Customers regularly have questions about whether a lot is buildable (or not buildable) for the purposes of sale or purchase, or for challenging the tax assessment of the property. Unfortunately, it is not possible to provide an answer to these questions by simply looking at maps. A review of the property and a specific development proposal must be completed through the permitting process, requiring submittal of a development permit application to the Lewis County Permit Center. Application fees and possibly other costs will be associated with this review.

The review includes **at a minimum:**

- **Planning land use Review.** To determine whether a site is buildable requires submittal of a development application (including soil evaluation, septic permit or building permit application). Additional information and documentation (i.e., wetland determination/delineation, geotechnical report, etc.) may be required prior to issuance of a determination.

- **Soil evaluation(s).** The review requires a Sewage Permit/Soil Evaluation application, site preparation (test holes) and a proposed site plan. Multiple test holes may be required. Fees vary depending on the type project proposed.

- **Floodways.** If the property is located within a floodway, a Hydrologic and Hydraulic (H & H) study may be required to be completed by a licensed Professional Engineer.

The reviews completed by the County will be done for the specific development area identified on the site plan and based on current regulations and conditions.

Additional reviews may be required depending on the specifics of the parcel or the proposed use.

For additional information regarding the application and permit process, please contact the Lewis County Permit Center at 2025 NE Kresky Avenue, Chehalis or call 360-740-1146.