

Executive Summary

Charleston County Stormwater Program Permitting Standards and Procedures Manual

The updated version of the Charleston County Stormwater Program Permitting Standards and Procedures Manual will be made effective September 30, 2018. The purpose of this Manual is to establish standards and procedures that will implement the Charleston County Ordinance #1518 and the County's Stormwater Management Plan. The Manual describes the requirements of construction activity applications and the approval process therein as well as the technical design standards laid out by Charleston County. It also provides information on improving water quality and provisions related to stormwater discharges.

Below are changes that occurred from the previous version of the Manual, published October 2007.

- Clearing and grubbing permits are not applicable to sites on which future development is planned and the application must have a Notice of Intent which explains reason for clearing.
- All Single Family Residential (SFR), Townhome, and Small Commercial shall include a scaled map (site plan) with existing and proposed stormwater flow patterns, structures, and delineated wetlands/critical area. An SFR that is part of a Larger Common Plan must be stamped and signed by a design professional as allowed to by the state of South Carolina LLR.
- The Utility/Linear application does not cover construction projects above one (1) acre in disturbance.
- Stormwater Applications Types II and III are now the SCDHEC – NOI application (#2617).
- As-built drawings for critical elements of a stormwater system shall be required prior to closeout. Critical elements include, but are not limited to, outfall structures, conveyance systems and components, Manufactured Treatment Devices (MTDs), and inlet boxes. This is required to ensure that the systems are constructed in accordance with the design. A copy of as-built drawings shall be submitted to Charleston County Stormwater upon project completion (digital submission preferred).
- Linear Standard Operating Procedure has been added in order to give guidance for road/linear improvements.
- Permanent Best Management Practices (BMPs) must be recorded with the Register of Deeds Office prior to permit issuance.
- The manufacturers of proprietary devices for sediment control will now be required to provide a water quality equivalent (WQE) of 1.8-inch, twenty-four (24) hour, SCS Type III storm event, from the entire drainage area to the MTD.
- All underground detention systems shall accommodate a volume reduction of at least 20% due to sediment storage.
- Land disturbances greater than one half acre within one half mile of a Coastal Receiving Water must submit the SCDHEC NOI - #2617.

- All discharges from a development or redevelopment site shall be modeled with a tail water condition elevation at a minimum of the Mean Sea Level of a nearby data station and/or stormwater elevations of receiving conveyances within the watershed area at the 25 year – 24 hour storm event.
- All permanent water quality ponds shall be designed to store and release a water quality volume (WQV) over a minimum twenty-four (24) hour period where a minimum of 0.10 cfs is still discharging after 24 hours.
- Ponds with vegetated embankments shall be less than fifteen (15) feet in height and shall have side slopes (inside and outside) no steeper than 3.5H:1V.
- Dry Ponds and Infiltration BMPs shall be at least 6 inches above the zone of seasonal high saturation. The max infiltration rate allowed shall be 7 inches per hour.
- Publically dedicated easements are a minimum of 20 feet wide. Depending on pipe size and depth of pipe, easement width is larger than 20 feet.
- Any required off-site easements shall be obtained prior to stormwater permit issuance which would impact upon that area.