

**Chatham County, NC**  
**Draft Stormwater Ordinance Summary**  
**October 20, 2008**  
**Public Hearing**

**Section 103 Applicability and Jurisdiction**

- Applies to all development that involves more than 20,000 square feet of land disturbing activities.
- Exemptions are:
  - Individual Single-Family Residential
  - Agricultural, Timbering and Horticulture Activities
  - Emergency operations
  - Projects with existing County approval

**Section 300**

Environmental Resources Director is named as the Administrator of this Ordinance

**Section 400 Stormwater Design Standards**

- Adhere to generally accepted engineering practices
- Utilize latest rainfall data from NOAA
- Three-acre maximum drainage area for a single BMP. Larger drainage areas require BMPs used in series.
- Water Quality
  - 1-year, 1-hour is designated as the water quality storm event (approximately 1.43" of rainfall) and 95% of all recorded (average) storm events in Chatham County.
  - Minimum requirements: demonstrate 85% Total Suspended Solid (TSS) removal
- Water Quantity
  - Maintain Post-Development peak discharge rate at Pre-development levels for ALL STORMS up to and including the 10-year, 24-hour event
  - Additional reductions may be required when the receiving capacity of the system is limited or when needed to prevent the exacerbation of documented downstream flooding
- Conveyance Systems (inlets, pipes, culverts, ditches, etc.) minimally meet NC DOT Standards
- Alternative Designs Standards encourage certain activities by reducing the minimum requirements
  - Redevelopment of existing impervious areas with certain conditions must meet **both water quality & water quantity standards**.
  - If Low-Impact Development is incorporated, the **water quantity standard** is NOT required.
  - Minor Subdivisions are required to meet the **water quality standards**, which includes two options: residential guidelines (Appendix C) or the 400(2) requirements. However, they do NOT

have to meet the **water quantity standard** UNLESS the pre- versus post-development requirement for a 2-year, 24-hour event standard is exceeded by 10%.

### **Section 403 Stormwater Approval, Plan Submittal and Review**

- Must be prepared by either a registered professional engineer or landscape architect with expertise in the field
- County Commissioners may adopt fees to cover the cost of reviews

### **Section 500 Operation and Maintenance Agreement**

- Stormwater Infrastructure and BMPs are the responsibility of the **underlying landowner** where the BMP or infrastructure is located.
- The Maintenance Agreement is required and recorded on the deed
- The Owner is required to maintain stormwater infrastructure and BMPs as designed and provide periodic inspection reports to the County (initial report required every three months and annually once established).

### **Section 700 Illicit Discharges**

Includes a list of **Prohibited and Allowed Discharges** into any receiving stream

### **Section 800 Stormwater Utility**

Gives the Board of County Commissioners the option of establishing a Stormwater Utility in the future, if desired, by adopting a suitable fee and establishing a schedule of services provided by the fee.