

12835 Newcastle Way, Suite 200, Newcastle, WA 98056 www.newcastlewa.gov

# **SEPA CHECKLIST**

State Environmental Policy Act

## The State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), Chapter 43.21C RCW, requires all governmental agencies to consider the environmental impacts of a proposal before making decisions. An environmental impact statement (EIS) must be prepared for all proposals with probably significant adverse impacts on the quality of the environment. The purpose of this checklist is to provide information to help you and the City of Newcastle identify impacts from your proposal (and to reduce or avoid impacts from the proposal, if it can be done) and to help the agency decide whether an EIS is required.

## Instructions: This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Please answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. You may need to consult with an agency specialist or private consultant for some questions. You may use “not applicable” or "does not apply" only when you can explain why it does not apply and not when the answer is unknown. You may also attach or incorporate by reference additional studies reports. Complete and accurate answers to these questions often avoid delays with the SEPA process as well as later in the decision-making process.

## The checklist questions apply to all parts of your proposal, even if you plan to do them over a period of time or on different parcels of land. Attach any additional information that will help describe your proposal or its environmental effects. The City may ask you to explain your answers or provide additional information reasonably related to determining if there may be significant adverse impact.

**Questions?** The Washington State Department of Ecology is ultimately responsible SEPA regulation. You can find SEPA overview and section-by-section guidance from the Department of Ecology at the following website: <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance>

You can also call or email [planning@newcastlewa.gov](mailto:planning@newcastlewa.gov) or your project planner with any questions.

**Project Information**

Permit Number and Associated Project Numbers (all known):Click here to enter text.

Project Name: Click here to enter text.

Parcel Number(s):Click here to enter text.

**Environmental Checklist**

# **A. Background** [**Find help answering background questions**](https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-A-Background)

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable: Click or tap here to enter text.
2. Name of applicant: Click or tap here to enter text.
3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person: Click or tap here to enter text.
4. Date checklist prepared: Click or tap here to enter text.
5. Agency requesting checklist: City of Newcastle
6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable): Click or tap here to enter text.
7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain.

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain.

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Give a brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page. (Lead agencies may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.)

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist.

Click or tap here to enter text.

# **B. Environmental Elements**

## 1. Earth [Find help answering earth questions](https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-Earth)

1. General description of the site:

Click or tap here to enter text.

Circle or highlight one:  Flat,  rolling,  hilly,  steep slopes,  mountainous, other: Click or tap here to enter text.

1. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat,   
   muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them, and note any agricultural land of long-term commercial significance and whether the proposal results in removing any of these soils.

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so,   
   describe.

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Describe the purpose, type, total area, and approximate quantities and total affected area of any filling, excavation, and grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Could erosion occur because of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project   
   construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any.

Click or tap here to enter text.

## 2. Air [Find help answering air questions](https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-Air)

a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal during construction, operation, and maintenance when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.

Click or tap here to enter text.

b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so,   
generally describe.

Click or tap here to enter text.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any.

Click or tap here to enter text.

## 3. Water [Find help answering water questions](https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-3-Water)

### a. Surface Water: [Find help answering surface water questions](https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-3-Water/Environmental-elements-Surface-water)

1. Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into.

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans.

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed  
   from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of fill material.

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give a general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan.

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? If so,   
   describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge.

Click or tap here to enter text.

### b. Ground Water: [Find help answering ground water questions](https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-3-Water/Environmental-elements-Groundwater)

1. Will groundwater be withdrawn from a well for drinking water or other purposes? If so, give a general description of the well, proposed uses and approximate quantities withdrawn from the well. Will water be discharged to groundwater? Give a general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals…; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve.

Click or tap here to enter text.

### c. Water Runoff (including stormwater):

1. Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities, if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe.

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe.

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Does the proposal alter or otherwise affect drainage patterns in the vicinity of the site? If so, describe.

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water, and drainage pattern impacts, if any.

Click or tap here to enter text.

## 4. Plants [Find help answering plants questions](https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-4-Plants)

1. Check the types of vegetation found on the site:

deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other

evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other

shrubs

grass

pasture

crop or grain

orchards, vineyards, or other permanent crops.

wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other

water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other

other types of vegetation

1. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. List threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site.

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any.

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. List all noxious weeds and invasive species known to be on or near the site.

Click or tap here to enter text.

## 5. Animals [Find help answering animal questions](https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-5-Animals)

1. List any birds and other animals that have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site.

Examples include:

* Birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other:
* Mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other:
* Fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other:

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. List any threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site.

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain.

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any.

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. List any invasive animal species known to be on or near the site.

Click or tap here to enter text.

## 6. Energy and Natural Resources [Find help answering energy and natural resource questions](https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-6-Energy-natural-resou)

1. What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc.

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe.

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any.

Click or tap here to enter text.

## 7. Environmental Health [Find help with answering environmental health questions](https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-7-Environmental-health)

a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste, that could occur because of this proposal? If so, describe.

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses.

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Describe existing hazardous chemicals/conditions that might affect project development and design. This includes underground hazardous liquid and gas transmission pipelines located within the project area and in the vicinity.

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Describe any toxic or hazardous chemicals that might be stored, used, or produced during the project's development or construction, or at any time during the operating life of the project.

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Describe special emergency services that might be required.

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any.

Click or tap here to enter text.

b. Noise

1. What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example:  
   traffic, equipment, operation, other)?

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. What types and levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term or a long-term basis (for example: traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours noise would come from the site)?

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any.

Click or tap here to enter text.

## 8. Land and Shoreline Use [Find help answering land and shoreline use questions](https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-8-Land-shoreline-use)

1. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties? Will the proposal affect current land uses on nearby or adjacent properties? If so, describe.

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Has the project site been used as working farmlands or working forest lands? If so, describe. How much agricultural or forest land of long-term commercial significance will be converted to other uses because of the proposal, if any? If resource lands have not been designated, how many acres in farmland or forest land tax status will be converted to nonfarm or nonforest use?

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Will the proposal affect or be affected by surrounding working farm or forest land normal business operations, such as oversize equipment access, the application of pesticides, tilling, and harvesting? If so, how?

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Describe any structures on the site.

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. What is the current zoning classification of the site?

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Has any part of the site been classified as a critical area by the city or county? If so, specify.

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any.

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land   
   uses and plans, if any.

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts to agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any.

Click or tap here to enter text.

## 9. Housing [Find help answering housing questions](https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-9-Housing)

1. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high,  
   middle, or low-income housing.

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any.

Click or tap here to enter text.

## 10. Aesthetics [Find help answering aesthetics questions](https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-10-Aesthetics)

1. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed?

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any.

Click or tap here to enter text.

## 11. Light and Glare [Find help answering light and glare questions](https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-11-Light-glare)

1. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur?

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal?

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any.

Click or tap here to enter text.

## 12. Recreation [Find help answering recreation questions](https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-12-Recreation)

1. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe.

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any.

Click or tap here to enter text.

## 13. Historic and Cultural Preservation [Find help answering historic and cultural preservation questions](https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-13-Historic-cultural-p)

1. Are there any buildings, structures, or sites, located on or near the site that are over 45 years old listed in or eligible for listing in national, state, or local preservation registers? If so, specifically describe.

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Are there any landmarks, features, or other evidence of Indian or historic use or occupation? This may include human burials or old cemeteries. Are there any material evidence, artifacts, or areas of cultural importance on or near the site? Please list any professional studies conducted at the site to identify such resources.

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Describe the methods used to assess the potential impacts to cultural and historic resources on or near the project site. Examples include consultation with tribes and the department of archeology and historic preservation, archaeological surveys, historic maps, GIS data, etc.

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Proposed measures to avoid, minimize, or compensate for loss, changes to, and disturbance to resources. Please include plans for the above and any permits that may be required.

Click or tap here to enter text.

## 14. Transportation [Find help with answering transportation questions](https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-14-Transportation)

1. Identify public streets and highways serving the site or affected geographic area and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any.

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Is the site or affected geographic area currently served by public transit? If so, generally describe. If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Will the proposal require any new or improvements to existing roads, streets, pedestrian, bicycle, or state transportation facilities, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Will the project or proposal use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe.

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project or proposal? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur and what percentage of the volume would be trucks (such as commercial and nonpassenger vehicles). What data or transportation models were used to make these estimates?

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Will the proposal interfere with, affect, or be affected by the movement of agricultural and forest products on roads or streets in the area? If so, generally describe.

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any.

Click or tap here to enter text.

## 15. Public Services [Find help answering public service questions](https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-15-Public-services)

1. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, public transit, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe.

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any.

Click or tap here to enter text.

## 16. Utilities [Find help answering utilities questions](https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-16-Utilities)

1. Circle utilities currently available at the site: electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other:

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed.

Click or tap here to enter text.

# **C. Signature**[Find help about who should sign](https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-C-Signature)

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

Signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Type name of signee: Click or tap here to enter text.

Position and agency/organization: Click or tap here to enter text.

Date submitted: Click or tap to enter a date.

**D. Supplemental sheet for nonproject actions -** Do not fill out this section for project actions.

# [Find help for the nonproject actions worksheet](https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-D-Non-project-actions)

Because these questions are very general, it may be helpful to read them in conjunction   
with the list of the elements of the environment.

When answering these questions, be aware of the extent the proposal, or the types of   
activities likely to result from the proposal, would affect the item at a greater intensity or at a faster rate than if the proposal were not implemented. Respond briefly and in general terms.

1. How would the proposal be likely to increase discharge to water; emissions to air; pro-  
   duction, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances; or production of noise?

Click or tap here to enter text.

* Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are:

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. How would the proposal be likely to affect plants, animals, fish, or marine life?

Click or tap here to enter text.

* Proposed measures to protect or conserve plants, animals, fish, or marine life are:

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. How would the proposal be likely to deplete energy or natural resources?

Click or tap here to enter text.

* Proposed measures to protect or conserve energy and natural resources are:

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. How would the proposal be likely to use or affect environmentally sensitive areas or   
   areas designated (or eligible or under study) for governmental protection, such as parks,   
   wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, threatened or endangered species habitat, historic or   
   cultural sites, wetlands, floodplains, or prime farmlands?

Click or tap here to enter text.

* Proposed measures to protect such resources or to avoid or reduce impacts are:

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. How would the proposal be likely to affect land and shoreline use, including whether it   
   would allow or encourage land or shoreline uses incompatible with existing plans?

Click or tap here to enter text.

* Proposed measures to avoid or reduce shoreline and land use impacts are:

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. How would the proposal be likely to increase demands on transportation or public  
   services and utilities?

Click or tap here to enter text.

* Proposed measures to reduce or respond to such demand(s) are:

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Identify, if possible, whether the proposal may conflict with local, state, or federal laws or requirements for the protection of the environment.

Click or tap here to enter text.