



## ENGINEERING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

### *Stormwater and Erosion Control Division*

201 East Main St, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Durham, NC 27701

Telephone (919) 560-0739 Fax (919) 560-0740

**To:** All Development Community Members, Consultants and Development Design Professionals Practicing in Durham County, NC

**From:** Ryan D. Eaves, PE, CFM, CPESC  
Stormwater and Erosion Control Division Manager  
Engineering and Environmental Services  
201 E Main St, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Durham, NC 27701

**Subject:** Letter to Industry 11/30/2020: Changes to Durham County Stormwater Ordinance

### **Purpose**

The purpose of this memo is to inform Durham County and the Development Community of recent amendments to the Durham County Stormwater Ordinance, as well as policy changes to the plans submittal process for both Stormwater and Erosion Control Construction Drawings.

### **Applicability**

On November 23, 2020, the revised Durham County Stormwater Ordinance became effective. There were several amendments to the Durham County Stormwater Ordinance, and full text of the amendments can be found at <https://www.dconc.gov/home/showpublisheddocument?id=33482>. The most significant changes include:

- Updates to require stormwater control measure design to meet the NC DEQ Minimum Design Criteria.
- Added exemptions for stormwater compliance for small projects, including:
  - Meets the following criteria:
    - Less than 12,000 square feet of disturbance; and,
    - Less than 500 square feet of new impervious surface area; and,
    - No new structural stormwater conveyance.
- Stormwater development required to meet runoff treatment or runoff volume match.
- Removed requirements for nutrient loading targets in the Jordan Lake Watershed.
- Electronic plan submittal via the Durham County Electronic Portal, found at <https://www.dconc.gov/county-departments/departments-a-e/engineering-and-environmental-services/stormwater-and-erosion-control-division/electronic-plan-submittal>
- Changes to the permitting process. A permit will now be required to begin construction and will be called a Construction Stormwater Permit. Once construction is complete, as-built and permit

requirements have been submitted for review, an Operational Stormwater Permit will be issued for a ten year period.

- Certificates of Occupancy will be held until the Operational Stormwater Permit has been issued.
- Stream determinations will now be conducted internally by certified Durham County Staff.

### **Effective Date**

This Letter to Industry will become effective for all projects submitted through the Durham City/County Planning Site Plan Process on or after December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020.

### **Staff Contact**

Please contact Ryan Eaves, [reaves@dconc.gov](mailto:reaves@dconc.gov), or McKenzie Myers, [mfmymers@dconc.gov](mailto:mfmymers@dconc.gov), with any questions or comments related to this Letter to Industry.