

## Bellevue Land Use Code – Proposed CARA Section

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### 20.25H.025 Designation of critical areas.

The areas identified in the table directly below are hereby designated as [critical areas](#). For additional information about identifying each [critical area](#), see the specific sections noted. Together, [streams](#), [habitats](#) associated with species of local importance, and steep slopes comprise fish and wildlife [habitat](#) conservation areas..

<a href="#">Critical Area</a> Category or Type	Additional Information Identifying <a href="#">Critical Area</a>
<b><a href="#">Streams</a></b>	
Type S water	LUC <a href="#">20.25H.075</a>
Type F water	LUC <a href="#">20.25H.075</a>
Type N water	LUC <a href="#">20.25H.075</a>
Type O water	LUC <a href="#">20.25H.075</a>
Closed segment, regardless of type; Kelsey Creek drainage basin	LUC <a href="#">20.25H.075</a>
Closed segment, regardless of type; all other drainage basins	LUC <a href="#">20.25H.075</a>
<b><a href="#">Wetlands</a></b>	
Category I	LUC <a href="#">20.25H.095</a>
Category II	LUC <a href="#">20.25H.095</a>
Category III	LUC <a href="#">20.25H.095</a>
Category IV over 2,500 square feet	LUC <a href="#">20.25H.095</a>
<b>Geologic Hazard Areas</b>	
Landslide hazards	LUC <a href="#">20.25H.120</a>
Steep slopes	LUC <a href="#">20.25H.120</a>
Coal mine hazard areas	LUC <a href="#">20.25H.120</a>

Seismic hazard areas	LUC <a href="#">20.25H.120</a>
<b><a href="#">Habitat</a> Associated with Species of Local Importance</b>	
<a href="#">Habitat</a> associated with species of local importance	LUC <a href="#">20.25H.150</a>
<b>Frequently Flooded Areas</b>	
Frequently flooded areas	LUC <a href="#">20.25H.175</a>
<b>Critical Aquifer Recharge Areas</b>	
(placeholder for categories as appropriate)	(placeholder for code ref)

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## 20.25H.0XX – CRITICAL AQUIFER RECHARGE AREAS (CARAs)

### 20.25H.XXX Designation of CARAs

- A. CARAs are classified pursuant to WAC 365-190-100, which are designated as areas with a critical recharging effect on aquifers used for potable water. The only areas designated as CARAs in Bellevue are wellhead protection areas pursuant to the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act.
- B. CARA Classification
  1. CARA I: Areas located within a 1,000-foot radius of a Group A public water supply well. These are considered the highest-risk zones for potential groundwater contamination and are subject to the most protective standards.
  2. CARA II: Areas located between 1,000 feet and 2,500-foot from a Group A public water supply well.

\*Table 1 Map of Designated CARAs (Insert)\*

### 20.25H.XXX Development standards of CARAs

- A. Prohibited Uses. The following land uses and activities are prohibited within CARA I unless otherwise approved through a hydrogeologic assessment demonstrating no adverse impact:
  1. Gas stations
  2. Dry cleaners
  3. Landfills or transfer stations
  4. Underground fuel or chemical storage tanks
  5. Wood treatment facilities

6. Hazardous waste generators and storage facilities

B. Performance Standards

1. All uses within CARAs shall implement best management practices (BMPs) for groundwater protection, consistent with Chapter 24.06 BCC.
2. Stormwater infiltration shall comply with Chapter 24.06 BCC and the 2019 Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington, as amended.

**20.25H.XXX Definitions.**

The following definitions are specific to the regulations for the critical aquifer recharge areas in the [Land Use](#) Code and shall have the following meanings:

*“Critical aquifer recharge area”* (CARA) means areas with a critical recharging effect on aquifers used for potable water, including areas where an aquifer that is a source of drinking water is vulnerable to contamination that would affect the potability of the water, or is susceptible to reduced recharge (WAC 365-190-030).

*“Domestic water system”* means any system providing a supply of potable water which is deemed adequate pursuant to [RCW 19.27.097](#) for the intended use of a development.

*“Wellhead protection area”* (WHPA) means protective areas associated with public drinking water sources established by water systems and approved or assigned by the state Department of Health (WAC 365-190-030).