

Our homes are protected by Ontario laws. Much of this responsibility lies with municipalities. Where homes are built, what home plans are implemented, and in particular how stormwater is handled, both initially and in the long term to assure infrastructure integrity.

Ontario municipalities hold legal responsibility for overseeing **community planning**, **building code enforcement**, and **stormwater management**. The province provides overarching legislation (such as the [Planning Act](#)), but local city planners and building officials translate these laws into actionable community blueprints and infrastructure. [[1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#)]

Municipal control over home plans and stormwater infrastructure generally operates in three phases:

- **Initial Development & Approvals:** Before construction begins, developers must submit site plans and stormwater reports that comply with municipal standards and provincial policies. [[1](#), [2](#), [3](#)]
- **Building Code & Grading Enforcement:** Municipal building officials enforce the [Ontario Building Code](#), ensuring individual lot grading directs water away from foundations. [[1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#)]
- **Long-term Infrastructure Integrity:** Municipalities manage long-term stormwater systems, with some regions implementing stormwater user fees to fund maintenance, flood prevention, and water quality control. [[1](#), [2](#)]