

CHAPTER 9. ENVIRONMENT

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ARTICLE I. Regulation of Stormwater and Erosion and Sediment Control

§ 9-1. Purpose and authority.

1. Pursuant to Virginia Code 62.1-44.15:27, this ordinance integrates stormwater management requirements with the erosion and sediment control requirements into an integrated erosion and sediment control and stormwater program. The integrated program is intended to facilitate the submission and approval of plans, issuance of permits, payment of fees, and coordination of inspection and enforcement activities into a more convenient and efficient manner for both the County and those responsible for compliance with these programs. This ordinance accounts for any town lying within the County unless such towns choose to adopt their own program.

2. The purpose of this ordinance is to establish minimum stormwater management (SWM) and erosion and sediment control (ESC) requirements and controls to protect properties, safeguard the general health, safety, and welfare of the public residing in watersheds within the County, and protect aquatic resources.

3. This ordinance is adopted pursuant to Article 2.3 of Chapter 3.1 of Title 62.1 of the Code of Virginia.

§ 9-2. Definitions.

As used in the ordinance, unless the context requires a different meaning, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

Administrator. The VESMP authority responsible for administering the VESMP on behalf of the County. The Department of Community Development is designated as the Administrator.

Agreement in lieu of a plan. A contract between the Administrator and the owner or permittee that specifies methods that must be implemented to comply with the requirements of a VESMP and/or Erosion and Sediment Control Plan in the construction of a (i) single-family detached residential structure; (ii) farm building or structure on a parcel of land with a total impervious cover percentage, including the impervious cover from the farm building or structure to be constructed, of less than five percent of the total acreage of the parcel; this contract may be executed by the Administrator in lieu of a formal site plan. Fees associated with Agreement in lieu of a Plan do not require payment to Department.

Applicant. Any person submitting a soil erosion control and stormwater management plan for approval in order to obtain authorization to commence a land-disturbing activity.

Best management practice or BMP. Schedules of activities, practices and prohibitions of
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practices, including both structural and nonstructural practices, structures, maintenance procedures, and other management practices to prevent or reduce the discharge of pollutants to surface waters and groundwater systems from the impacts of land-disturbing activities. BMPs also include treatment requirements, operating procedures, and practices to control plant site runoff, spillage or leaks, sludge or waste disposal, or drainage from raw material storage.

Clearing. Any activity which removes the vegetative ground cover including, but not limited to, root mat removal or top soil removal.

Common plan of development or sale. A contiguous area where separate and distinct construction activities may be taking place at different times on different schedules.

Conservation Plan, Erosion and Sediment Control Plan, or Plan. A document containing material for the conservation of soil and water resources of a unit or group of units of land. It may include appropriate maps, an appropriate soil and water plan inventory, and management information with needed interpretations and a record of decisions contributing to conservation treatment. The plan shall contain all major conservation decisions and all information deemed necessary by the plan approving authority to assure that the entire unit or units of land will be so treated to achieve the conservation objectives.

Construction activity. Any clearing, grading, or excavation except those exempt activities in § 9-4.E.1 or § 9-4.E.2 of this ordinance.

Control measure. Any best management practice or stormwater facility, or other method used to minimize the discharge of pollutants to state waters.

Clean Water Act or CWA. The federal Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. §1251 et seq.), formerly referred to as the Federal Water Pollution Control Act or Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972, Public Law 92-500, as amended by Public Law 95-217, Public Law 95-576, Public Law 96-483, and Public Law 97-117, or any subsequent revisions thereto.

County or Program Authority. The County of Augusta, Virginia, which has adopted a Virginia Erosion and Stormwater Management Program (VESMP) that has been approved by the state board.

Department or DEQ. The Department of Environmental Quality.

Department of Community Development. The County of Augusta, Virginia, Department of Community Development.

Development. Land disturbance and the resulting landform associated with the construction of residential, commercial, industrial, institutional, recreation, transportation or utility facilities or structures or the clearing of land for non-agricultural or non-silvicultural purposes.

Director. The Director of DEQ.

District or Soil and Water Conservation District. Headwaters Soil and Water Conservation District.

Erosion Impact Area. An area of land not associated with current land-disturbing activity but subject to persistent soil erosion resulting in the delivery of sediment onto neighboring properties or into state waters. This definition shall not apply to any lot or parcel of land of 10,000 square feet or less used for residential purposes or to shorelines where the erosion results from wave action.

Excavating. Any digging, scooping or other methods of removing earth materials.

Farm building or structure. A building or structure not used for residential purposes, located on property where farming operations take place, and used primarily for any of the following uses or combination thereof: (1) Storage, handling, production, display, sampling, or sale of agricultural, horticultural, floricultural, or silvicultural products produced in the farm; (2) Sheltering, raising, handling, processing, or sale of agricultural animals or agricultural animal products; (3) Business or office uses relating to the farm operations; (4) Use of farm machinery or equipment or maintenance or storage of vehicles, machinery, or equipment on the farm; (5) Storage or use of supplies and materials used on the farm; or (6) Implementation of best management practices associated with farm operations. Also includes any building or structure used for agritourism activity, as defined in § 3.2-6400, and any related impervious surfaces including roads, driveways, and parking areas.

Filling. Any depositing or stockpiling of earth materials.

General permit. A permit authorizing a category of discharges under the CWA and the VESMA within a geographical area.

Grading. Any excavating or filling of earth material or any combination thereof, including the land in its excavated or filled conditions.

Land disturbance or land-disturbing activity. Any man-made change to the land surface that may result in soil erosion or has the potential to change its runoff characteristics, including construction activity such as clearing, grading, excavating, or filling of land, except that the term shall not include those exemptions specified in § 9-4.E.1 and § 9-4.E.2 of this Ordinance.

Land-disturbing Permit or Permit. A permit issued by the County for the clearing, filling, excavating, grading, transporting of soil or for any combination thereof or for any purpose set forth herein.

Layout. A conceptual drawing sufficient to provide for the specified stormwater management facilities required at the time of approval.

Minimum Standards or Minimum Standard. Any or all of the 19 minimum standards set forth by
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DEQ as per the Virginia Erosion and Stormwater Management Regulation 9VAC25-875-560.

Minor modification. An amendment to an existing general permit before its expiration not requiring extensive review and evaluation including, but not limited to, changes in EPA promulgated test protocols, increasing monitoring frequency requirements, changes in sampling locations, and changes to compliance dates within the overall compliance schedules. A minor general permit modification or amendment does not substantially alter general permit conditions, substantially increase or decrease the amount of surface water impacts, increase the size of the operation, or reduce the capacity of the facility to protect human health or the environment.

Operator. The owner or operator of any facility or activity subject to regulation under this Ordinance.

Owner. The owner or owners of the freehold of the premises or lesser estate therein, a mortgagee or vendee in possession, assignee of rents, receiver, executor, trustee, lessee or other person, firm or corporation in control of a property.

Perimeter Erosion and Sediment Control Permit. A permit issued by the County for installation of only perimeter erosion and sediment control measures on any project requiring a land-disturbing permit. This permit does not authorize the permittee to engage in a land disturbance activity outside that required for installation of the perimeter erosion and sediment control measures. Projects involving an agreement in lieu of a plan do not require this permit.

Permit or VESMP Authority Permit. An approval to conduct a land-disturbing activity issued by the Administrator for the initiation of a land-disturbing activity, in accordance with this Ordinance, and which may only be issued after evidence of general permit coverage has been provided by DEQ pursuant to §62.1-44.15 of the Code of Virginia.

Permittee. The person to whom the VESMP and/or land disturbing permit is issued.

Person. Any individual, partnership, firm, association, joint venture, public or private corporation, trust, estate, commission, board, public or private institution, utility, cooperative, county, city, town or other political subdivision of the Commonwealth, any interstate body, or any other legal entity.

Regulations. The Virginia Erosion and Stormwater Management Program (VESMP) Permit Regulations, as per 9VAC25-875, as amended.

Responsible Land Disturber. An individual from the project or development team, who will be in charge of and responsible for carrying out a land-disturbing activity covered by an approved plan or agreement in lieu of a plan, who:

- A. Holds a Responsible Land Disturber certificate of competence issued by DEQ, or
- B. Holds a current certificate of competence from the state board in the areas of

Combined Administration, Program Administration, Inspection, or Plan Review, or

C. Holds a current Contractor certificate of competence for erosion and sediment control, or

D. Is licensed in Virginia as a professional engineer, architect, certified landscape architect or land surveyor pursuant to Article 1 (Sec. 54.1-400 et seq.) of Chapter 4 of Title 54.1 of the Code of Virginia.

Site. The land or water area where any facility or land-disturbing activity is physically located or conducted, including adjacent land used or preserved in connection with the facility or land-disturbing activity.

State. The Commonwealth of Virginia.

State Board. The Virginia State Water Control Board.

State permit. An approval to conduct a land-disturbing activity issued by the state board in the form of a state stormwater individual permit or coverage issued under a state general permit or an approval issued by the state board for stormwater discharges from an MS4.

Under these state permits, the Commonwealth imposes and enforces requirements pursuant to the federal Clean Water Act and regulations, the Virginia Erosion and Stormwater Management Act (VEMSA) and the Regulations.

State Water Control Law. Chapter 3.1 (§ 62.1-44.2 et seq.) of Title 62.1 of the Code of Virginia.

State waters. All waters on the surface and under the ground wholly or partially within or bordering the Commonwealth or within its jurisdiction, including wetlands.

Stop work order. A written notice sent to the responsible land disturber or appropriate agent that stops all land-disturbing activity on the project for a specified time period.

Stormwater. Precipitation that is discharged across the land surface or through conveyances to one or more waterways and that may include stormwater runoff, snow melt runoff, and surface runoff and drainage.

Stormwater management plan. A document(s) containing material describing methods for complying with the requirements of § 9-7 of this Ordinance.

Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP). A document that is prepared in accordance with good engineering practices and that identifies potential sources of pollutants that may reasonably be expected to affect the quality of stormwater discharges from the construction site, and otherwise meets the requirements of this Ordinance. In addition, the document shall identify and

require the implementation of control measures, and shall include, but not be limited to the inclusion of, or the incorporation by reference of, an approved erosion and sediment control plan, an approved stormwater management plan, and a pollution prevention plan.

Subdivision. A division of a parcel of land into two or more lots, tracts or parcels for any purpose. The term includes re-subdivision and boundary line adjustments.

Total maximum daily load (TMDL). The sum of the individual wasteload allocations for point sources, load allocations (LAs) for nonpoint sources, natural background loading and a safety factor. TMDLs can be expressed in terms of either mass per time, toxicity, or other appropriate measure. The TMDL process provides for point versus nonpoint source tradeoffs.

Virginia Erosion and Stormwater Management Act (VESMA). Article 2.3 (§62.1-44.15:24 et seq.) of Chapter 3.1, State Water Control Law, of Title 62.1 of the Code of Virginia.

Virginia Erosion and Stormwater Management authority (VESMP authority). The department or a locality approved by the department to operate a VESMP.

Virginia Erosion and Stormwater Management Program or VESMP. A program established by a VESMP authority for the effective control of soil erosion and sediment deposition and the management of the quality and quantity of runoff resulting from land-disturbing activities to prevent the unreasonable degradation of properties, stream channels, waters, and other natural resources. The program shall include such items as local ordinances, rules, requirements for permits and land-disturbance approvals, policies and guidelines, technical materials, and requirements for plan review, inspection, and enforcement consistent with the requirements of the VESMA.

§ 9-3. Programs Established.

A. Pursuant to § 62.1-44.15:27 of the Code of Virginia, Augusta County hereby establishes a Virginia Erosion and Stormwater Management Program (VESMP) for land-disturbing activities and adopts the applicable Regulations that specify standards and specifications for VESMPs promulgated by the state board for the purposes set out in § 9-1 of this Ordinance. Augusta County hereby designates the Department of Community Development as the Administrator of the Virginia Erosion and Stormwater Management Program.

§ 9-4. Storm Water Permit and Land Disturbing Permit Requirement; Exemptions.

A. Except as provided herein, no person may engage in any land-disturbing activity until a permit has been issued by the Administrator in accordance with the provisions of this Ordinance and the Regulation. In addition, as a prerequisite to engaging in the land-disturbing activities shown on the approved plan, the person responsible for carrying out the plan shall provide the name of an individual holding a certificate of competence, to the program authority, as provided by § 62.1-44.15:24, of the Virginia Erosion and Stormwater Management Act (VESMA), who will be in charge of and responsible for carrying out the land-disturbing activity.

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Failure to provide the name of an individual holding a certificate of competence prior to engaging in land-disturbing activities may result in revocation of the approval of the plan and the person responsible for carrying out the plan shall be subject to the penalties provided in this ordinance. Property owners may be issued one agreement in lieu of a plan per calendar year for which a responsible land disturber need not be named. Subsequent permits in the same year however, will require naming of a responsible land disturber.

B. No VESMP authority permit shall be issued unless and until the permit application and attendant materials and supporting documentation demonstrate that all land clearing, construction, disturbance, land development and drainage will be done according to the approved permit and until the following items have been submitted to and approved by the Administrator as prescribed herein:

1. A permit application that includes a general permit registration statement, if such statement is required, and evidence that general permit coverage is obtained;
2. An erosion and sediment control plan approved in accordance with § 9-6 of this chapter.
3. A stormwater management plan that meets the requirements of § 9-7 of this chapter.
4. Any fees and bond required to be paid in accordance with § 9-18.

C. No grading, building or other local permit shall be issued for a property unless a VESMP authority permit, when required, has been issued by the Administrator.

D. No land disturbing permit shall be issued until the applicant submits with his application approved erosion and sediment control plans and certification that the plan will be followed and all perimeter erosion and sediment control measures have been installed, inspected and approved by the Administrator.

E. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Ordinance, the following activities are exempt, unless otherwise required by federal law:

1. Exemptions to Stormwater Management Plan, Pollution Prevention Plan and VESMP permit requirement.

a. Permitted surface or deep mining operations and projects, or oil and gas operations and projects conducted under the provisions of Title 45.2 of the Code of Virginia;

b. Clearing of lands specifically for agricultural purposes and the management, tilling, planting, or harvesting of agricultural, horticultural, or forest crops,

livestock feedlot operations, or as additionally set forth by the state board in regulations, including engineering operations as follows: construction of terraces, terrace outlets, check dams, desilting basins, dikes, ponds, ditches, strip cropping, lister furrowing, contour cultivating, contour furrowing, land drainage, and land irrigation; however, this exception shall not apply to harvesting of forest crops unless the area on which harvesting occurs is reforested artificially or naturally in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 11 (§ 10.1-1100 et seq.) of Title 10.1 of the Code of Virginia or is converted to bona fide agricultural or improved pasture use as described in Subsection B of § 10.1-1163 of Article 9 of Chapter 11 of Title 10.1 of the Code of Virginia;

c. Land disturbing activities that disturb less than one acre of land that are not part of a larger common plan of development or sale that is one acre or greater of disturbance;

d. Discharges to a sanitary sewer or a combined sewer system;

e. Activities under a State or federal reclamation program to return an abandoned property to an agricultural or open land use;

f. Routine maintenance that is performed to maintain the original line and grade, hydraulic capacity, or original construction of the project. The paving of an existing road with a compacted or impervious surface and reestablishment of existing associated ditches and shoulders shall be deemed routine maintenance if performed in accordance with this Subsection; and

g. Conducting land-disturbing activities in response to a public emergency where the related work requires immediate authorization to avoid imminent endangerment to human health or the environment. In such situations, the Administrator shall be advised of the disturbance within seven days of commencing the land-disturbing activity and compliance with the administrative requirements of § 9-4.A is required within 30 days of commencing the land-disturbing activity.

2. Exemptions to Erosion & Sediment Control Plan and land disturbing permit requirement.

a. Minor land-disturbing activities such as home gardens and individual home landscaping, repairs and maintenance work;

b. Individual service connections;

c. Installation, maintenance, or repair of any underground public utility lines when such activity occurs on an existing hard-surfaced road, street or sidewalk provided the land-disturbing activity is confined to the area of the road, street or sidewalk which is hard-surfaced;

d. Septic tank lines or drainage fields unless included in an overall plan for land-disturbing activity relating to construction of the building to be served by the septic tank system;

e. Surface or deep mining activities authorized under a permit issued by the Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy;

f. Exploration or drilling for oil and gas including the well site, roads, feeder lines, and off-site disposal areas;

g. Tilling, planting, or harvesting of agricultural, horticultural, or forest crops, or livestock feedlot operations; including engineering operations and agricultural engineering operations as follows: construction of terraces, terrace outlets, check dams, desilting basins, dikes, ponds not required to comply with the Dam Safety Act, Article 2, (Sec. 10.1-604 et seq.) of Chapter 6 of the Code of Virginia, ditches, strip cropping, lister furrowing, contour cultivating, contour furrowing, land drainage, and land irrigation; however, this exception shall not apply to harvesting of forest crops unless the area on which harvesting occurs is reforested artificially or naturally in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 11 (Sec. 10.1-1100 et seq.) of the Code of Virginia or is converted to bona fide agricultural or improved pasture use as described in Subsection B of Sec. 10.1-1163;

h. Repair or rebuilding of the tracks, rights-of-way, bridges, communication facilities and other related structures and facilities of a railroad company;

i. Disturbed land areas of less than 10,000 square feet in size

j. Installation of fence posts, sign posts or telephone and electric poles and other kinds of posts or poles;

k. Shoreline erosion control projects on tidal waters when all of the land disturbing activities are within the regulatory authority of and approved by local wetlands boards, the Marine Resources Commission or the United States Army Corps of Engineers; however, any associated land that is disturbed outside of this exempted area shall remain subject to this ordinance; and

l. Emergency work to protect life, limb or property, and emergency repairs; however, if the land-disturbing activity would have required an approved erosion and sediment control plan, if the activity were not an emergency, then the land area disturbed shall be shaped and stabilized in accordance with the requirements of the Administrator.

§ 9-5. Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan; Contents of Plan.

A. The Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) shall include the content specified by 9VAC25-875-500 and must also comply with the requirements and general information set forth in 9VAC25-880-70, Part II [stormwater pollution prevention plan] of the general permit. Such requirements shall include, but not be limited to:

1. An approved erosion and sediment control plan in accordance with § 9-6 of this chapter; and

2. An approved stormwater management plan in accordance with § 9-7 of this chapter; and

3. A pollution prevention plan for regulated land-disturbing activities in accordance with § 9-8 of this chapter; and

4. A description of any additional control measures necessary to address a TMDL in accordance with § 9-9 of this chapter.

B. The SWPPP shall be amended by the operator whenever there is a change in design, construction, operation, or maintenance that has a significant effect on the discharge of pollutants to state waters which is not addressed by the existing SWPPP.

C. The SWPPP must be maintained by the operator at a central location onsite. If an onsite location is unavailable, notice of the SWPPP's location must be posted near the main entrance of the construction site. Operators shall make the SWPPP available for public review in accordance with 9VAC25-880-70 Part II of the general permit, either electronically or in hard copy.

§ 9-6. Erosion & Sediment Control Plan; Contents of Plan.

A. Except as provided herein, no person may engage in any land-disturbing activity until he or she has submitted to the Administrator an erosion and sediment control plan for the land-disturbing activity and such plan has been approved by the Administrator. Where land-disturbing activities involve lands under the jurisdiction of more than one local control program, an erosion and sediment control plan, at the option of the applicant, may be submitted to the state board for review and approval rather than to each jurisdiction concerned. Where the land-disturbing activity results from the construction of a single-family detached residential structure, an agreement in lieu of a plan may be substituted for an erosion and sediment control plan if executed by the Administrator.

B. The standards contained within the "Virginia Erosion and Stormwater Management Regulations" and the Virginia Erosion and Stormwater Management Handbook as amended are to be used by the applicant when making a submittal under the provisions of this ordinance and in the preparation of an erosion and sediment control plan. The Administrator, in considering the adequacy of a submitted plan, shall be guided by the same standards, regulations and guidelines.

C. Except for single family detached residential structures covered by an Agreement in Lieu of an Erosion & Sediment Control Plan, stormwater detention or retention facilities will be required for proposed development where land disturbance is 10,000 square feet or greater and where there is a net increase in runoff between pre-developed and post-developed conditions.

D. In cases where the contributing drainage area being developed is equal to or less than

1% of the entire watershed, stormwater detention will not be required unless otherwise required by VESMP regulations. However, any concentrated water leaving the development site will be required to discharge into an adequate on or off-site receiving channel with the benefit of a dedicated drainage easement to the point of analysis.

E. All stormwater management facilities shall be designed and constructed in accordance with “Minimum Standard 19” of the Virginia Erosion and Stormwater Management Regulations, and the Virginia Stormwater Management Handbook, Latest Edition.

F. An approved plan may be changed by the Administrator when:

1. The inspection reveals that the plan is inadequate to satisfy applicable regulations; or

2. The person responsible for carrying out the plan finds that because of changed circumstances or for other reasons the approved plan cannot be effectively carried out, and proposed amendments to the plan, consistent with the requirements of this ordinance are agreed to by the Administrator and the person responsible for carrying out the plans.

G. Variances: The Administrator may waive or modify any of the standards that are deemed to be too restrictive for site conditions, by granting a variance. A variance may be granted under these conditions:

1. At the time of plan submission, an applicant may request a variance to become part of the approved erosion and sediment control plan. The applicant shall explain the reasons for requesting variances in writing. Specific variances which are allowed by the Administrator shall be documented in the plan.

2. During construction, the person responsible for implementing the approved plan may, with the property owner’s written permission, request a variance in writing from the Administrator. The Administrator shall respond in writing within 10 calendar days either approving or disapproving such a request. If the Administrator does not approve a variance within 10 calendar days of receipt of the request, the request shall be considered to be disapproved. Following disapproval, the applicant may resubmit a variance request with additional documentation.

H. In order to prevent further erosion, the County may require approval of a plan for any land identified in the local program as an erosion impact area.

I. When land-disturbing activity will be required of a contractor performing construction work pursuant to a construction contract, the preparation, submission, and approval of an erosion and sediment control plan shall be the responsibility of the owner.

J. In accordance with the procedure set forth by § 62.1-44.15:31(C) of the Code of
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Virginia, any person engaging in the creation and operation of wetland mitigation banks in multiple jurisdictions, which have been approved and are operated in accordance with applicable federal and state guidance, laws, or regulations for the establishment, use, and operation of mitigation banks, pursuant to a permit issued by the Department of Environmental Quality, the Marine Resources Commission, or the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, may, at the option of that person, file general erosion and sediment control specifications for wetland mitigation banks annually with the state board for review and approval consistent with guidelines established by the state board.

§ 9-7. Stormwater Management Plan; Contents of Plan.

A. The Stormwater Management Plan, required in § 9-4 of this Ordinance, must apply the stormwater management technical criteria set forth in § 9-11 of this Ordinance to the entire land-disturbing activity, consider all sources of surface runoff and all sources of subsurface and groundwater flows converted to subsurface runoff, and include the following information:

Information on the type and location of stormwater discharges; information on the features to which stormwater is being discharged including surface waters or karst features, if present, and the predevelopment and post-development drainage areas;

2. Contact information including the name, address, and telephone number of the owner and the tax map number and parcel number of the property or properties affected;

3. A narrative that includes a description of current site conditions and final site conditions;

4. A general description of the proposed stormwater management facilities and the mechanism through which the facilities will be operated and maintained after construction is complete;

5. Information on the proposed stormwater management facilities, including:

a. The type of facilities;

b. Location, including geographic coordinates;

c. Acres treated; and

d. The surface waters or karst features, if present, into which the facility will discharge.

6. Hydrologic and hydraulic computations, including runoff characteristics;

7. Documentation and calculations verifying compliance with the water quality

and quantity requirements of § 9-11 of this ordinance;

8. Map(s) of the site that depicts the topography of the site and includes:

- a. All contributing drainage areas;
- b. Existing streams, ponds, culverts, ditches, wetlands, other water bodies, and floodplains;
- c. Soil types, geologic formations if karst features are present in the area, forest cover, and other vegetative areas;
- d. Current land use including existing structures, roads, and locations of known utilities and easements;
- e. Sufficient information on adjoining parcels to assess the impacts of stormwater from the site on these parcels;
- f. The limits of clearing and grading, and the proposed drainage patterns on the site;
- g. Proposed buildings, roads, parking areas, utilities, and stormwater management facilities; and
- h. Proposed land use with tabulation of the percentage of surface area to be adapted to various uses, including but not limited to planned locations of utilities, roads, and easements.

B. Individual lots in new residential, commercial, or industrial developments shall not be considered separate land-disturbing activities. Where the land-disturbing activity results from the construction of a single-family residence, an agreement in lieu of a plan may be substituted for a stormwater management plan if executed by the Administrator. A registration statement shall not be required for coverage under the General Permit for Discharges of Stormwater from Construction Activities for construction activity involving a single-family detached residential structure, within or outside a common plan of development or sale.

C. If an operator intends to meet the water quality and/or quantity requirements set forth in § 9-11 of this Ordinance through the use of off-site compliance options, where applicable, then a letter of reservation from the off-site provider must be included. Approved off-site options must achieve the necessary nutrient reductions prior to the commencement of the applicant's land-disturbing activity except as otherwise allowed by § 62.1-44.15:35 of the Code of Virginia.

D. For the purposes of this section, and in accordance with 9VAC25-875-610, operators may achieve off-site water quality compliance through the use of additional properties

located within the same 8-digit HUC (as defined by the Watershed Boundary Dataset) as the land-disturbing activity, provided the property is located within the same geographic borders of the County of Augusta, not including the corporate limits of the City of Staunton or the City of Waynesboro.

E. Elements of the stormwater management plans that include activities regulated under Chapter 4 (§54.1-400 et seq.) of Title 54.1 of the Code of Virginia shall be appropriately sealed and signed by a professional registered in the Commonwealth of Virginia pursuant to Article 1 (§ 54.1-400 et seq.) of Chapter 4 of Title 54.1 of the Code of Virginia.

F. A stormwater management plan that is approved for a residential, commercial, or industrial subdivision shall govern the development of the individual parcels, including those parcels developed under subsequent owners.

§ 9-8. Pollution Prevention Plan; Contents of Plans.

A. Pollution Prevention Plan, required by 9VAC25-875-520, shall be developed, implemented, and updated as necessary and must detail the design, installation, implementation, and maintenance of effective pollution prevention measures as specified in 40 CFR 450.21(d) to minimize the discharge of pollutants. At a minimum, such measures must be designed, installed, implemented, and maintained to:

1. Minimize the discharge of pollutants from equipment and vehicle washing, wheel wash water, and other wash waters. Wash waters must be treated in a sediment basin or alternative control that provides equivalent or better treatment prior to discharge;
2. Minimize the exposure of building materials, building products, construction wastes, trash, landscape materials, fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides, detergents, sanitary waste, and other materials present on the site to precipitation and to stormwater; and
3. Minimize the discharge of pollutants from spills and leaks and implement chemical spill and leak prevention and response procedures.

B. The pollution prevention plan shall include effective best management practices to prohibit the following discharges:

1. Wastewater from washout of concrete, unless managed by an appropriate control;
2. Wastewater from washout and cleanout of stucco, paint, form release oils, curing compounds, and other construction materials;
3. Fuels, oils, or other pollutants used in vehicle and equipment operation and maintenance; and
4. Soaps or solvents used in vehicle and equipment washing.

C. Discharges from dewatering activities, including discharges from dewatering of trenches and excavations, are prohibited unless managed by appropriate controls in accordance with 40 CFR 450.21(c).

§ 9-9. Additional Control Measures to Address a TMDL.

In addition to the requirements of §9-6 through §9-8 of this chapter, if a specific Waste Load Allocation (WLA) for a pollutant has been established in a TMDL implementation plan and is assigned to stormwater discharges from a construction activity, additional control measures must be identified and implemented by the operator so that discharges are consistent with the assumptions and requirements of the WLA in a state board approved plan.

§ 9-10. Review of Submitted Plans.

A. The Administrator shall determine the completeness of a plan in accordance with this Ordinance, and shall notify the applicant, in writing, of such determination, within 15 calendar days of receipt. If the plan is deemed to be incomplete, the above written notification shall contain the reasons the plan is deemed incomplete.

B. The Administrator shall have an additional 30 calendar days from the date of the communication of completeness to review the plan, except that if a determination of completeness is not made within the time prescribed in subsection (A) of this section, then plan shall be deemed complete and the Administrator shall have 30 calendar days from the date of submission to review the plan.

C. The Administrator shall review any plan that has been previously disapproved, within 45 calendar days of the date of resubmission.

D. During the review period, the plan shall be approved or disapproved and the decision communicated in writing to the person responsible for the land-disturbing activity or his designated agent. If the plan is not approved, the reasons for not approving the plan shall be provided in writing. Approval or denial shall be based on the plan's compliance with the requirements of this Ordinance.

E. If a plan meeting all requirements of this Ordinance is submitted and no action is taken within the time provided above in subsection (B) of this section for review, the plan shall be deemed approved.

F. Approved stormwater plans may be modified as follows:

(1) Modifications to an approved stormwater management plan shall be allowed only after review and written approval by the Administrator. The Administrator shall have 60 calendar days to respond in writing either approving or disapproving such request.

(2) The Administrator may require that an approved stormwater management plan be amended, within a time prescribed by the Administrator, to address any deficiencies noted during inspection.

G. The Administrator shall require the submission of a construction record drawing for permanent stormwater management facilities. The Administrator may elect not to require construction record drawings for stormwater management facilities for which recorded maintenance agreements are not required pursuant to § 9-12.B.

§ 9-11. Technical Criteria for Regulated Land Disturbing Activities.

A. To protect the quality and quantity of state water from the potential harm of unmanaged stormwater runoff resulting from land-disturbing activities, Augusta County hereby adopts the technical criteria for regulated land-disturbing activities set forth in Part V of 9VAC25-875 expressly to include 9VAC25-875-580 [water quality design criteria requirements]; 9VAC25-875-590 [water quality compliance]; 9VAC25-875-600 [water quantity]; 9VAC25-875-610 [offsite compliance options]; 9VAC25-875-620 [design storms and hydrologic methods]; 9VAC25-875-630 [stormwater harvesting]; 9VAC25-875-640 [linear development project]; and, 9VAC25-875-650 [stormwater management impoundment structures or facilities]; 9VAC25-875-660 [comprehensive stormwater management plans], which shall apply to all land-disturbing activities regulated pursuant to this Ordinance, except as expressly set forth in § 9-11.B.

Notwithstanding the above references to specific sections of 9VAC25-875-670 (et seq.), the technical criteria are modified to include the following:

1. Stormwater runoff shall be calculated by the following methods unless an alternative method for a specific project has been approved by the Administrator:

a. Using the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) synthetic 24-hour rainfall distribution and models, including, but not limited to TR-55 and TR-20; hydrologic and hydraulic methods developed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; or other standard hydrologic and hydraulic methods.

b. The Rational Method may be used for evaluating peak discharges or the Modified Rational Method for evaluating volumetric flows to stormwater conveyances with drainage areas of 200 acres or less.

2. Pre-development and post-development runoff rates shall be verified by calculations that are consistent with good engineering practices and performed with methods approved and illustrated in the Virginia Stormwater Management Handbook. Calculations and designs must be prepared by a licensed professional engineer, a land surveyor – B, or certified landscape architect.

3. Retention or detention facilities shall be designed according to the standards and specifications in the Virginia Stormwater Management Handbook as amended. Stricter regulations may be enforced in areas where the board of supervisors have established a general drainage improvement program. Development within these areas must also be in compliance with § 9-13.A.

4. Except for by right agricultural development, in cases of additions or incremental development, the pre-developed condition with respect to water quantity calculations submitted to demonstrate compliance with 9VAC25-875-600, Flood Protection and sheet flow, shall be the condition that existed on January 1, 1990, and the pre-developed condition with respect to water quality calculations submitted to demonstrate compliance with 9VAC25-875-580 shall be the ground condition that existed on June 30, 2014. Stormwater detention or retention facilities may be required for proposed development where the sum of the currently proposed land disturbance and the existing impervious and semi-impervious surface is 10,000 square feet or greater and where there is a net increase in runoff between pre-developed and post-developed conditions. Existing stormwater management facilities must be verified adequate through calculations regardless of the type of development or the size of the addition or incremental development. (Ord. 10/28/15; Ord. 6/28/17)

5. Natural channel characteristics shall be preserved to the maximum extent practicable.

6. For manmade or restored conveyance systems, bottom slopes shall, where reasonably possible, be no less than 1%. Side slopes shall be no steeper than 3:1. Where side slopes of 3:1 cannot be achieved, the easement shall be piped.

7. For lots one-half (1/2) acre or less in area, when a downstream lot receives runoff from two (2) or more upstream or adjacent lots, or when a lot receives concentrated runoff which is introduced from an off-site location, a well-defined manmade or restored conveyance system shall be constructed with the benefit of an easement along lot lines.

8. Construction of stormwater management facilities within a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) designated 100-year floodplain shall be avoided to the extent possible. When this is unavoidable, all stormwater management facility construction shall be in compliance with all applicable regulations under the National Flood Insurance Program, Title 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Chapter 1, Subchapter B Part 59 (44 CFR 59.1 et seq.), and Chapter 25, Division H, Article XLVII, Floodplain Overlay Districts, of the Augusta County Code. These stormwater management facilities shall be designed and located, to the extent practical, to provide an unrestricted release up to at least the 25-year flood elevation of the receiving state water.

9. Any stormwater management facilities that are designed to have a permanent pool of water constructed in or adjacent to residential and commercial zoning areas shall be

constructed with an aquatic bench or have a minimum of a six-foot fence installed around the perimeter of the facility.

10. Stormwater management facilities designed to detain or retain water on a temporary or permanent basis shall not be built on multiple lots, but located on one lot under single ownership. An access easement of sufficient width given site specific conditions, must be provided.

11. A construction record drawing for permanent stormwater management facilities shall be submitted to the Administrator in accordance with 9VAC25-875-535. The construction record drawing shall contain a statement signed by a professional registered in the Commonwealth of Virginia pursuant to Chapter 4 of Title 54.1 of the Code of Virginia, stating that to the best of their knowledge, the construction record drawing shows all adjustments and revisions to the Stormwater Management Plan made during construction and serves as a permanent record of the actual location of all constructed elements.

B. Any land-disturbing activity shall be considered grandfathered and shall be subject to Article 4 (9VAC25-875-670 et seq.) of Part V of the Regulation provided:

1. A proffered or conditional zoning plan, zoning with a plan of development, preliminary or final subdivision plat, preliminary or final site plan, or any document determined by the County to be equivalent thereto (i) was approved by the County prior to July 1, 2012, (ii) provided a layout as defined in 9VAC25-875-670, (iii) will comply with the technical criteria of Article 4 of Part V of 9VAC25-875, and (iv) has not been subsequently modified or amended in a manner resulting in an increase in the amount of phosphorous leaving each point of discharge, and such that there is no increase in the volume or rate of runoff;

2. A permit has not been issued prior to July 1, 2014; and

3. Land disturbance did not commence prior to July 1, 2014.

C. Locality, state, and federal projects shall be considered grandfathered by the Administrator and shall be subject to the technical criteria of Article 4 of Part V of 9VAC25-875 for provided:

1. There has been an obligation of locality, state, or federal funding, in whole or in part, prior to July 1, 2012, or the department has approved a stormwater management plan prior to July 1, 2012;

2. A permit has not been issued prior to July 1, 2014; and

3. Land disturbance did not commence prior to July 1, 2014.

D. Land disturbing activities grandfathered under subsections B and C of this section shall remain subject to the technical criteria of Article 4 of Part V of 9VAC25-875 for one

additional permit cycle. After such time, portions of the project not under construction shall become subject to any new technical criteria adopted by the board.

E. In cases where governmental bonding or public debt financing has been issued for a project prior to July 1, 2012, such project shall be subject to the technical criteria of Article 4 of Part V of 9VAC25-875.

F. No exception to, or waiver of, post-development nonpoint nutrient runoff compliance requirements shall be granted unless offsite options have been considered and found not available in accordance with subsection D of §62.1-44.15:35 of the Code of Virginia.

G. Nothing in this section shall preclude an operator from constructing to a more stringent standard at his discretion.

§ 9-12. Long-term maintenance of permanent stormwater facilities.

A. The Administrator shall require the provision of long-term responsibility for and maintenance of stormwater management facilities and other techniques specified to manage the quality and quantity of runoff. Such requirements shall be set forth in an instrument recorded in the local land records and shall at a minimum:

1. Be submitted to the Administrator for review and approval prior to the approval of the stormwater management plan;
2. Be stated to run with the land;
3. Provide for all necessary access to the property for purposes of maintenance and regulatory inspections;
4. Provide for inspections and maintenance and the submission of inspection and maintenance reports to the Administrator;
5. Be enforceable by all appropriate governmental parties; and
6. Be recorded among the land records prior to Notice of Termination and release of bonds.

B. At the discretion of the Administrator, such recorded instruments need not be required for stormwater management facilities designed to treat stormwater runoff primarily from an individual residential lot on which they are located, provided it is demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Administrator that future maintenance of such facilities will be addressed

through an enforceable mechanism at the discretion of the Administrator.

C. If a recorded instrument is not required pursuant to Subsection 9-12.B, the Administrator shall develop a strategy for addressing maintenance of stormwater management facilities designed to treat stormwater runoff primarily from an individual residential lot on which they are located. Such a strategy may include periodic inspections, homeowner outreach and education, or other method targeted at promoting the long-term maintenance of such facilities. Such facilities shall not be subject to the requirement for an inspection to be conducted by the Administrator or its duly authorized agent.

D. For all types of development, the owner (s) or developer shall be responsible for maintenance of stormwater management facilities. In residential subdivisions only, the County may assume long-term maintenance of stormwater detention facilities and drainage easements from the developer in accordance with the provisions of the agreement required by Paragraph F below after eighty-five percent (85%) of the lots within the development have been built upon.

E. In residential subdivisions only, for final plats recorded on or after January 1, 2014 and where no homeowners association is required by this code, the County will assume both routine and long-term maintenance of stormwater detention or retention facilities in accordance with the percentage requirements of the above Paragraph D and in accordance with the provisions of the agreement required by Paragraph F below if the facility:

1. Has a capacity of at least fifteen thousand (15,000) cubic feet; and
2. Is located on property dedicated to the County.

F. For all types of development, including residential development, the responsibility of the property owner or developer and their successors for maintenance shall be set forth in a legal stormwater agreement which shall be recorded by the property owner or developer. This agreement is separate and distinct from any agreements and bonding required in accordance with a site plan or § 21-36 (Subdivision). The agreement shall provide that:

1. The County will periodically conduct inspections to ensure stormwater management facilities are being properly maintained.

2. If deficiencies are found, the owner or developer and its successors will correct the deficiencies in a timely manner.

3. If applicable under Paragraph D above, the developer and its successors shall contact the county when the percentage requirement is met. At that time the county will conduct a final inspection and the developer and its successors will be notified of the results of the inspection. Any deficiencies shall be corrected by developer and its successors. If there are no deficiencies the county will accept the facilities for long term maintenance by written certificate. For purposes of this chapter, long term maintenance is defined as maintenance other than routine maintenance, such as the repair of erosion

and failures that do not occur on a regular basis.

4. The property owners of all stormwater management facilities and easements shall be responsible for routine maintenance. For purposes of this chapter, routine maintenance is defined as mowing so that vegetation never exceeds the height limitation imposed in § 15-22 of this code for the underlying zoning district and lot size, and removing debris and trash that occurs on a regular basis.

5. If the property owners fail to perform routine maintenance, the county reserves the right to complete the work. In such event the cost or expenses thereof shall be chargeable to and paid by the lot owners of such property and may be collected by the county as taxes and levies are collected.

§9-13. General drainage improvement programs and multi-jurisdictional systems.

A. When the board of supervisors has established a general drainage improvement program for an area having related and common drainage problems and within which the land owned or controlled by the subdivider or developer is located, the subdivider or developer shall pay a pro rata share of the cost of providing reasonable drainage facilities located outside the property limits of the land owned or controlled by the subdivider or developer but necessitated or required, at least in part, by the construction or improvement of the subdivision or development.

B. Where stormwater resulting from a project flows into another political jurisdiction, final approval of the proposed development may be deferred until the county and the other jurisdiction mutually agree that the proposed system will be satisfactory.

§9-14. Monitoring and inspections, Notice to Comply.

A. The Administrator shall inspect the land-disturbing activity during construction in accordance with the County's VESMP Alternate Inspection Program for:

1. Compliance with the approved stormwater management plan;
2. Compliance with the approved erosion and sediment control plan;
3. Development, updating, and implementation of a pollution prevention plan;

and

4. Development and implementation of any additional control measures necessary to address a TMDL.

B. The Administrator may, at reasonable times and under reasonable circumstances,

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enter any establishment or upon any property, public or private, for the purpose of obtaining information or conducting surveys or investigations necessary in the enforcement of the provisions of this Ordinance.

C. In accordance with a performance bond with surety, cash escrow, letter of credit, any combination thereof, or such other legal arrangement or instrument, the Administrator may also enter any establishment or upon any property, public or private, for the purpose of initiating or maintaining appropriate actions which are required by the permit conditions associated with a land-disturbing activity when a permittee, after proper notice, has failed to take acceptable action within the time specified.

D. Pursuant to § 62.1-44.15:40 of the Code of Virginia, the Administrator may require every VESMP authority permit applicant or permittee, or any such person subject to VESMP authority permit requirements under this Ordinance, to furnish when requested such application materials, plans, specifications, and other pertinent information as may be necessary to determine the effect of his discharge on the quality of state waters, or such other information as may be necessary to accomplish the purposes of this Ordinance.

E. Post-construction inspections of stormwater management facilities required by the provisions of this Ordinance shall be conducted by the Administrator pursuant to the Locality's adopted and state board approved inspection program, and shall occur, at minimum, at least once every five (5) years.

F. Notice to comply

1. If the Administrator determines that there is a failure to comply with the plan, notice shall be served upon the permittee or person responsible for carrying out the plan by registered or certified mail to the address specified in the permit application or in the plan certification, or by delivery at the site of the land-disturbing activities to the agent or employee supervising such activities.

2. The notice shall specify the measures needed to comply with the plan and shall specify the time within which such measures shall be completed. Upon failure to comply within the specified time, the permit may be revoked and the permittee or person responsible for carrying out the plan shall be deemed to be in violation of this ordinance and shall be subject to the penalties provided by this ordinance.

G. Action in case of violation

1. Upon determination of a violation of this ordinance, the Administrator may, in conjunction with or subsequent to a notice to comply as specified in this ordinance, issue an order requiring that all or part of the land-disturbing activities permitted on the site be stopped until the specified corrective measures have been taken.

2. If land-disturbing activities have commenced without an approved plan, the Administrator may, in conjunction with or subsequent to a notice to comply as specified in this

ordinance, issue an order requiring that all of the land-disturbing activities be stopped until an approved plan or any required permits are obtained.

3. Where the alleged noncompliance is causing or is in imminent danger of causing harmful erosion of lands or sediment deposition in waters within the watersheds of the Commonwealth, or where the land-disturbing activities have commenced without an approved plan or any required permits, a stop work order shall be issued without regard to whether the permittee has been issued a notice to comply as specified in this ordinance. Otherwise, such an order may be issued only after the permittee has failed to comply with such a notice to comply.

4. If the alleged violator has not obtained an approved plan or any required permits within seven days from the date of service of the order, the Administrator may issue an order to the owner requiring that all construction and other work on the site, other than corrective measures, be stopped until an approved plan and any required permits have been obtained.

5. The stop work order shall be served upon the owner by registered or certified mail to the address specified in the permit application or the land records of the County.

6. The owner may appeal the issuance of an order to the Augusta County Circuit Court.

7. Any person violating or failing, neglecting or refusing to obey an order issued by the Administrator may be compelled in a proceeding instituted in the Augusta County Circuit Court to obey same and to comply therewith by injunction or other appropriate remedy. Upon completion and approval of corrective action or obtaining an approved plan or any required permits, the stop work order shall immediately be lifted.

8. Nothing in this section shall prevent the Administrator from taking any other action authorized by this ordinance.

§ 9-15. Hearings and appeals.

A. Any applicant under the provision of this ordinance who is aggrieved by any action or inaction of the Administrator or its duly authorized agent pursuant to this ordinance shall have the right to apply for and receive a review of such action by the Board of Supervisors provided an appeal is filed within 30 days from the date of the action. Any applicant who seeks an appeal hearing before the Board of Supervisors shall be heard at the next regularly scheduled Board of Supervisors public hearing provided that the Board of Supervisors and other involved parties have at least 15 days prior notice. In reviewing the agent's actions, the Board of Supervisors shall consider evidence and opinions presented by the aggrieved applicant and agent. After considering the evidence and opinions, the Board of Supervisors may affirm, reverse or modify the action. The Board of Supervisor's decision shall be final, subject only to review by the Circuit Court of Augusta County.

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B. A verbatim record of the proceedings of such hearings shall be taken and filed with the Board of Supervisor meeting minutes. Depositions may be taken and read as in actions at law.

C. Final decisions of the Administrator under this ordinance shall be subject to review by the Augusta County Circuit Court, provided an appeal is filed within 30 days from the date of any written decision adversely affecting the rights, duties, or privileges of the person engaging in or proposing to engage in land-disturbing activities. Decisions of the Circuit Court shall be subject to review by the Court of Appeals.

§ 9-16. Enforcement.

A. If the Administrator determines that there is a failure to comply with the VESMP authority permit conditions or determines there is an unauthorized discharge, notice shall be served upon the permittee or person responsible for carrying out the permit conditions by any of the following: verbal warnings and inspection reports, notices of corrective action, consent special orders, and notices to comply. Written notices shall be served by delivery by facsimile, email, or other technology; registered or certified mail to the address specified in the permit application, or by delivery at the site of the development activities to the agent or employee supervising such activities.

1. The notice shall specify the measures needed to comply with the permit conditions and shall specify the time within which such measures shall be completed. Upon failure to comply within the time specified, a stop work order may be issued in accordance with §9-14.G or the permit may be revoked by the Administrator.

2. If a permittee fails to comply with a notice issued in accordance with this Section within the timeframe specified, the Administrator may issue an order requiring the owner, permittee, person responsible for carrying out an approved plan, or the person conducting the land-disturbing activities without an approved plan or required permit to cease all land-disturbing activities until the violation of the permit has ceased, or an approved plan and required permits are obtained, and specified corrective measures have been completed.

3. Such orders shall become effective upon service on the person by facsimile, email, or other technology; certified mail, return receipt requested, sent to his address specified in the land records of the locality, or by personal delivery by an agent of the Administrator. However, if the Administrator finds that any such violation is grossly affecting or presents an imminent and substantial danger of causing harmful erosion of lands or sediment deposition in waters within the watersheds of the Commonwealth or otherwise substantially impacting water quality, it may issue, without advance notice or hearing, an emergency order directing such person to cease immediately all land-disturbing activities on the site and shall provide an opportunity for a hearing, after reasonable notice as to the time and place thereof, to such person, to affirm, modify, amend, or cancel such emergency order. If a person who has been issued an

order is not complying with the terms thereof, the Administrator may institute a proceeding for an injunction, mandamus, or other appropriate remedy in accordance with §9-17.

B. In addition to any other remedy provided by this Ordinance, if the Administrator or his designee determines that there is a failure to comply with the provisions of this Ordinance, they may initiate such informal and/or formal administrative enforcement procedures in a manner that is consistent with the enforcement provisions contained in §1-12 of County Code, *mutatus mutandus*.

C. Any person violating or failing, neglecting, or refusing to obey any rule, regulation, ordinance, order, approved standard or specification, or any permit condition issued by the Administrator may be compelled in a proceeding instituted in the Circuit Court of Augusta County by the County to obey same and to comply therewith by injunction, mandamus or other appropriate remedy.

1. Violations for which a penalty or charge may be imposed under this Subsection shall include but not be limited to the following:

- a. No state permit registration;
- b. No SWPPP;
- c. Incomplete SWPPP;
- d. SWPPP not available for review;
- e. No approved erosion and sediment control plan;
- f. Failure to install stormwater BMPs or erosion and sediment controls;
- g. Stormwater BMPs or erosion and sediment controls improperly installed or maintained;
- h. Operational deficiencies;
- i. Failure to conduct required inspections;
- j. Incomplete, improper, or missed inspections; and
- k. Discharges not in compliance with the requirements of 9VAC25-880-70 (General permit).

2. The Administrator may issue a summons for collection of civil charges and the action may be prosecuted in the appropriate court.

3. In imposing a civil penalty pursuant to this Subsection, the court may consider the degree of harm caused by the violation and also the economic benefit to the violator from

noncompliance.

4. Any civil penalties assessed by a court as a result of a summons issued by the Locality shall be paid into the treasury of the County to be used for the purpose of minimizing, preventing, managing, or mitigating pollution of the waters of the locality and abating environmental pollution therein in such manner as the court may, by order, direct.

§ 9-17. Penalties, injunctions, and other legal actions under the VESMP.

A. With the consent of any person who has violated or failed, neglected or refused to obey any regulation or condition of a permit or any provision of this chapter, the County may provide an order for the payment of civil charges according to § 62.1-44.15: of the Code of Virginia. Such civil charges shall be in lieu of any appropriate civil penalty that could be imposed under this section. Any civil charges collected shall be paid into the County treasury.

B. A civil charge in the amount listed in the schedule below shall be assessed against the owner of the property where the violation has occurred, for each violation of the respective offenses:

1. A site with an approved agreement in lieu of a plan, erosion and sediment control plan, or stormwater management plan found in violation of any of the 19 Minimum Standards shall be assessed civil charges per violation as follows:

Civil Charge Schedule		
1 st Inspection	Per Violation	Warning Issued
2 nd Inspection	Per violation	Notice to Comply
3 rd Inspection	Per violation	\$250
4 th Inspection	Per violation	\$750
5 th Inspection	Per violation	\$1,500
6 th Inspection	Per violation	\$2,500
7 th Inspection	Per violation	Refer to Co. Attorney

a. Civil charges listed in the schedule above shall not exceed \$5,000 for each violation and with a limit of \$50,000 for multiple violations. Each day during which the violation(s) is found to have existed shall constitute a separate offense. However, in no event shall a series of specified violation(s) arising from the same operative set of facts result in civil charges which exceed a total of \$50,000.

C. Without a consent order, any person who has violated or failed, neglected or refused to obey any regulation or condition of a permit or any provision of this chapter may be

assessed a civil penalty as provided herein.

1. For a land-disturbing activity that disturbs an area measuring not less than 10,000 square feet but less than one acre in an area and is not part of a larger common plan of development or sale that disturbs one acre or more of land:

a. Any person who violates any applicable provision of this chapter, or order of the Administrator, or any condition of a land-disturbance approval, or fails to obtain a required land-disturbance approval, shall be subject to a civil penalty not to exceed \$5,000 for each violation with a limit of \$50,000 within the discretion of the court in a civil action initiated by the Administrator. Each day during which the violation is found to have existed shall constitute a separate offense. In no event shall a series of specified violations arising from the same operative set of facts result in civil penalties that exceed a total of \$50,000. Any civil penalties assessed by a court shall be paid into the County treasury.

2. For a land-disturbing activity that disturbs one acre or more of land or is part of a larger common plan of development or sale that disturbs one acre or more of land:

a. Any person who violates any applicable provision of this chapter, or any ordinance adopted pursuant to this chapter, including those adopted pursuant to the conditions of an MS4 permit, or any condition of a local land-disturbance approval, or who fails, neglects, or refuses to comply with any order of the Administrator serving as a VESMP authority or a court, issued as herein provided, shall be subject to a civil penalty not to exceed \$32,500 for each violation within the discretion of the court. Each day of violation of each requirement shall constitute a separate offense. Such civil penalties shall be paid into the treasury of the locality in which the violation occurred and are to be used solely for stormwater management capital projects, including (i) new stormwater best management practices; (ii) stormwater best management practice maintenance, inspection, or retrofitting; (iii) stream restoration; (iv) low-impact development projects; (v) buffer restoration; (vi) pond retrofitting; and (vii) wetlands restoration.

D. The permittee shall be notified of each violation and associated assessment by delivery by facsimile, email, or other technology; an e-mail or in writing, via certified mail or by delivery at the site of the land-disturbing activities to the agent or employee supervising such activities. This notification shall be sent or posted no later than the first working day after the violation.

E. The County, or the owner of property which has sustained damage or which is in imminent danger of being damaged, may apply to the Augusta County Circuit Court to enjoin a violation or a threatened violation of this chapter, without the necessity of showing that an adequate remedy at law does not exist.

F. In addition to any civil charges or civil penalties provided under this chapter, the Administrator may apply to the Augusta County Circuit Court to enjoin a violation or a

threatened violation of the provisions of this ordinance, order, or the conditions of a land-disturbance approval. Any person violating or failing, neglecting, or refusing to obey any injunction, mandamus, or other remedy obtained pursuant to this chapter shall be subject, in the discretion of the court, to criminal penalties that shall be assessed and used in accordance with the provisions of § 62.1-44.32 of the Code of Virginia as follows:

1. Any person who willfully or negligently violates any land-disturbance approval, ordinance, or order of the Administrator or any order of a court shall be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by confinement in jail for not more than 12 months and a fine of not less than \$2,500 nor more than \$32,500, either or both. Any person who knowingly violates any land-disturbance approval, ordinance, or order of the Administrator or any order of a court issued as herein provided, or who knowingly makes any false statement in any form required to be submitted under this chapter or knowingly renders inaccurate any monitoring device or method required to be maintained under this chapter, shall be guilty of a felony punishable by a term of imprisonment of not less than one year nor more than three years, or in the discretion of the jury or the court trying the case without a jury, confinement in jail for not more than 12 months and a fine of not less than \$5,000 nor more than \$50,000 for each violation. Any defendant that is not an individual shall, upon conviction of a violation under this subsection, be sentenced to pay a fine of not less than \$10,000. Each day of violation of each requirement shall constitute a separate offense.

2. Any person who knowingly violates any provision of this chapter, and who knows at that time that he/she thereby places another person in imminent danger of death or serious bodily harm, shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a felony punishable by a term of imprisonment of not less than two years nor more than 15 years and a fine of not more than \$250,000, either or both. A defendant that is not an individual shall, upon conviction of a violation under this subsection, be sentenced to pay a fine not exceeding the greater of \$1 million or an amount that is three times the economic benefit realized by the defendant as a result of the offense. The maximum penalty shall be doubled with respect to both fine and imprisonment for any subsequent conviction of the same person under this subsection.

3. Criminal prosecution under this section shall be commenced within three years of discovery of the offense, notwithstanding the limitations provided in any other statute.

G. The County Attorney may, upon request of the Administrator, take legal action to enforce the provisions of this chapter.

H. Compliance with the provisions of this chapter shall be prima facie evidence in any legal or equitable proceeding for damages caused by erosion, siltation or sedimentation that all requirements of law have been met, and the complaining party must show negligence in order to recover any damages.

I. A Certificate of Occupancy and/or inspections by the County's building inspection department shall not be granted until all assessed civil charges or civil penalties are paid and corrections to all erosion and sediment control and stormwater practices have been made in accordance with the approved plans, notice of violation, stop work order, or agreement

in lieu of a plan requirement, and accepted by the County.

J. Any violator may be required to restore land to its undisturbed condition or in accordance with a notice of violation, stop work order, or permit requirements. In the event that restoration is not undertaken within a reasonable time after notice, the County may take necessary corrective action, the cost of which shall be covered by the performance bond, or become a lien upon the property to be collected as taxes or levies, or be billed directly to the land owner.

§ 9-18. Permits; Fees; Security for Performance.

A. No person may engage in a land disturbing activity until they have acquired the necessary permits, have paid all applicable fees per the current policy of the Board of Supervisors, posted the required bond and installed all perimeter controls, unless the proposed land-disturbing activity is specifically exempt from the provisions of this ordinance.

B. Fees for a land disturbing permit when a SWM permit is not also required.

C. An administrative fee shall be paid to the County at the time of submission of the land disturbance permit application. The land disturbance permit fee is separate from all other fees paid to other departments in the County. The following fee is hereby adopted and shall be applied to land disturbance permits:

1. Land disturbance: where no more than one acre disturbed -- \$500.00
2. Fees for applications requiring temporary erosion and sediment control facilities-- \$100.00 each facility
3. Fees for applications requiring stream crossings -- \$100.00 each crossing
4. Fee for applications requiring permanent stormwater facilities or BMP's -- \$250.00 each facility
5. Additional fee for applications requiring newly constructed storm water conveyance channels -- \$50.00 for each channel
6. Additional fee for each resubmittal of the required erosion and sediment control plan due to the owner's failure to include required information -- \$100.00

D. Fees for coverage under the general permit shall be imposed in accordance with Table 1. When a site or sites has been purchased for development within a previously permitted common plan of development or sale, the applicant shall be subject to fees in accordance with the disturbed acreage of their site or sites according to Table 1.

Table 1: Fees for coverage for new sites and sites purchased for development within a previously permitted common plan of development or sale.

Type of Permit	Total Fee Amount	State Share (28%)	County Share (72%)
Agreement in lieu of a plan of a SWPPP and/or Erosion and Sediment Control Plan in the construction of a single family detached residential structure and/or farm building or structure	\$250	N/A	\$250
VESMP General / Stormwater Management - Small Construction Activity/Land Clearing (Areas within common plans of development or sale with land disturbance acreage less than 1 acre.)	\$600	\$81.00	\$519.00
VESMP General / Stormwater Management - Small Construction Activity/Land Clearing (Sites or areas within common plans of development or sale with land disturbance acreage equal to or greater than 1 acre and less than 5 Acres)	\$2,700	\$756	\$1,944
VESMP General / Stormwater Management – Large Construction Activity/Land Clearing (Sites or areas within common plans of development or sale with land disturbance acreage equal to or greater than 5 acres and less than 10 acres)	\$3,400	\$952	\$2,448
VESMP General / Stormwater Management – Large Construction Activity/Land Clearing [Sites or areas within common plans of development or sale with land disturbance acreage equal to or greater than 10 acres and less than 50 acres]	\$4,500	\$1,260	\$3,240
VESMP General / Stormwater Management – Large Construction Activity/Land Clearing (Sites or areas within common plans of development or sale with land disturbance acreage equal to or greater than 50 acres and less than 100 acres)	\$6,100	\$1,708	\$4,392
VESMP General / Stormwater Management – Large Construction Activity/Land Clearing (Sites or areas within common plans of development or sale with land disturbance acreage equal to or greater than 100 acres)	\$9,600	\$2,688	\$6,912

(Ord. 10/28/15)

E. Fees for the modification or transfer of registration statements from the general permit issued by the County shall be imposed in accordance with Table 2. If the permit modifications result in changes to stormwater management plans that require additional review by the County, such reviews shall be subject to the fees set out in Table 2. The fee assessed shall

be based on the total disturbed acreage of the site. In addition to the general permit modification fee, modifications resulting in an increase in total disturbed acreage shall pay the difference in the initial permit fee paid and the permit fee that would have applied for the total disturbed acreage in Table 1.

Table 2: Fees for the modification or transfer of registration statements for the General Permit for Discharges of Stormwater from Construction Activities.

Type of Permit	Fee Amount
VESMP General / Stormwater Management – Small Construction Activity/Land Clearing (Areas within common plans of development or sale with land disturbance acreage less than 1 acre)	\$20
VESMP General / Stormwater Management – Small Construction Activity/Land Clearing (Sites or areas within common plans of development or sale with land disturbance acreage equal to or greater than 1 and less than 5 acres)	\$200
VESMP General / Stormwater Management – Large Construction Activity/Land Clearing (Sites or areas within common plans of development or sale with land disturbance acreage equal to or greater than 5 acres and less than 10 acres)	\$250
VESMP General / Stormwater Management – Large Construction Activity/Land Clearing (Sites or areas within common plans of development or sale with land disturbance acreage equal to or greater than 10 acres and less than 50 acres)	\$300
VESMP General / Stormwater Management – Large Construction Activity/Land Clearing (Sites or areas within common plans of development or sale with land disturbance acreage equal to or greater than 50 acres and less than 100 acres)	\$450
VESMP General / Stormwater Management – Large Construction Activity/Land Clearing (Sites or areas within common plans of development or sale with land disturbance acreage equal to or greater than 100 acres)	\$700

F. Permit maintenance fees. (9VAC25-875-1420):

The following annual permit maintenance fees shall be imposed in accordance with Table 3,

including fees imposed on expired permits that have been administratively continued. With respect to the general permit, these fees shall apply until the permit coverage is terminated.

Table 3: Permit Maintenance Fees.

Type of Permit	Fee Amount
VESMP General / Stormwater Management – Small Construction Activity/Land Clearing (Areas within common plans of development or sale with land disturbance acreage less than 1 acre)	\$50
VESMP General / Stormwater Management – Small Construction Activity/Land Clearing (Sites or areas within common plans of development or sale with land disturbance equal to or greater than 1 acre and less than 5 acres)	\$400
VESMP General / Stormwater Management – Large Construction Activity/Land Clearing (Sites or areas within common plans of development or sale with land disturbance acreage equal to or greater than 5 acres and less than 10 acres)	\$500
VESMP General / Stormwater Management – Large Construction Activity/Land Clearing (Sites or areas within common plans of development or sale with land disturbance acreage equal to or greater than 10 acres and less than 50 acres)	\$650
VESMP General / Stormwater Management – Large Construction Activity/Land Clearing (Sites or areas within common plans of development or sale with land disturbance acreage equal to or greater than 50 acres and less than 100 acres)	\$900
VESMP General / Stormwater Management – Large Construction Activity/Land Clearing (Sites or areas within common plans of development or sale with land disturbance acreage equal to or greater 100 acres)	\$1,400

General permit coverage maintenance fees shall be paid annually to the County, by the anniversary date of general permit coverage. No permit will be reissued or automatically continued without payment of the required fee. General permit coverage maintenance fees shall be applied until a Notice of Termination is effective.

G. The fees set forth in Sections C-E, above shall apply to:

1. All persons seeking coverage under the general permit.
2. All permittees who request modifications to or transfers of their existing registration statement for coverage under a general permit.
3. Persons whose coverage under the general permit has been revoked shall apply to DEQ for an Individual Permit for Discharges of Stormwater from Construction

Activities.

4. Permit and permit coverage maintenance fees outlined under Section E may apply to each general permit holder.

5. County departments, groups, organizations or agencies specified in the County of Augusta Fee Waiver Policy approved by the Board of Supervisors will pay 28% of any required VESMP fee to the state in accordance with the fee schedule in § 9-18 (C).

H. No permit application fees will be assessed to:

1. Permittees who request minor modifications to permits as defined in § 9-3 of this chapter. Permit modifications at the request of the permittee resulting in changes to stormwater management plans that require additional review by the Administrator shall not be exempt pursuant to this section.

2. Permittees whose permits are modified or amended at the initiative of DEQ, excluding errors in the registration statement identified by the Administrator or errors related to the acreage of the site.

I. All incomplete payments will be deemed as nonpayments, and the applicant shall be notified of any incomplete payments. Interest may be charged for late payments at the underpayment rate set forth in § 58.1-15 of the Code of Virginia and is calculated on a monthly basis at the applicable periodic rate. A 10% late payment fee shall be charged to any delinquent (over 90 days past due) account. The County shall be entitled to all remedies available under the Code of Virginia in collecting any past due amount.

J. No land-disturbing permit shall be issued until the applicant submits with his application approved erosion and sediment control plan and certification that the plan will be followed and all perimeter erosion and sediment control measures have been installed, inspected and approved by the Administrator.

K. All applicants for permits will provide to the Administrator a performance bond, cash escrow, or an irrevocable letter of credit acceptable to the Administrator and the County Attorney, to ensure that measures could be taken by the plan approving authority at the applicant's expense should the applicant fail, after proper notice, within the time specified to initiate or maintain appropriate conservation measures required of him by the approved plan as a result of his land-disturbing activity.

1. The amount of the bond or other security for performance shall not exceed the total of the estimated cost to initiate and maintain appropriate conservation action based on unit price for new public or private sector construction in the locality and a reasonable allowance for estimated administrative costs and inflation which shall not exceed twenty-five percent of the cost of the conservation action. Should it be necessary for the plan approving authority to take

such conservation action, the Administrator may collect from the applicant any costs in excess of the amount of the surety held.

2. Once the Administrator approves the conservation plan and receives a completed application for land disturbing permit, applicable fees and the required surety bond, the Administrator will issue a Perimeter Erosion and Sediment Control Permit. The owner may then install all perimeter controls as detailed in the approved erosion plan. Once perimeter controls are functional and seeded/stabilized, the Administrator will inspect erosion measures. If installed measures are satisfactory to the Administrator, a land disturbing permit shall be issued.

3. Within sixty (60) days of adequate stabilization, as determined by the Administrator in any project or section of a project, such bond, cash escrow or letter of credit, or the unexpended or unobligated portion thereof, shall be either refunded to the applicant or terminated, based upon the percentage of stabilization accomplished in the project or project section. These requirements are in addition to all other provisions relating to the issuance of permits and are not intended to otherwise affect the requirements for such permits.

	ESC Plan & Land Disturbing Permit Required	SWM Plan and VESMP Permit Required	Pollution Prevention Plan Required	Additional Control Measures - TMDL
Development < 10,000 ft ² and not part of a common plan of development disturbing ≥ 10,000 ft ² .	NO	NO	NO	NO
Development < 10,000 ft ² , and IS part of a common plan of development disturbing ≥ 10,000 ft ² but ≤ 1 acre.	YES	NO	NO	YES

Development < 10,000 ft ² , and IS part of a common plan of development disturbing ≥ 1 acre.	YES	YES	YES	YES
Development ≥ 10,000 ft ² and < 1 acre and IS NOT part of a common plan of development disturbing ≥ 1 acre.	YES	NO	NO	YES
Development disturbing ≥ 1 acre or IS part of a common plan of development disturbing ≥ 1 acre	YES	YES	YES	YES

Agreement-In-Lieu of an Erosion and Sediment Control Plan and SWPPP may be permitted for construction of single family detached residential structures and farm buildings and/or structures. (Ord. 5/28/14)

ARTICLE II. Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination

§ 9-30. Purpose and Authority.

1. The purpose of this article is to promote the general health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the County by protecting property and state waters through the prohibition of illicit discharges of non-storm water within the County’s regulated MS4 area into the County’s MS4, subject to certain exceptions.

2. This ordinance is adopted pursuant to Article 2.3 of Chapter 3.1 of Title 62.1 of the Code of Virginia.

§ 9-31. Applicability.

This ordinance is applicable to the MS4 designated areas and contributing watersheds
July 2025

highlighted in red on a map entitled “Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Ordinance” which is declared part of this ordinance and which shall be kept on file in the Offices of the Department of Community Development.

§ 9-32. Definitions.

Unless the context otherwise requires, the following definitions shall be used in the interpretation and construction of this Article.

Administrator. The MS4 authority responsible for administering the MS4 on behalf of the County. The Department of Community Development is designated as the Administrator.

Best Management Practices or (BMPs). Schedules of activities, prohibitions of practices, general good housekeeping practices, pollution prevention and educational practices, maintenance procedures, and other management practices to prevent or reduce the discharge of pollutants directly or indirectly to storm water, receiving waters, or storm water conveyance systems. BMPs also include treatment practices, operating procedures, and practices to control site runoff, spillage or leaks, sludge or water disposal, or drainage from raw materials storage.

Clean Water Act. The federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. § 1251 et seq.), and any subsequent amendments thereto.

Hazardous Materials. Any material, including any substance, waste, or combination thereof, which because of its quantity, concentration, or physical, chemical, or infectious characteristics may cause, or significantly contribute to, a substantial present or potential hazard to human health, safety, property, or the environment when improperly treated, stored, transported, disposed of, or otherwise managed.

Illicit Discharge. Any direct or indirect non-storm water discharge to the storm sewer system, except as exempted in Section 9-33.C of this ordinance.

Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4). The County’s municipal separate storm sewer system. The terms “municipal separate storm sewer” and “municipal separate storm sewer” shall have the meanings set forth within § 62.1-44.3 and § 62.1-44.15:24 of the Code of Virginia, respectively.

National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Storm Water Discharge Permit. A permit issued by EPA (or by a State under authority delegated pursuant to 33 USC § 1342(b)) that authorizes the discharge of pollutants to waters of the United States, whether the permit is applicable on an individual, group, or general area-wide basis.

Non-Storm Water Discharge. Any discharge to the storm sewer system that is not composed entirely of storm water.

Person. Any individual, association, organization, partnership, firm, corporation or other entity recognized by law and acting as either the owner or as the owner's agent.

Pollutant. Anything which causes or contributes to pollution. Pollutants may include, but are not limited to: paints, varnishes, and solvents; oil and other automotive fluids; non-hazardous liquid and solid wastes and yard wastes; refuse, rubbish, garbage, litter, or other discarded or abandoned objects, ordinances, and accumulations, so that same may cause or contribute to pollution; floatables; pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers; hazardous materials and wastes; sewage, fecal coliform and pathogens; dissolved and particulate metals; animal wastes; wastes and residues that result from constructing a building or structure; and noxious or offensive matter of any kind.

Storm Sewer System. Publicly-owned facilities by which storm water is collected and/or conveyed, including but not limited to any roads with drainage systems, municipal streets, gutters, curbs, inlets, piped storm drains, pumping facilities, retention and detention basins, natural and human-made or altered drainage channels, reservoirs, and other drainage structures.

Storm Water. Any surface flow, runoff, and drainage consisting entirely of water from any form of natural precipitation, and resulting from such precipitation.

Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP). A document which describes the Best Management Practices and activities to be implemented by a person or business to identify sources of pollution or contamination at a site and the actions to eliminate or reduce pollutant discharges to Storm Water, Storm Water Conveyance Systems, and/or Receiving Waters to the Maximum Extent Practicable.

Virginia Erosion and Stormwater Management Program (VESMP). A program approved by the State after September 13, 2011, that has been established by a VESMP authority to manage the quality and quantity of runoff resulting from land-disturbing activities and shall include such items as local ordinances, rules, permit requirements, annual standards and specifications, policies and guidelines, technical materials, and requirements for plan review, inspection, enforcement, where authorized in the Act and associated regulations, and evaluation consistent with the requirements of the Virginia Erosion and Stormwater Management Act (Article 2.3 of the Code of Virginia) and associated regulations.

Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) permit. A document issued by the State Water Control Board pursuant to the State Water Control Law authorizing, under prescribed conditions, the potential or actual discharge of pollutants from a point source to surface waters.

Wastewater. Any water or other liquid, other than uncontaminated storm water, discharged from a facility.

§ 9-33. Prohibited Discharges.

A. It shall be unlawful and a violation of this article to cause or allow any illicit discharge to enter, or have the potential of entering, the MS4.

B. Illicit discharges include, but are not limited to:

1. Discharging, or allowing any discharge of sewage, industrial wastes, yard wastes, or other wastes, into the storm sewer system, or any component thereof, or onto driveways, sidewalks, parking lots, the ground, or any other areas draining to the storm sewer system.

2. Connecting, or allowing any connection of any sanitary sewer to the storm sewer system.

3. Connecting, or allowing any connection to the storm sewer system, without a valid VESMP, VPDES, or NPDES permit, any structure that conveys any liquid other than storm water or discharges listed in subsection (c), including, but not limited to, pipes, drains, sanitary sewer lines, washing machine drains, or floor drains.

4. Throwing, placing, or depositing, or causing to be thrown, placed, or deposited in the storm sewer system anything that impedes or interferes with the free flow of storm water therein, or adversely affects water quality.

C. The following non-storm water discharges are allowable under this article:

1. Discharges or flows covered by a separate individual or general VPDES or VESMP permit for non-storm water discharges;

2. Individual non-storm water discharges or flows that have been identified in writing by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality as de minimis discharges that are not significant sources of pollutants to state waters and do not require a VPDES permit;

3. Non-storm water discharges or flows as listed in the following categories;

- a. Water line flushing, managed in a manner to avoid an instream impact;
- b. Landscape irrigation;
- c. Diverted stream flows;
- d. Rising groundwaters;
- e. Uncontaminated groundwater infiltration, as defined at 40 CFR 35.2005(20);
- f. Uncontaminated pumped groundwater;

- g. Discharges from potable water sources;
- h. Foundation drains;
- i. Air conditioning condensation;
- j. Irrigation water;
- k. Springs;
- l. Water from crawl space pumps;
- m. Footing drains;
- n. Lawn watering;
- o. Individual residential car washing;
- p. Flows from riparian habitats and wetlands;
- q. Dechlorinated swimming pool discharges;
- r. Street wash water;
- s. Discharges or flows from firefighting activities;
- t. Discharges from noncommercial fundraising car washes if the washing uses only biodegradable, phosphate-free, water-based cleaners;
- u. Discharges associated with dye testing provided that the Administrator is notified in writing before testing; or
- v. Other activities generating discharges identified by the department as not requiring VPDES authorization.

D. In the event any of the activities listed in subparagraph C (3) of this section are found to be a significant contributor of pollutants to be discharged into the MS4, the Administrator shall so notify the person performing such activities, and shall order that such activities be ceased or be conducted in such a manner as to avoid the discharge of pollutants into the MS4. The failure to comply with any such order shall constitute a violation of the provisions of this article.

§ 9-34. Inspections and Monitoring.

A. The Administrator shall have the authority to carry out all inspections and monitoring procedures necessary to determine compliance and/or noncompliance with this article, and to enforce the requirements of this article.

B. The Administrator shall have the authority, at his/her sole discretion, to require a SWPPP from any person whose property discharges, or has the potential to discharge, to the MS4.

C. The Administrator and/or his/her duly authorized employees, agents, or representatives of the county, bearing proper credentials and identification, shall be authorized to enter any public property or to request entry into private property at any reasonable time for the purpose of enforcing this article, including, but not limited to taking samples of discharges, inspecting monitoring equipment, inspecting and copying documents relevant to the

enforcement of this article, and such other items as may be deemed necessary for the enforcement of this article.

1. If the owner or person in charge of the property refuses to allow the Administrator or his/her designees to enter in accordance with this subsection, then the Administrator may present sworn testimony to a magistrate or court of competent jurisdiction and request the issuance of an inspection warrant to enter the property for the purpose of making such inspections and investigations. The Administrator shall make a reasonable effort to obtain consent from the owner or person in charge of the property prior to seeking the issuance of an inspection warrant under this section.

D. The Administrator shall have the authority to require any person responsible for a discharge to the MS4 to document that such discharge meets and is in compliance with the requirements of this article. This includes, but is not limited to, the ability of the Administrator to require such person to provide monitoring reports, test results, and such other matters as may be deemed necessary to show that such discharge is in compliance with the requirements of this article. The cost of any required documentation shall be the responsibility of the person responsible for the discharge.

E. The failure of any person to comply with any of the requirements of this section shall constitute a violation of this article.

§ 9-35. Enforcement and Penalties.

A. Any person who violates any of the provisions of this article shall be guilty of a class I misdemeanor and, upon conviction, is subject to punishment by a fine of not more than two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00) per violation per day and confinement in jail for not more than twelve (12) months, either or both.

B. Each day during which a violation of this article occurs or continues shall be deemed a separate and distinct violation of this article.

C. Any person who commits any of the acts prohibited by this article or violates any of the provisions of this article shall be liable to the county for all costs of testing, containment, cleanup, abatement, removal, disposal, monitoring, and any other related costs or expenses that the County may incur in connection with the enforcement of this article and/or the prohibition and/or correction of a violation of this article.

D. The Administrator may bring legal action to enjoin a violation of this article and the existence of any other remedy shall be no defense to any such action.

E. In addition to any of the remedies set forth above, the Administrator may seek to impose, or have imposed by the appropriate authority, any of the remedies provided for by §

62.1-44.15:48, of the Code of Virginia, as amended, which are incorporated herein by reference.

F. In any court action that may result from enforcement of this article, a judge hearing the case may direct the person responsible for the violation or the property owner to correct the violation and each day that the violation continues shall constitute a separate violation of this article.

G. Any person who knowingly makes any false statements, representations, or certifications in any record, report, or other document, either filed or requested pursuant to this article, or who falsifies, tampers with, or knowingly renders inaccurate any monitoring device or method required or used by the Administrator under this article in monitoring discharges, shall be guilty of a violation of this article.

H. The remedies set forth in this section shall be cumulative, not exclusive, and it shall be no defense to any action that one (1) or more of the remedies set forth in this section has been sought or granted.

§ 9-36. Civil charges.

With the consent of any person who has violated any provision of this article, the county may provide for the payment of civil charges for violations in specific sums, not to exceed \$1,000. Civil charges shall be in lieu of any appropriate civil penalty. Such civil charges shall be paid into the treasury of the county for the purpose of abating environmental damages in the county. (Ord. 5/25/16)

(Ord. 6/24/20)