



## ENGINEERING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

### *Stormwater and Erosion Control Division*

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**To:** All Development Community Members, Consultants and Development Design Professionals, Site Development Companies, Third-Party Inspection Companies, Responsible Person/Parties Practicing in Durham County, NC

**From:** Jonathan McNeill, CFM  
Erosion Control Supervisor  
Engineering and Environmental Services  
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**Subject:** Letter to Industry 6/17/2022: Expectations on Groundcover Implementation and Promotion of Polyacrylamides (PAMS)/ Flocculant application

## Purpose

The purpose of this memo is to inform Durham County and the Development Community of a dedicated commitment to ensure all land development follows State and Durham County guidelines for groundcover application, as well as promote the usage of flocculant/PAM in all applicable situations of site development. Summer hot and extended dry periods coupled with small cell thunderstorm downpours as well as hurricane season leads Durham County Erosion Control staff to have higher-than-normal concerns for site stability and sediment/turbidity. Durham County has seen a higher-than-expected amount of open, disturbed grade without groundcover over recent months and has concern for expectations of site development to effectively apply, germinate, and establish groundcover over the coming summer months without having impacts of sediment loss, and resulting in enforcement action that could have been avoided.

## Effective Date

Effective June 17, 2022, all permitted land disturbing sites within Durham County will have inspection reports clearly documenting the following:

- Open, inactive, disturbed ground showing evidence extending past the timeframe provided on the NCG01 stabilization chart([NCG01 Ground Cover](#)) will be notified immediately on their Durham County Erosion Control inspection report and required to apply appropriate groundcover based upon plan detail and/or Durham County Erosion Control Inspector discretion.

- Depending upon severity of lack of groundcover, including steep slope situations, immediate Notice of Violation may be issued.
- Diversion Ditch lining installation not matching specific detail on approved plan/calculations will result in Not in Compliance minimum and possible immediate Notice of Violation, depending on severity and risk for sediment loss and/or functionality of diversion ditch.
- Self-Inspection, recordkeeping and reporting must be available within 3 business days of previous month's reporting time period. Request will be made to listed financially responsible party from Durham County Erosion Control Staff. All NCDEQ guidelines must be followed and provided with requested reporting, found here: [Model \(nc.gov\)](#)
- Utilization of Polyacrylamides (PAMS) and Flocculants on all practical applications will be fully supported and highly recommended. Please consult with Durham County Erosion Control staff for guidance prior to implementation. Implementation must follow NCDEQ application guidelines found here: [NCG01 Ground Cover](#)

## Staff Contact

Please contact Jonathan McNeill, [jbmceill@dconc.gov](mailto:jbmceill@dconc.gov), 919-530-0503, with any questions or comments related to this Letter to Industry.