



NOTICE



Consultants, Builders and Developers

Notice #2025-07-01

July 1, 2025

Topic: Review Process Updates per DEQ Regulations

Effective: Immediately

The Virginia State Water Control Board approved the Virginia Erosion and Stormwater Management Program (VESMP) regulations, the Virginia Stormwater Management Handbook (VSMH) version 1.1, and the Virginia Runoff Reduction Method (VRRM) spreadsheet version 4.1, all of which were effective on July 1, 2024. These standards allowed for a one year grandfathering period which expired on June 30, 2025. This notice intends to highlight the following important changes that will be effective starting July 1, 2025:

1. All Stormwater Management (SWM) plans to be approved on or after July 1 must use VRRM spreadsheet 4.1 and VSMH version 1.1 as the basis of design. In cases where a project is currently under review and the SWM plan is ready for approval based on the old design criteria, an exception may be warranted. Please coordinate with the Development Services Center (DSC) Engineer reviewing your project to request such an exception.
 - a. Additional guidance related to the VRRM, including the spreadsheet version 4.1 is posted on the [Virginia Department of Environmental Quality \(DEQ\) Web Page](#).
 - b. The VSMH version 1.1 is also posted on the [DEQ Web Page](#).
2. The new Construction General Permit (CGP) requires an operator/permit holder to have Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) inspections conducted by qualified personnel (QP). This means that they must be able to identify proper implementation of the erosion and sediment control plan, stormwater management plan and pollution prevention plan. This includes being able to assess the effectiveness of the controls in place on the site. Beginning July 1, 2025, all sites with an active CGP must have an updated SWPPP to document compliance with qualified personnel requirements.
 - a. All projects with an active CGP have been notified in advance to prepare for this requirement. City Civil Inspectors have discussed this requirement verbally during

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site inspections over the past 6 months. DSC staff sent a letter via email to all Operators based on the contact information provided on the CGP.

- b. All future projects that require a CGP will provide the name and certificate of the QP when submitting the registration statement. This process will be coordinated through the DSC Surety Technician in the same way that Responsible Land Disturber (RLD) certification is currently provided.

Additionally, staff has updated the following forms and templates to use current code references and bring our program more in line with State Regulations:

1. The [City of Virginia Beach Subdivision and Site Development General Notes Criteria](#) have been updated to reflect current regulations, references, and practices. These notes must be included on the cover sheet of all subdivision and site development plans (excluding single family plans) with an initial submittal after July 1, and is recommended as an update for all projects currently under review but not yet approved.
2. The [City's Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Plan Minimum Standards Checklist](#) has been updated to reflect current state regulations and references. This checklist must be included with all Erosion and Sediment Control plans with an initial submittal after July 1, and is recommended as an update for all plans currently under review but not yet approved.
3. The [Stormwater Management Facility \(SWMF\) Maintenance Agreements](#) have been updated to reflect current regulation sections. New agreement templates were created based on commonly used combined agreements and agreements that were less commonly used were removed. These templates must be used for all SWMF-Maintenance Agreements with an initial submittal after July 1, and are recommended as an update for all agreements currently under review but not yet approved.
4. The process to use an [Agreement in Lieu of an Erosion and Sediment Control and Stormwater Management Plan](#) for Single Family projects has been updated to better align with state regulations. This process has previously been handled by Permits & Inspections and required prior to issuance of a building permit. The new process will be handled by the Development Services Center, and an agreement signed by the Property Owner and Construction Operator will be required prior to release of approved single family site plans.

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