

Seawalls



Georgia Power Company permission is a minimum requirement prior to the installation of any type of shoreline abutment.

New seawall requests are only permitted on shorelines with evident cut bank erosion.

New seawall requests must provide applicable county and state permits as required.

Rip-Rap is required on the lake side of any new seawall or seawall replacement. It may also be required on existing walls not being replaced but needing extensive repairs.

Not all counties on Georgia Power lakes can or will approve the installation of new seawalls. This is the discretion of the county, not Georgia Power.

Where wetlands are present on shoreline, no wall of any type will be approved.

A landscape or mitigation plan may be required for any newly constructed seawall. Consult with your Georgia Power Lake Resources representative.

Georgia Power encourages the installation of rip-rap seawalls in lieu of other shoreline abutment alternatives. If properly installed, they are highly effective at stabilizing shorelines and providing aquatic habitat and may require less long-term maintenance compared to other options.

Prior to completion, every new wall must be backfilled and stabilized with silt fence, straw and other relevant best management practices. Silt fence should be removed after re-establishment of vegetation.

Constructed seawalls can be wood, concrete (poured form wall), block (filled with concrete and faced with decorative rock or other natural aesthetic options), bio-engineered, vinyl, boulder, or natural stone and must be constructed as close to existing shoreline as reasonably possible—not in a way to reclaim any “lost frontage”. Any of the above options will require rip rap on the lake side of the wall.

Installation of filter fabric material behind most seawall types is required to lessen the effect of undermining.

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In instances where a new seawall is requested to replace an existing seawall, the new wall should be in the footprint of the existing wall being removed or in a location acceptable to Georgia Power. Location and placement of turbidity barrier and or silt screen must be noted in the permit application.

Seawall construction should minimize disturbance within the state waters buffer to maximum extent practicable.

Turbidity barrier is required to be put in place before the removal of an existing seawall. This barrier must remain in place until the new seawall is completed.

