit issued to a local transportation-related mine pursuant to **s. 17.16(5)**.

17.16 Issuance of a Nonmetallic Mining Reclamation Permit.

- (1) Permit Required. Every operator of a nonmetallic mining site in Kewaunee County who engages in or plans to engage in nonmetallic mining after September 1st, 2001 shall obtain

a reclamation permit issued under this section, except for nonmetallic mining sites that are exempt from this ordinance under **s. 17.07(2)**. No person may engage in nonmetallic mining or nonmetallic mining reclamation after September 1st, 2001 without a reclamation permit issued pursuant to this ordinance.

(2) Automatic Permit for Existing Mines. Kewaunee County shall issue an automatic reclamation permit to the operator of a nonmetallic mining site that submits an application meeting the requirements of **s. 17.12(2)**, according to the following provisions:

- (a) The permit shall be issued within 30 days of such application.
- (b) Existing mines that are granted a reclamation permit pursuant to this subsection shall, within 3 years of receipt of the permit and consistent with deadlines established in **ss. 17.13(2) and 17.14(2)**, submit to Kewaunee County the following:
 - 1. A reclamation plan that meets the requirements of **s. 17.13**; and
 - 2. Financial assurance required pursuant to **s. 17.14**.
- (c) Kewaunee County may grant a reasonable extension to the deadline in **par. (b)** when it finds extenuating circumstances exist.

(3) Evaluation of Follow-Up Submittals as Required in s. 17.16(2)(b).

- (a) Mines covered by automatic permits issued under **s. 17.16(2)** shall submit a reclamation plan in accordance with **s. 17.13(2)** and proof of financial assurance in accordance with **s. 17.14(2)** by a date to be established within three (3) years after submittal of the application for an automatic permit. The date will be determined after the applications have been received, based on consideration of:
 - 1. the time needed for the mine operator to prepare the reclamation plan or amend an existing plan,
 - 2. the needs of the Kewaunee County Land & Water Conservation Department to distribute workload in reviewing reclamation plans, and
 - 3. other relevant factors.
- (b) Reasonable extensions to these deadlines may be granted in writing by Kewaunee County where extenuating circumstances exist. These follow-up submittals shall be evaluated as set forth below:
 - 1. The reclamation plan and financial assurance shall meet the requirements of **s. 17.16(2)(b)2**.
 - 2.
 - a. Kewaunee County shall accept, as satisfaction of the requirement for submittal of a reclamation plan pursuant to **s. 17.16(2)(b)1.**, submittal of a previously-completed document that includes plans for reclamation so long as:
 - i. The document has been approved by a municipality; and
 - ii. Kewaunee County finds that the document designates a post-mining land use and describes reclamation measures that meet the reclamation standards of this ordinance.
 - b. If Kewaunee County determines that a document with reclamation plans previously approved meets some, but not all of, the requirements of this chapter, it shall request the supplemental information needed to satisfy the reclamation plan requirements of this section. In that case, Kewaunee County shall determine whether or not to provide public

notice and opportunity for public hearing pursuant to **s. 17.15(2)(c)**, depending on the nature and extent of the supplemental information.

3. Within 30 days of receipt of the reclamation plan and evidence of financial assurance as required under **s. 17.16(2)(b)**, Kewaunee County shall affirm in writing its decision whether to approve these submittals and continue the nonmetallic mining reclamation permit issued pursuant to **s. 17.16(2)**. A reclamation permit with this written affirmation shall satisfy the requirements of this ordinance without further action, submittal or approval.

- (4) Permit Issuance for New Mines. Applications for reclamation permits for nonmetallic mining sites not in operation on August 1st, 2001 that satisfy **s. 17.12(3)** shall be issued a reclamation permit or otherwise acted on as provided below.

- (a) Unless denied pursuant to **s. 17.17**, Kewaunee County shall approve in writing a request that satisfies the requirements of **s. 17.12(3)** to issue a nonmetallic mining reclamation permit for a nonmetallic mine where mining has not yet taken place before August 1st, 2001 or an existing nonmetallic mine where mining is not taking place on or after August 1, 2001.
- (b) Kewaunee County may not issue an approval without prior or concurrent approval of the reclamation plan that meets the requirements of **s. 17.13**. Kewaunee County may issue a reclamation permit subject to conditions in **s. 17.16(7)** if appropriate. The permit decision shall be made no sooner than 30 days nor later than 90 days following receipt of the complete reclamation permit application and reclamation plan pursuant to this subchapter, unless a public hearing is held pursuant to **s. 17.15**. If a public hearing is held, Kewaunee County shall issue the reclamation permit, subject to conditions pursuant to **s. 17.16(7)** if appropriate, or shall deny the permit as provided in **s. 17.17**, no later than 60 days after completing the public hearing.
- (c) Permits issued pursuant to this subsection shall require compliance with a reclamation plan that has been approved and satisfies the requirements of **s. 17.13** and provision by the applicant of financial assurance required under **s. 17.14** and payable to Kewaunee County prior to beginning mining.

- (5) Automatic Permit for Local Transportation-Related Mines.

- (a) Kewaunee County shall automatically issue an expedited permit under this subsection to any borrow site that:
 1. Will be opened and reclaimed under contract with a municipality within a period not exceeding 36 months;
 2. Is a nonmetallic mine which is intended to provide stone, soil, sand or gravel for the construction, reconstruction, maintenance or repair of a highway, railroad, airport facility or other transportation facility under contract with the municipality;
 3. Is regulated and will be reclaimed under contract with the municipality in accordance with the requirements of the Wisconsin Department of Transportation concerning the restoration of nonmetallic mining sites;
 4. Is not a commercial source;
 5. Will be constructed, operated and reclaimed in accordance with applicable zoning requirements, if any, and;
 6. Is not otherwise exempt from the requirements of this ordinance under **s. 17.07(2)(j)**.

- (b) In this subsection, “municipality” has the meaning defined in s. 299.01(8), Wisconsin Statutes.
- (c) Automatic permits shall be issued under this subsection in accordance with the following provisions:
 - 1. The applicant shall notify Kewaunee County of the terms and conditions of the contract with respect to reclamation of the proposed borrow site.
 - 2. The applicant shall provide evidence to Kewaunee County to show that the borrow site and its reclamation will comply with applicable zoning requirements, if any.
 - 3. Kewaunee County shall accept the contractual provisions incorporating requirements of the Wisconsin Department of Transportation in lieu of a reclamation plan under **s. 17.13**.
 - 4. Kewaunee County shall accept the contractual provisions in lieu of the financial assurance requirements in **s. 17.14**.
 - 5. The public notice and hearing provisions of **s. 17.15** do not apply to nonmetallic mining sites that are issued automatic permits under this subsection.
 - 6. Mines permitted under this subsection shall pay an annual fee to Kewaunee County as provided in **s. 17.27**, but shall not be subject to the plan review fee provided in **s. 17.26**.
 - 7. Kewaunee County shall issue the automatic permit within 7 days of the receipt of a complete application.
 - 8. If the borrow site is used to concurrently supply materials for other than the local transportation project, the automatic permitting in this subsection still applies provided the site will be reclaimed under a contractual obligation with the municipality in accordance with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation requirements.
 - 9. Notwithstanding **s. 17.25**, the operator of a borrow site under this subsection is required to submit only the information in an annual report necessary to identify the borrow site and to determine the applicable annual fee.
- (6) Expedited Review. Any operator of a nonmetallic mining site may request expedited review of a reclamation permit application under **pars. (a) or (b)** as follows:
 - (a) The operator may submit a request for expedited permit review with payment of the expedited review fee specified in **s. 17.26(2)**. This request shall state the need for such expedited review and the date by which such expedited review is requested.
 - (b) The operator may submit a request for expedited review under this subsection if the applicant requires a reclamation permit to perform services under contract with a municipality. This request for expedited review shall state the need for expedited review and shall include a copy of the applicable sections of the contract and the date by which the expedited review is requested.
 - (c) Following receipt of a request under this subsection, Kewaunee County shall inform the applicant of the estimated date for decision on issuance of the permit. If the applicant then elects not to proceed with the expedited review, the fee paid under **par. (a)** shall be returned.
 - (d) Expedited review under this subsection shall not waive, shorten or otherwise affect the public notice and right of hearing pursuant to **s. 17.15**. This subsection does not impose an obligation upon the regulatory authority to act upon a permit application under this subsection by a specific date.

(7) Permit Conditions. Any decision under this section may include conditions as provided below:

- (a) Kewaunee County may issue a reclamation permit or approve a reclamation plan subject to general or site-specific conditions if needed to assure compliance with the nonmetallic mining reclamation requirements of this ordinance.
- (b) One required condition of the issued permit shall be that the new mine obtain financial assurance pursuant to **s. 17.14** prior to beginning mining.

17.17 Permit Denial. An application for a nonmetallic mining reclamation permit shall be denied as set forth below:

(1) An application to issue a nonmetallic mining reclamation permit shall be denied, within the time frame for permit issuance specified in **s. 17.16**, if Kewaunee County finds any of the following:

- (a) The applicant has, after being given an opportunity to make corrections, failed to provide to Kewaunee County an adequate permit application, reclamation plan, financial assurance or any other submittal required by Chapter NR 135, Wisconsin Administrative Code or this ordinance.
- (b) The proposed nonmetallic mining site cannot be reclaimed in compliance with the reclamation standards contained in this ordinance, Chapter NR 135, Wisconsin Administrative Code or subch. I. of ch. 295, Wisconsin Statutes.
- (c)
 - 1. The applicant, or its agent, principal or predecessor has, during the course of nonmetallic mining in Wisconsin within 10 years of the permit application or modification request being considered shown a pattern of serious violations of this ordinance or of federal, state or local environmental laws related to nonmetallic mining reclamation.
 - 2. The following may be considered in making this determination of a pattern of serious violations:
 - a. Results of judicial or administrative proceedings involving the operator or its agent, principal or predecessor.
 - b. Suspensions or revocations of nonmetallic mining reclamation permits pursuant to this ordinance, other reclamation ordinances or Chapter NR 135, Wisconsin Administrative Code.
 - c. Forfeitures of financial assurance.
 - d. A denial under this subsection shall be in writing and shall contain documentation of reasons for denial.

(2) A decision to deny an application to issue a reclamation permit may be reviewed under **s. 17.22**.

17.18 Alternative Requirements.

(1) Scope of Alternative Requirements Approvable. An operator of a nonmetallic mining site may request an alternative requirement to the reclamation standard established in **s. 17.11**.

The Kewaunee County Land & Water Conservation Committee shall consider and decide any request for alternative requirements under Section NR 135.26, Wisconsin Administrative Code, pursuant to any procedures the Committee chooses for evaluating such requests, and in accordance with any applicable laws. Kewaunee County may approve an alternative requirement to the reclamation standards established in this ordinance if the operator demonstrates and Kewaunee County finds that all of the following criteria are met:

- (a) The nonmetallic mining site, the surrounding property or the mining plan or reclamation plan has a unique characteristic which requires an alternative requirement.
- (b) Unnecessary hardship which is peculiar to the nonmetallic mining site or plan will result unless the alternative requirement is approved.
- (c) Reclamation in accordance with the proposed alternative requirement will achieve the planned post-mining land use and long term site stability in a manner that will not cause environmental pollution or threaten public health, safety or welfare.

(2) Procedures.

- (a) The operator of a nonmetallic mining site requesting an alternate requirement in **s. 17.18(1)** shall demonstrate all the criteria in **s. 17.18(1)** and Section NR 135.26(1), Wisconsin Administrative Code.
- (b) This shall be submitted in writing to the Kewaunee County Land & Water Conservation Department, 625 Third Street, Luxemburg WI 54217. Financial considerations, matters of convenience or preference, and self-imposed hardships shall not be deemed or considered to be “unnecessary hardship”. Requests for alternative requirements shall be sparingly approved. The Land & Water Conservation Committee will provide for public notice and right of hearing as set out in Section NR 135.20, Wisconsin Administrative Code, if the Committee determines that all applicable criteria have been met.
- (c) A request for an alternative requirement may be incorporated as part of an application to issue or modify a nonmetallic mining reclamation permit.

(3) Transmittal of Decision on Request for Alternative Requirement. The decision on a request for alternate reclamation requirements shall be in writing to the applicant and shall include documentation of why the alternate requirement was or was not approved.

(4) Notice to Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Kewaunee County shall provide notice to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources as set forth in this subsection. Written notice shall be given to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources at least 10 days prior to any public hearing held under **s. 17.18(2)** on a request for an alternate requirement under this section. A copy of any written decision on alternative requirements shall be submitted to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources within 10 days of issuance.

17.19 Permit Duration.

- (1) A nonmetallic mining reclamation permit issued under this ordinance shall last through operation and reclamation of the nonmetallic mining site, unless suspended or revoked pursuant to **s. 17.32(2)**.

- (2) If the mine operator is not the landowner, the reclamation permit duration shall not exceed the duration of the mine lease unless the lease is renewed or the permit is transferred to a subsequent lessee pursuant to **s. 17.20**.
- 17.20 Permit Transfer. A nonmetallic mining reclamation permit issued under this ordinance shall be transferred to a new owner or operator upon satisfaction of the following conditions:
- (1) A nonmetallic mining reclamation permit may be transferred to a new operator upon submittal to Kewaunee County of proof of financial assurance and a certification in writing by the new permit holder that all conditions of the permit will be complied with.
- (2) The transfer is not valid until financial assurance has been submitted by the new operator and accepted by Kewaunee County and Kewaunee County makes a written finding that all conditions of the permit will be complied with. The previous operator shall maintain financial assurance until the new operator has received approval and provides the financial assurance under this section.
- 17.21 Previously Permitted Sites. For any nonmetallic mining site which had a reclamation permit previously issued by another regulatory authority pursuant to Chapter NR 135, Wisconsin Administrative Code that becomes subject to reclamation permitting authority of Kewaunee County the terms and conditions of the previously-issued municipal reclamation permit shall remain in force until modified by Kewaunee County pursuant to **s. 17.23(1)**.
- 17.22 Review. Any permitting decision or action made by Kewaunee County under this ordinance may be reviewed as set forth in this section. Notwithstanding ss. 68.001, 68.03 (8) and (9), 68.06 and 68.10 (1) (b), Wisconsin Statutes, any person who meets the requirements of s. 227.42 (1), Wisconsin Statutes, may obtain a contested case hearing under s. 68.11, Wisconsin Statutes, on Kewaunee County's decision to issue, deny or modify a nonmetallic mining reclamation permit

PART IV - ADMINISTRATION

- 17.23 Permit Modification.
- (1) By Kewaunee County. A nonmetallic mining reclamation permit issued under this ordinance may be modified by Kewaunee County if it finds that, due to changing conditions, the nonmetallic mining site is no longer in compliance with Chapter NR 135, Wisconsin Administrative Code or this ordinance. Such modification shall be by an order modifying the permit in accordance with **s. 17.32**. This modifying order may require the operator to amend or submit new application information, reclamation plan, proof of financial assurance or other information needed to ensure compliance with Chapter NR 135, Wisconsin Administrative Code or this ordinance.
- (2) At the Operator's Option. If the operator of any nonmetallic mine that holds a reclamation permit issued under this ordinance desires to modify such permit or reclamation plan approved under this ordinance, it may request such modification by submitting a written application for such modification to the Kewaunee County Land & Water Conservation Department, located at 625 Third Street, Luxemburg WI 54217. The application for permit or plan modification shall be acted on using the standards and procedures of this ordinance.
- (3) Required by the Operator. The operator of any nonmetallic mine that holds a reclamation permit issued under this ordinance shall request a modification of such permit if changes occur to the area to be mined, the nature of the planned reclamation, or other aspects of mining required by the reclamation plan approved pursuant to this ordinance. Such application for permit modification shall be acted on using the standards and procedures of this chapter.

- (4) Review. All actions on permit modifications requested or initiated under this section are subject to review under **s. 17.22**.

17.24 Permit Suspension and Revocation

- (1) Grounds. Kewaunee County may suspend or revoke a nonmetallic mining reclamation permit issued pursuant to this ordinance if it finds the operator has done any of the following:
- (a) Failed to submit a satisfactory reclamation plan within the time frames specified in this ordinance.
 - (b) Failed to submit or maintain financial assurance as required by this ordinance.
 - (c) Failed on a repetitive and significant basis to follow the approved reclamation plan.
- (2) Procedures. If Kewaunee County finds grounds for suspending or revoking a nonmetallic mining reclamation permit set forth in **s. 17.24(1)**, it may issue a special order suspending or revoking such permit as set forth in **s. 17.32(2)**.
- (3) Consequences.
- (a) If Kewaunee County makes any of the findings in **s. 17.24(1)**, it may suspend a nonmetallic mining reclamation permit for up to 30 days. During the time of suspension, the operator may not conduct nonmetallic mining at the site, except for reclamation or measures to protect human health and the environment as ordered by the regulatory authority pursuant to **s. 17.32**.
 - (b) If Kewaunee County makes any of the findings in **s. 17.24(1)**, it may revoke a nonmetallic mining reclamation permit. Upon permit revocation, the operator shall forfeit the financial assurance it has provided pursuant to this ordinance to Kewaunee County. Kewaunee County may use forfeited financial assurance to reclaim the site to the extent needed to comply with this ordinance.

17.25 Annual Operator Reporting.

- (1) Contents and Deadline. Annual reports that satisfy the requirements of this section shall be submitted by the operators of nonmetallic mining sites.
- (a) Contents. The annual report required by this section shall include all of the following:
- 1. The name and mailing address of the operator.
 - 2. The location of the nonmetallic mining site, including full legal description, tax key number or parcel identification number if available.
 - 3. The identification number of the applicable nonmetallic mining permit, if assigned by the County or a municipality.
 - 4. The acreage currently affected by nonmetallic mining extraction and not yet reclaimed.
 - 5. The amount of acreage that has been reclaimed to date, on a permanent basis and the amount reclaimed on an interim basis.
 - 6. A plan, map or diagram accurately showing the acreage described in **subds. 4. and 5.**
 - 7. The following certification statement, signed by the operator:

"I certify that this information is true and accurate, and that the nonmetallic mining site described herein complies with all conditions of the applicable nonmetallic mining reclamation permit and Chapter NR 135, Wisconsin Administrative Code."

- (b) Deadline. The annual report shall cover activities for a calendar year and be submitted within 60 days following the end of the year.
- (c) When reporting may end. Annual reports shall be submitted by an operator for all active and intermittent mining sites to Kewaunee County for each calendar year until nonmetallic mining reclamation at the site is certified as complete pursuant to **s. 17.29(3)** or at the time of release of financial assurance pursuant to **s. 17.14(1)(g)**.
- (2) Inspection in Lieu of Report. Kewaunee County may, at its discretion, obtain the information required in **s. 17.25(1)** for a calendar year by written documentation of an inspection it completes during a calendar year, as set forth in this subsection. If Kewaunee County obtains and documents the required information, the annual report need not be submitted by the operator. If Kewaunee County determines that the operator need not submit an annual report pursuant to this subsection, it shall advise the operator in writing at least 30 days before the end of the applicable calendar year. In that case, Kewaunee County shall require the operator to submit the certification required in **s. 17.25(1)(a)7**.
- (3) Retention of Annual Reports. Annual reports submitted under **s. 17.25(1)** or inspection records that replace them under **s. 17.25(2)** shall be retained by Kewaunee County at the Kewaunee County Land & Water Conservation Department for at least 10 years after the calendar year to which they apply. These records, or complete and accurate copies of them, shall be made available to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources upon written request or during its inspection or audit activities carried out pursuant to Chapter NR 135, Wisconsin Administrative Code.

17.26 Plan Review Fees.

- (1) Amount and Applicability. Any person who intends to operate a nonmetallic mining site for which a permit application has been submitted under **s. 17.12(3)** shall submit a non-refundable plan review fee to Kewaunee County as follows:

TABLE 1:
Plan Review Fees Collected by Kewaunee County

Proposed Mine Site Size Rounded to the Nearest Whole Acre	Plan Review Fee
1 to 25 acres	\$900
26 to 50 acres	\$1,200
51 or more acres	\$1,500

No plan review fee may be assessed under this section for any existing nonmetallic mine site for which an application for an automatic reclamation permit is submitted that meets the requirements of **s. 17.12(2)** or for any local transportation-related mining project receiving an automatic permit under **s. 17.16(5)**. A separate plan review fee shall be paid under this section for any modification to an existing reclamation plan submitted pursuant to **s. 17.23**. The fee structure created in this section shall be reviewed annually and adjusted as necessary. The Kewaunee County Board of Supervisors designates its Land & Water Conservation

Committee to make the annual review and authorizes that Committee to make the necessary adjustments without further action by the Kewaunee County Board of Supervisors.

- (2) Expedited Plan Review Fee. A person who intends to operate a nonmetallic mining site for which a permit application has been submitted under **s. 17.12(3)** may obtain expedited reclamation plan review by paying a fee of \$500. Such fee shall be in addition to that required in **s. 17.26(1)**.
- (3) Relation to Annual Fee. Any reclamation plan review fee or expedited reclamation plan review fee collected under this section shall be added to and collected as part of the first annual fee collected under **s. 17.27**.

17.27 Annual Fees.

- (1) Areas Subject to Fees, Procedures and Deadline.
 - (a) Operators of all nonmetallic mining sites subject to reclamation permits issued under this ordinance shall pay annual fees to Kewaunee County. Fees paid under this section shall include both a share for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources under **sub. (2)** and a share for Kewaunee County under **sub. (3)** that equals as closely as possible the costs of examination and approval of nonmetallic mining reclamation plans and the inspection of nonmetallic mining sites. The Kewaunee County Board of Supervisors designates its Land & Water Conservation Committee to make the annual review and authorizes that Committee to make the necessary adjustments without further action by the Kewaunee County Board of Supervisors.
 - (b) Fees paid under this section shall be calculated based on the unreclaimed acres of a nonmetallic mining site, as defined below:
 1. "Unreclaimed acre" or "unreclaimed acres" means those unreclaimed areas in which nonmetallic mining has occurred after August 1st, 2001 and areas where nonmetallic mining reclamation has been completed but is not yet certified as reclaimed under **s. 17.14(1)(g)**. However the term does not include any areas described in **subd. 2**.
 2. "Unreclaimed acre" or "unreclaimed acres" does not include:
 - a. Those areas where reclamation had been completed and certified as reclaimed under **s. 17.14(1)(g)**.
 - b. Those areas previously affected by nonmetallic mining but which are not used for nonmetallic mining after August 1st, 2001.
 - c. Those portions of nonmetallic mining sites which are included in an approved nonmetallic mining reclamation plan but are not yet affected by nonmetallic mining.
 - d. Areas previously mined but used after August 1st, 2001 for a non-mining activity, such as stockpiling of materials used for an industrial activity such as an asphalt plant, concrete batch plant, block and tile operation or other industry that uses products produced from nonmetallic mining.
 - e. Those areas within a nonmetallic mining site which the regulatory authority has determined to have been successfully reclaimed on an interim basis in accordance with **s. 17.29(2) and (3)**.
 - f. Those areas defined as not included in a nonmetallic mining site under **s. 17.10(15)(b)**.
 - (c) Fees assessed pursuant to this section shall be based on unreclaimed acres at the end of the year. Such fees apply to a calendar year or any part of a year in which nonmetallic mining takes place, until final reclamation is certified as complete

under s. 17.29. Fees shall be paid no later than December 31 for the subsequent year.

- (d) For new or reopened mines that submit a reclamation permit application under s. 17.12(3), the first year's annual fee shall be based upon the unreclaimed acres which are anticipated at the end of that calendar year.
- (e) If reclamation has already occurred on portions of a nonmetallic mining site, the fees for such portions may be submitted with a request that they be held by Kewaunee County pending certification of completed reclamation pursuant to s. 17.14(1)(g). Upon such certification Kewaunee County shall refund that portion of the annual fee that applies to the reclaimed areas. If Kewaunee County fails to make a determination under s. 17.14(1)(g) within 60 days of the request, it shall refund that portion of the annual fee that applies to the reclaimed areas.

(2) Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Share of Fee.

- (a) Fees paid under this section shall, except where provided in par. (b), include a share for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources equal to the amount specified in Table 2. For sites on which no nonmetallic mining has taken place during a calendar year, fees to be paid under this section for the following year shall be \$15.00.

TABLE 2:
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources' Share of Annual Fees
Collected by Kewaunee County

Mine Size in Unreclaimed Acres Rounded to the Nearest Whole Acre	Annual Fee
1 to 5 acres (does not include mines <1 acre)	\$30
6 to 10 acres	\$60
11 to 15 acres	\$90
16 to 25 acres	\$120
26 to 50 acres	\$140
51 or more acres	\$150

- (b) For nonmetallic mining sites at which no nonmetallic mining has taken place during a calendar year, the share for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources shall be \$15.
- (c) Kewaunee County shall forward fees collected under this subsection to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources by March 31st of the year for which they were collected.

(3) Kewaunee County's Share of Fee. Fees paid under this section shall also include an annual fee due to Kewaunee County which shall be as follows:

TABLE 3:
Kewaunee County's Share of Annual Fees
Collected on or before December 31, 2003

Mine Size in Unreclaimed Acres Rounded to the Nearest Whole Acre	Annual Fee
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1 to 5 acres (does not include mines <1 acre)	\$420
6 to 10 acres	\$540
11 to 15 acres	\$660
16 to 25 acres	\$880
26 to 50 acres	\$960
51 or more acres	\$1,100

TABLE 4:
Kewaunee County's Share of Annual Fees
Collected on or after January 1, 2004

Mine Size in Unreclaimed Acres Rounded to the Nearest Whole Acre	Annual Fee
1 to 5 acres (does not include mines <1 acre)	\$120
6 to 10 acres	\$240
11 to 15 acres	\$360
16 to 25 acres	\$480
26 to 50 acres	\$560
51 or more acres	\$600

Annual fees for local transportation-related mines issued permits under s. 17.16(5) may not exceed the amounts set forth below in Table 5.

TABLE 5:
Limit on Total Annual Fees For
Automatically Permitted Local Transportation Project – Related Mines

Mine Size in Unreclaimed Acres Rounded to the Nearest Whole Acre	Annual Fee
1 to 5 acres (does not include mines <1 acre)	\$150
6 to 10 acres	\$300
11 to 15 acres	\$450
16 to 25 acres	\$600
26 to 50 acres	\$700
51 or more acres	\$750

- (4) Reduced Fee for Inactive Mines. Any site on which no nonmetallic mining activity has taken place in a calendar year shall be assessed a fee for the following calendar year of \$40, of which \$15 will be forwarded to the Department of Natural Resources. The Kewaunee County Board of Supervisors designates its Land & Water Conservation Committee to make the annual review and authorizes that Committee to make the necessary adjustments without further action by the Kewaunee County Board of Supervisors.

17.28 Regulatory Reporting and Documentation.

- (1) Reporting. Kewaunee County shall send an annual report to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources by March 31st of each calendar year. The reports shall include the following information for the previous year's nonmetallic mining reclamation program:
 - (a) The total number of nonmetallic mining reclamation permits in effect.
 - (b) The number of new permits issued within the jurisdiction of Kewaunee County.
 - (c) The number of acres approved for nonmetallic mining and the number of acres newly approved in the previous year.
 - (d) The number of acres being mined.
 - (e) The number of acres that have been reclaimed and have had financial assurance released pursuant to **s. 17.14(1)(g)**.
 - (f) The number of acres that are reclaimed and awaiting release from the financial assurance requirements of this subchapter pursuant to **s. 17.29(1) and (2)**.
 - (g) The number and nature of alternative requirements granted, permit modifications, violations, public hearings, enforcement actions, penalties that have been assessed and bond or financial assurance forfeitures.

- (2) Documentation. Kewaunee County shall, to the best of its ability, maintain the information set forth below, and make it available to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for that agency's audit of Kewaunee County's reclamation program pursuant to Chapter NR 135, Wisconsin Administrative Code:
 - (a) Documentation of compliance with Chapter NR 135, Wisconsin Administrative Code and this chapter.
 - (b) The procedures employed by Kewaunee County regarding reclamation plan review, and the issuance and modification of permits.
 - (c) The methods for review of annual reports received from operators.
 - (d) The method and effectiveness of fee collection.
 - (e) Procedures to accurately forward the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources' portion of collected fees in a timely fashion.
 - (f) Methods for conducting on-site compliance inspections and attendant reports, records and enforcement actions.
 - (g) Responses to citizen complaints.
 - (h) The method of and accuracy in determining the amount of the financial assurance obtained from the operator to guarantee reclamation performance.
 - (i) The maintenance and availability of records.
 - (j) The number and type of approvals for alternative requirements issued pursuant to **s. 17.18**.

- (k) The method of determining the success of reclamation in meeting the criteria contained in the reclamation plan and subsequently releasing the financial assurance pursuant to **s. 17.14(1)(g)**.
- (l) Any changes in local regulations, ordinances, funding and staffing mechanisms or any other factor which might affect the ability of Kewaunee County to implement its nonmetallic mining reclamation program under this ordinance.
- (m) The amount of fees collected in comparison to the amount of money actually expended for nonmetallic mining reclamation program administration.
- (n) Any other performance criterion necessary to ascertain compliance with Chapter NR 135, Wisconsin Administrative Code.

17.29 Completed Reclamation - Reporting, Certification and Effect

- (1) Reporting. The operator of a nonmetallic mining site may certify completion of reclamation for a portion or all of the nonmetallic mining site pursuant to a reclamation plan prepared and approved pursuant to this ordinance and Chapter NR 135, Wisconsin Administrative Code to Kewaunee County.
- (2) Reporting of Interim Reclamation. The operator of a nonmetallic mining site may report completion of interim reclamation as specified in the reclamation plan for the site prepared and approved pursuant to this ordinance and Chapter NR 135, Wisconsin Administrative Code to Kewaunee County. Reporting of interim reclamation shall be done according to the procedures in **s. 17.29(1)**.
- (3) Certification of Completed Reclamation. Kewaunee County shall inspect a nonmetallic mining site for which reporting of reclamation or interim reclamation has been submitted pursuant to this subsection within 60 days of receipt, and make a determination in writing in accordance with **s. 17.14(1)(g)3**. If it is determined that interim or final reclamation is complete, including revegetation as specified in a reclamation plan that conforms with **s. 17.13**, Kewaunee County shall issue the mine operator a written certificate of completion.
- (4) Effect of Completed Reclamation. If reclamation is certified by Kewaunee County as complete under **s. 17.29(3)** for part or all of a nonmetallic mining site, then:
 - (a) No fee shall be assessed under **s. 17.27** for the area so certified.
 - (b) The financial assurance required by **s. 17.14** shall be released or appropriately reduced in the case of completion of reclamation for a portion of the mining site.
 - (c) For sites which are reported as interim reclaimed under **s. 17.29(2)** and so certified under **s. 17.29(3)**, financial assurance for reclaiming the certified area shall be waived.
- (5) Effect of Inaction Following Report of Completed Reclamation. If no written response as required by **s. 17.29(3)** for an area of the mine site reported as reclaimed or interim reclaimed is given within 60 days of receiving such request, any annual fee paid to Kewaunee County for it under **s. 17.27** shall be refunded.

17.30 Permit Termination. When all final reclamation required by a reclamation plan conforming to **s. 17.13** and required by this chapter is certified as complete pursuant to **ss. 17.14(1)(g) and 17.29(3)**, Kewaunee County shall issue a written statement to the operator of the nonmetallic mining site, thereby terminating the reclamation permit.

PART V - ENFORCEMENT

17.31 Right of Entry and Inspection. For the purpose of ascertaining compliance with the provisions of Subchapter I of Chapter 295, Wisconsin Statutes, Chapter NR 135, Wisconsin Administrative Code, or this ordinance, any authorized officer, agent, employee or representative of Kewaunee County may inspect any nonmetallic mining site subject to this chapter as provided below:

- (1) No person may refuse entry or access onto a nonmetallic mining site of a duly authorized officer, employee or agent of Kewaunee County or the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources who presents appropriate credentials to inspect the site for compliance with the nonmetallic mining reclamation permit, this ordinance, Chapter NR 135, Wisconsin Administrative Code or subchapter I of ch. 295, Wisconsin Statutes.
- (2) Any person who enters the site under this right of inspection shall obtain training and provide their own safety equipment needed to comply with any applicable federal, state or local laws or regulations controlling persons on the nonmetallic mining site.

17.32 Orders and Citations.

- (1) Enforcement Orders. Kewaunee County may issue orders as set forth in Section 295.19(1)(a), Wisconsin Statutes, to enforce Subchapter I of Chapter 295, Wisconsin Statutes, Chapter NR 135, Wisconsin Administrative Code, this ordinance, a permit issued pursuant to this ordinance or a reclamation plan required by **s. 17.13** and a permit issued under this ordinance. A violation of this ordinance, an order or permit issued pursuant to this ordinance or a reclamation plan required by **s. 17.13** and a permit issued under this ordinance shall be considered a violation of Subchapter I of Chapter 295, Wisconsin Statutes and Chapter NR 135, Wisconsin Administrative Code.
- (2) Special Orders. Kewaunee County may issue a special order as set forth in Sections 295.19(1)(b) and (c), Wisconsin Statutes suspending or revoking a nonmetallic mining reclamation permit pursuant to **s. 17.24**, or directing an operator to immediately cease an activity regulated under Subchapter I of Chapter 295, Wisconsin Statutes, Chapter NR 135, Wisconsin Administrative Code or this ordinance until the necessary plan approval is obtained.
- (3) Review of Orders. A person holding a reclamation permit who is subject to an order pursuant this section shall have the right to review the order in a contested case hearing under s. 68.11, Wisconsin Statutes, notwithstanding the provisions of ss. 68.001, 68.03 (8) and (9), 68.06 and 68.10 (1) (b), Wisconsin Statutes.
- (4) Citations. Kewaunee County may issue a citation under s. 66.119, Wisconsin Statutes to collect forfeitures to enforce Subchapter I of Chapter 295, Wisconsin Statutes, Chapter NR 135, Wisconsin Administrative Code, this ordinance, a permit issued pursuant to this ordinance or a reclamation plan required by **s. 17.13** and a permit issued under this ordinance. The issuance of a citation under this subsection shall not preclude proceeding under any other ordinance or law relating to the same or any other matter. Proceeding under any other ordinance or law relating to the same or any other matter shall not preclude the issuance of a citation under this subsection.
- (5) Enforcement. Kewaunee County may submit any order issued under **s. 17.32** to abate violations of this chapter to a district attorney, corporation counsel, municipal attorney or the attorney general for enforcement. The district attorney, corporation counsel, municipal attorney or the attorney general may enforce those orders.

17.33 Penalties. Any violation of Subchapter I of Chapter 295, Wisconsin Statutes, Chapter NR 135, Wisconsin Administrative Code, this ordinance, a permit issued pursuant to this ordinance or a

reclamation plan required by **s. 17.13** and a permit issued under this ordinance may result in forfeitures as provided in Section 295.19(3), Wisconsin Statutes, as follows:

- (1) Any person who violates Chapter NR 135, Wisconsin Administrative Code or an order issued under **s. 17.32** may be required to forfeit not less than \$25 nor more than \$1,000 for each violation. Each day of continued violation is a separate offense. While an order issued under **s. 17.32** is suspended, stayed or enjoined, this penalty does not accrue.
- (2) Except for the violations referred to in **sub. (1)**, any person who violates subchapter I of ch. 295, Wisconsin Statutes, Chapter NR 135, Wisconsin Administrative Code, any reclamation plan approved pursuant to this ordinance or an order issued pursuant to **s. 17.32** shall forfeit not less than \$10 nor more than \$5,000 for each violation. Each day of violation is a separate offense. While an order issued under **s. 17.32** is suspended, stayed or enjoined, this penalty does not accrue.