

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY

GENERAL PERMIT NO. NCG230000

TO DISCHARGE STORMWATER IN THE EIGHTY NON-COASTAL COUNTIES UNDER
THE

NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM

In compliance with the provision of North Carolina General Statute 143-215.1, other lawful standards and regulations promulgated and adopted by the North Carolina Environmental Management Commission, and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, this permit is hereby issued to all owners or operators of small municipal separate storm sewer systems located in the eighty non-coastal counties, hereafter permittees, which are covered by this permit as evidenced by receipt of a Certificate of Coverage from the Environmental Management Commission to allow the discharge of stormwater to the surface waters of North Carolina via a small municipal separate storm sewer system in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth herein.

The General Permit becomes effective on_____.

The General Permit expires at midnight on_____.

Signed this day_____.

Original signed by Alan Klimek

Alan Klimek, P.E., Director

Division of Water Quality

By the Authority of the Environmental Management Commission

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PART I PERMIT COVERAGE

1. During the period beginning on the effective date of the Certificate of Coverage and lasting until expiration of the General Permit, the permittee is authorized to discharge stormwater from a small municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) to the surface waters of North Carolina.
2. The permittee shall manage all discharges authorized hereby in accordance with the terms and conditions of this General Permit, in accordance with the permittee's approved Stormwater Management Plan, in accordance with any approved modifications to the Stormwater Management Plan, and in accordance with any provisions made by the Director. The permittee's approved Stormwater Management Plan and any subsequent approved modifications are enforceable under this permit.
3. Coverage under this General Permit does not relieve the permittee from responsibility for compliance with any other applicable federal, state, or local law, rule, standard, ordinance, order, judgment, or decree. In any circumstance where any stormwater control requirement under this General Permit conflicts or overlaps with any stormwater control requirement under any other water quality program, the most stringent requirement shall apply. The Director or his designee shall resolve any dispute as to whether there is a conflict or overlap, and shall determine which requirement shall be deemed the most stringent.
4. This General Permit applies to current and future jurisdictional areas of the permittee as well as other entities party to inter-local or other similar agreements with the permittee for the purpose of coverage under this General Permit. Such agreements for joint coverage under this General Permit must be approved by the Director as a condition of issuance of the Certificate of Coverage.
5. The Director may deny or revoke coverage under this General Permit for separate entities covered or seeking coverage together with another entity, and may require independent permit coverage. In addition, the permittee may petition the Director to revoke or deny coverage under this General Permit for specific entities covered or seeking coverage with the permittee.
6. Any other point source discharge to surface waters of the state is prohibited unless it is:
 - (a) permitted by, and in compliance with, another NPDES discharge permit; or
 - (b) determined to be incidental non-stormwater discharges as defined in Part VIII of this General Permit. The Director may require that non-stormwater flows of this type be controlled by the permittee.
7. This General Permit does not authorize discharges that may cause or contribute to violations of water quality standards.

PART II REQUIREMENTS FOR PERMITTED DISCHARGES

SECTION A: STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

1. The permittee shall develop and maintain adequate legal authorities to implement all parts of this permit, including the approved Stormwater Management Plan. The permittee shall keep the Director advised of the status of development of the necessary legal authorities and shall pursue these in accordance with the schedules established in the Stormwater Management Plan.
2. The permittee shall maintain adequate funding and staffing to implement and manage all provisions of the Stormwater Management Plan.
3. Provisions of the permittee's Stormwater Management Plan which may be found to conflict with the requirements of Session Law 2004-163, or the Stormwater Management Rule, or 40 Code of Federal Regulations 122.30 and following, will be subsequently amended to comply with the law and regulations.
4. The permittee shall develop, implement, and enforce the Stormwater Management Plan such that the discharge of pollutants from the MS4 is reduced to the maximum extent practicable. The permittee shall implement the Stormwater Management Plan with emphasis given to priority areas and to management measures and programs that are most effective and efficient at the several stages of the plan's implementation.
5. The permittee shall implement public education and outreach, and public involvement programs to comply with the requirements of, and to support the objectives of, this stormwater discharge General Permit and the Stormwater Management Plan.
6. The permittee shall implement the pertinent components of the Stormwater Management Plan to assure that, to the maximum extent practicable, illicit discharges, spills, and illegal dumping into the MS4 are detected and eliminated.
7. In accordance with the provisions of the approved Stormwater Management Plan, the permittee shall develop, implement, and enforce a program to reduce pollution from construction site runoff.
8. In accordance with the provisions of the approved Stormwater Management Plan, the permittee shall implement a post-construction stormwater management program to regulate stormwater runoff from new development and redevelopment by requiring structural and non-structural best management practices to prevent or minimize post-development impacts to water quality. The program must manage stormwater and protect water quality. This program shall include provisions for long-term operation and maintenance of structural BMPs.

9. In accordance with the provisions of the approved Stormwater Management Plan, the permittee shall develop and implement a program for the evaluation, operation, and maintenance of municipal facilities to reduce the potential for stormwater pollution.
10. The permittee shall monitor and assess the performance of the various management programs and management measures as identified in the permittee's Stormwater Management Plan on an annual basis.
11. Within one year after receiving notice that the permitted MS4 is subject to an approved TMDL, the permittee shall identify any stormwater outfalls that have the potential of discharging the pollutant(s) of concern either to the impaired stream segment or to a tributary of that stream segment and submit a monitoring plan for the pollutant(s) of concern to the Division. The permittee shall submit information on the location of outfalls with the potential for discharging the pollutant(s) of concern in the next Stormwater Management Plan annual report due at least one year after notice of the TMDL. Subsequent annual reports shall include the results of the monitoring. The Division will consider the monitoring results in determining whether additional BMPs are needed to control the pollutant(s) of concern to the maximum extent practicable. If additional BMPs are needed to achieve the required level of control, the permittee will be required to submit a timetable for incorporation of those BMPs into the permitted stormwater program.
12. Proposed modifications to the Stormwater Management Plan, including proposed modifications to the schedules contained therein, must be submitted to the Director for approval.

SECTION B: PUBLIC EDUCATION AND OUTREACH PROGRAM

1. Objectives for Public Education and Outreach Program

- (a) Raise public awareness on the causes and impacts of stormwater pollution.
- (b) Inform the public on steps they can take to reduce or prevent stormwater pollution.

2. BMPs for the Public Education and Outreach Program

The permittee shall implement the following BMPs to meet the objectives of the Public Education and Outreach Program.

BMP	Measurable Goals
(a) Establish a Public Education and Outreach Program	Develop a public education program and implement within 12 months of the Certificate of Coverage issue date. Instead of developing its own program, the permittee may rely on a state-supplied Public Education and Outreach Program when one is available. Incorporate outreach elements for significant minority and disadvantaged communities.
(b) Operate an informational web site	Develop and maintain an internet web site. Post articles on stormwater, information on local water quality, causes of stormwater pollution, public involvement stormwater projects and activities, and ways to contact stormwater management program staff.
(c) Distribute targeted public education materials for schools, households, and businesses	Develop and distribute stormwater educational materials targeting school children, households, builders and developers, and businesses likely to have a significant stormwater impact. Identify steps that each targeted group can take to reduce stormwater pollution.
(d) Distribute general public stormwater pollution education materials	Distribute written educational material to a wider public audience. For example, through utility mail outs, at special civic events, broadcast spots, or at high traffic businesses.

SECTION C: PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND PARTICIPATION PROGRAM

1. Objectives for the Public Involvement and Participation Program

- (a) Provide opportunities for the public to participate in program development, implementation, and review.
- (b) Reach out and engage major economic and ethnic groups.
- (c) Comply with applicable state and local public notice requirements.

2. BMPs for the Public Involvement and Participation Program

The permittee shall implement the following BMPs to meet the objectives of the Public Involvement and Participation Program.

BMP	Measurable Goals
(a) Administer a Public Involvement Program	Establish a Public Involvement Program. Conduct at least one public meeting to allow the public an opportunity to review and comment on the stormwater management program. Comply with state and local requirements for public notice. Make specific provisions to reach out and engage all economic and significant ethnic groups.
(b) Establish a Citizens Advisory Panel	Establish a citizens advisory panel to review the Stormwater Management Plan, to review the annual report, and to advise the permittee on the Stormwater Management Plan.
(c) Organize a volunteer community involvement program	Organize and implement annually a volunteer stormwater related program designed to promote ongoing citizen participation.

SECTION D: ILLICIT DISCHARGE DETECTION AND ELIMINATION PROGRAM

1. Objectives for the Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Program

- (a) Detect and eliminate illicit discharges, including spills and illegal dumping.
- (b) Address significant contributors of pollutants to the MS4. The permittee may require specific controls for a category of discharges, or prohibit that discharge completely, if one or more of these categories of sources are identified as a significant contributor of pollutants to the MS4.

2. BMPs for the Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Program

The permittee shall implement the following BMPs to meet the objectives of the Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Program.

BMP	Measurable Goals
(a) Develop and implement an Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Program	Develop and implement an Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Program. Include provisions for program assessment and evaluation.
(b) Establish and maintain appropriate legal authorities	Establish and maintain adequate legal authorities to prohibit illicit discharges and enforce an approved Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Program.
(c) Develop a storm sewer system map	Complete the identification of, locations of, and mapping of stormwater drainage system components. At a minimum, mapping components must include outfalls and receiving streams.
(d) Implement illicit discharge detection procedures	Implement an inspection program to detect dry weather flows at system outfalls. Establish procedures for tracing the sources of illicit discharges and for removing the sources. Develop procedures for identification of priority areas likely to have illicit discharges. Address incidental non-stormwater discharges if they are significant contributors of pollutants to the MS4.
(e) Conduct employee cross-training	Conduct training for selected town staff on detecting and reporting illicit discharges.
(f) Provide public education	Inform public employees, businesses, and the general public of hazards associated with illegal discharges and improper disposal of waste.
(g) Establish a public reporting mechanism	Establish and publicize a reporting mechanism for the public to report illicit discharges.

SECTION E: CONSTRUCTION SITE RUNOFF CONTROL PROGRAM

1. Objective for the Construction Site Runoff Control Program

Reduce the pollutants in stormwater runoff from construction activities disturbing one or more acres of land surface and those activities less than one acre that are part of a larger common plan of development.

2. BMPs for the Construction Site Runoff Control Program

The permittee shall implement the following BMPs to meet the objective of the Construction Site Runoff Control Program.

BMP	Measurable Goals
(a) Implement a program and establish a regulatory mechanism for erosion and sediment control at construction sites	Develop a regulatory mechanism and implement a program requiring erosion and sediment controls at construction sites and providing for sanctions to ensure compliance. Instead of originating a new program, the permittee may elect to comply by relying on the NCDENR Division of Land Resources (DLR) Erosion and Sediment Control Program and the requirements of the active NCG010000, the General Permit to Discharge Stormwater Under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System associated with construction activities, either as administered by the DLR, or as delegated by the Sedimentation Control Commission to another entity with appropriate jurisdiction, including the permittee. The permittee may rely on the DLR program and the construction activities General Permit only to the extent that they satisfy all of the following BMPs.
(b) Develop requirements on construction site operators	Require construction site operators to implement erosion and sediment control BMPs and to control construction site wastes that may cause adverse water quality impacts.
(c) Institute plan reviews	Review construction plans and establish procedures that incorporate water quality considerations in construction site plan reviews.
(d) Establish public information procedures	Establish procedures for receipt and consideration of erosion and sedimentation information submitted by the public. Publicize the procedures and contact information. The procedures must lead directly to a site inspection or other timely follow-up action.
(e) Establish inspection and enforcement procedures	Establish procedures for site inspection and enforcement of control measure requirements. The procedures should include prioritizing areas of inspections based on local criteria.
(f) Provide educational and training materials for construction site operators	New materials may be developed by the permittee, or the permittee may use materials adopted from other programs and adapted to the permittee's construction runoff controls program.

SECTION F: POST-CONSTRUCTION STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

1. Objectives for the Post-Construction Stormwater Management Program

- (a) Manage stormwater runoff from new development projects and redevelopment projects that disturb an acre or more of land, including projects less than an acre that are part of a larger common plan of development or sale.
- (b) Protect water quality.
- (c) Ensure long term operation and maintenance of BMPs.

2. BMPs for the Post-Construction Stormwater Management Program

The permittee shall implement the following BMPs to meet the objectives of the Post-Construction Stormwater Management Program.

BMP	Measurable Goals
(a) Establish a Post-Construction Stormwater Management Program	Develop, adopt by ordinance (or similar regulatory mechanism), implement, and enforce a program to address stormwater runoff from new development and redevelopment. The ordinance must be reviewed and approved by the Director prior to implementation. Ensure that controls are in place to prevent or minimize water quality impacts. This BMP must be implemented in accordance with the schedule in the Certificate of Coverage.
(b) Establish strategies which include BMPs appropriate for the MS4	Develop and implement strategies that include a combination of structural and/or non-structural BMPs. Ensure adequate long-term operation and maintenance of structural BMPs. Require annual inspection reports of permitted structural BMPs performed by a qualified professional.
(c) Establish a program to control the sources of fecal coliform to the maximum extent practicable	Control the sources of fecal coliform to the maximum extent practicable. Develop and implement an oversight program to ensure proper operation and maintenance of on-site wastewater treatment systems for domestic wastewater. Municipalities must coordinate this program with the county health department.
(d) Establish trout waters (Tr) protection measures (for programs with development or redevelopment draining to Tr waters)	Develop, adopt, and implement an ordinance (or similar regulatory mechanism) to ensure that the best management practices selected do not result in a sustained increase in the receiving water temperature.
(e) Establish nutrient sensitive waters (NSW) protection measures (for programs with development or redevelopment draining to NSW waters)	Develop, adopt, and implement an ordinance (or similar regulatory mechanism) to ensure that the best management practice for reducing nutrient loading is selected. In areas where the Environmental Management Commission has approved a Nutrient Sensitive Water Urban Stormwater Management Program, the provisions of that program fulfill the nutrient loading reduction requirement. Develop and include a nutrient application (fertilizer and organic nutrients) management program in the Post-construction Stormwater Management Program.

3. The evaluation of Post-construction Stormwater Management Program measures

- (a) Those areas within the jurisdictional area of the permittee that are already subject to the existing state stormwater management programs listed herein are deemed compliant with the post-construction stormwater management model practices identified in (b) below. The listed programs are: the Water Supply Watershed protection programs for WS-I – WS-IV waters, the HQW and ORW waters management strategies, the Neuse River Basin Nutrient Sensitive Waters Management Strategy, the Tar-Pamlico River Basin Nutrient Sensitive Waters Management Strategy, and the Randleman Lake Water Supply Watershed program.
- (b) Model Practices. For those areas within the jurisdictional area of the permittee that are not subject to the post-construction stormwater management provisions of another existing state stormwater management program, the permittee's Post-construction Stormwater Management Program must equal or exceed the stormwater management and water quality protection provided by the following model practices.
- (i) The permittee may issue a local stormwater management permit to a development or redevelopment project as either a low density project or a high density project.
- (ii) A project may be permitted as a low density project if it meets the following criteria:
- (A) No more than two dwelling units per acre or 24% built-upon area;
 - (B) Use of vegetated conveyances to the maximum extent practicable;
 - (C) All built-upon areas are at least 30 feet landward of perennial and intermittent surface waters; and,
 - (D) Deed restrictions and protective covenants are required by the locally issued permit and incorporated by the development to ensure that subsequent development activities maintain the development (or redevelopment) consistent with the approved plans.
- (iii) A project not consistent with the requirements for a low density project may be permitted as a high density project if it meets the following requirements:
- (A) The stormwater control measures must control and treat the difference between the pre-development and post-development conditions for the 1-year 24-hour storm. Runoff volume drawdown time must be a minimum of 24 hours, but not more than 120 hours;
 - (B) All structural stormwater treatment systems must be designed to achieve 85% average annual removal of total suspended solids;
 - (C) Stormwater management measures must comply with the General Engineering Design Criteria For All Projects requirements listed in 15A NCAC 2H .1008(c);
 - (D) All built-upon areas are at least 30 feet landward of perennial and intermittent surface waters; and,
 - (E) Deed restrictions and protective covenants are required by the locally issued permit and incorporated by the development to ensure that subsequent development activities maintain the

development (or redevelopment) consistent with the approved plans.

- (c) Watershed Protection Plans. Public bodies may develop and implement comprehensive watershed protection plans that may be used to meet part, or all, of the requirements for post-construction stormwater management.
- (d) A regulated entity may develop its own comprehensive watershed plan, may use the model ordinance developed by the Commission, may design its own post-construction practices based on the Division's guidance and engineering standards for best management practices, or it may incorporate the post-construction model practices to satisfy, in whole or in part, the requirements for post-construction stormwater management.

SECTION G: POLLUTION PREVENTION AND GOOD HOUSEKEEPING FOR MUNICIPAL OPERATIONS PROGRAM

1. Objective for the Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping for Municipal Operations Program

Prevent or reduce stormwater pollution from municipal operations.

2. BMPs for the Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping for Municipal Operations Program

The permittee shall implement the following BMPs to meet the objectives of the Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping for Municipal Operations Program.

BMP	Measurable Goals
(a) Develop an operation and maintenance program	Develop an operation and maintenance program that has the ultimate goal of preventing or reducing pollutant runoff from municipal operations.
(b) Inspection and evaluation of municipal facilities and operations	Develop an inventory of all facilities and operations owned and operated by the permittee with the potential for generating polluted stormwater runoff. Specifically inspect the stormwater system, the potential sources of polluted runoff, the stormwater controls, and the conveyance systems. Evaluate the sources, document deficiencies, plan corrective actions, and document the accomplishment of corrective actions.
(c) Conduct staff training	Conduct staff training specific for stormwater pollution prevention and good housekeeping procedures.
(d) Review of regulated industrial activities	Conduct an annual review of the industrial activities owned or operated by the permittee that hold a Phase I NPDES stormwater permit. Specifically review the following aspects: the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan where one is required, the timeliness of any monitoring reports required by the Phase I permit, and the results of inspections and subsequent follow-up actions at the facilities.

PART III STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN ASSESSMENT AND PERMIT COMPLIANCE ASSESSMENT

1. Implementation of the Stormwater Management Plan will include documentation of all program components that are being undertaken including, but not limited to, monitoring and sampling, inspections, maintenance activities, educational programs, implementation of BMPs, and enforcement actions. Documentation will be kept on-file by the permittee for a period of five years and made available to the Director or his authorized representative immediately upon request.
2. The permittee's Stormwater Management Plan will be reviewed and updated as necessary, but at least on an annual basis. The permittee will submit a report of this evaluation and monitoring information to the Director. This information will be submitted each year, within 30 days after the anniversary of the effective date of the permittee's Certificate of Coverage, and it will cover the previous year's activities as defined by each succeeding anniversary of the Certificate of Coverage effective date. The permittee's reporting will include appropriate information to accurately describe the progress, status, and results of the Stormwater Management Plan and will include, as a minimum, the following components:
 - (a) A detailed description of the status of implementation of the Stormwater Management Plan. This will include information on the development and implementation of all components of the Stormwater Management Plan for the past year and schedules and plans for the year following each report.
 - (b) A description and justification for any proposed changes to the Stormwater Management Plan. This will include descriptions and supporting information for the proposed changes and how these changes will affect the Stormwater Management Plan (results, effectiveness, implementation schedule, etc.).
 - (c) Documentation of any necessary changes to the programs or the practices for assessment of the management measures implemented through the Stormwater Management Plan. In addition, any changes in the cost of, or funding for, the Stormwater Management Plan will be documented.
 - (d) A summary of data accumulated as part of the Stormwater Management Plan throughout the year along with an assessment of what the data indicates in light of the Stormwater Management Plan.
 - (e) Information on the annual expenditures and budget anticipated for the year following each report along with an assessment of the continued financial support for the overall Stormwater Management Plan.
 - (f) A summary of activities undertaken as part of the Stormwater Management Plan throughout the year. This summary will include, but is not limited to, information on the establishment of appropriate legal authorities, project assessments, inspections, enforcement actions, continued inventory and review of the storm sewer system, public education, training, and results of the illicit discharge detection and elimination program.

- (g) Information concerning areas of water quality improvement or degradation. Depending on the level of implementation of the Stormwater Management Plan, this information may be submitted based on pilot studies, individual projects, or on a watershed or sub-watershed basis.
3. The Director may notify the permittee when the permittee does not meet one or more of the requirements of this permit. Within 30 days of such notice, the permittee will submit a plan and time schedule to the Director for meeting the permit requirements. The Director may approve the corrective action plan, approve a plan with modifications, or reject the proposed plan. The permittee will provide certification in writing (in accordance with Part IV, Paragraph 2) to the Director that the changes have been made. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to limit the Director's ability to conduct enforcement actions for violations of this permit.
 4. The Director may request additional reporting information as necessary to assess the permittee's compliance with this permit, including compliance with the elements of the permittee's Stormwater Management Plan.

PART IV REPORTING AND RECORD KEEPING REQUIREMENTS

1. Monitoring Records

The permittee shall retain records of all monitoring information, including all calibration and maintenance records and all original chart recordings for continuous monitoring instrumentation, and copies of all reports required by this permit for a period of at least 5 years from the date of the sample, measurement, report, or application. This period may be extended by request of the Director at any time prior to the end of the five-year period.

2. Report Submittals

(a) Duplicate signed copies of all reports required herein, shall be submitted to the following address:

Division of Water Quality
Surface Water Protection Section
Stormwater Permitting Unit
1617 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1617

(b) All applications, reports, or information submitted to DWQ shall be signed by a principal executive officer, ranking elected official, or duly authorized representative. A person is a duly authorized representative only if:

- (i) The authorization is made in writing by a principal executive officer or ranking elected official;
- (ii) The authorization specified either an individual or a position having responsibility for the overall operation of a regulated facility or activity or an individual or position having overall responsibility for environmental/stormwater matters; and
- (iii) The written authorization is submitted to the Director.

(c) Any person signing a document under paragraphs (a) or (b) of this section shall make the following certification:

"I certify, under penalty of law, that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fines and imprisonment for knowing violations."

3. Recording Results

For each measurement, sample, inspection, or maintenance activity performed or collected pursuant to the requirements of this permit, the permittee shall record the following information:

- (a) The dates, exact place, and time of sampling, measurements, inspection, or maintenance activity;
- (b) The individual(s) who performed the sampling, measurements, inspection, or maintenance activity;
- (c) The date(s) analyses were performed;
- (d) The individual(s) who performed the analyses;
- (e) The analytical techniques or methods used; and
- (f) The results of such analyses.

4. Planned Changes

The permittee shall give notice to the Director as soon as possible of any planned changes or activities which could significantly alter the nature or quantity of pollutants discharged. This notification requirement includes pollutants that are not specifically listed in the permit or subject to notification requirements under 40 CFR Section 122.42 (a).

5. Anticipated Noncompliance

The permittee shall give notice to the Director as soon as possible of any planned changes that may result in noncompliance with the permit requirements.

6. Twenty-four Hour Reporting

The permittee shall report to the DWQ central office or the appropriate regional office any noncompliance that may endanger health or the environment. Any information shall be provided orally within 24 hours from the time the permittee becomes aware of the circumstances. A written submission shall also be provided within 5 days of the time the permittee becomes aware of the circumstances.

The written submission shall contain a description of the noncompliance, and its causes; the period of noncompliance, including exact dates and times, and if the noncompliance has not been corrected, the anticipated time compliance is expected to continue; and steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent reoccurrence of the noncompliance.

The Director may waive the written report on a case-by-case basis if the oral report has been received within 24 hours.

7. Annual Reporting

The permittee will submit reporting and monitoring information on an annual basis, concurrent with the annual assessment of the Stormwater Management Plan.

8. Additional Reporting

The Director may request reporting information on a more frequent basis as deemed necessary either for specific portions of the permittee's Stormwater Management Plan, or for the entire Plan.

9. Other Information

Where the permittee becomes aware that it failed to submit any relevant facts in applying to be covered under this permit or in any report to the Director, it shall promptly submit such facts or information.

PART V STANDARD CONDITIONS

SECTION A: COMPLIANCE AND LIABILITY

1. Duty to Comply

The permittee must comply with all conditions of this general permit. Any general permit noncompliance constitutes a violation of the Clean Water Act and is grounds for enforcement action; for certificate of coverage termination, revocation, re-issuance, or modification; or denial of general permit coverage upon renewal application.

- (a) The permittee shall comply with standards or prohibitions established under section 307(a) of the Clean Water Act for toxic pollutants within the time provided in the regulations that establish these standards or prohibitions, even if the general permit has not yet been modified to incorporate the requirement.
- (b) The Clean Water Act provides that any person who violates a permit condition is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed the maximum amounts authorized by Section 309(d) of the Act and the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act (28 U.S.C. §2461 note) as amended by the Debt Collection Improvement Act (31 U.S.C. §3701 note) (currently \$27,500 per day for each violation). Any person who negligently violates any permit condition is subject to criminal penalties of \$2,500 to \$25,000 per day of violation, or imprisonment for not more than 1 year, or both. Any person who knowingly violates permit conditions is subject to criminal penalties of \$5,000 to \$50,000 per day of violation, or imprisonment for not more than 3 years, or both. Also, any person who violates a permit condition may be assessed an administrative penalty not to exceed \$11,000 per violation with the maximum amount not to exceed \$137,500. [Ref: Section 309 of the Federal Act 33 USC 1319 and 40 CFR 122.41(a).]
- (c) Under state law, a daily civil penalty of not more than twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) per violation may be assessed against any person who violates or fails to act in accordance with the terms, conditions, or requirements of a permit. [Ref: North Carolina General Statutes 143-215.6A]
- (d) Any person may be assessed an administrative penalty by the Administrator for violating section 301, 302, 306, 307, 308, 318 or 405 of this Act, or any permit condition or limitation implementing any of such sections in a permit issued under section 402 of this Act. Pursuant to 40 CFR Part 19 and the Act, administrative penalties for Class I violations are not to exceed the maximum amounts authorized by Section 309(g)(2)(A) of the Act and the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act (28 U.S.C. §2461 note) as amended by the Debt Collection Improvement Act (31 U.S.C. §3701 note) (currently \$11,000 per violation, with the maximum amount of any Class I penalty assessed not to exceed \$27,500). Pursuant to 40 CFR Part 19 and the Act, penalties for Class II violations are not to exceed the maximum amounts authorized by Section 309(g)(2)(B) of the Act and the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act (28 U.S.C. §2461 note) as amended by the Debt Collection Improvement Act (31 U.S.C. §3701 note) (currently

\$11,000 per day for each day during which the violation continues, with the maximum amount of any Class II penalty not to exceed \$137,500).

2. Duty to Mitigate

The permittee shall take all reasonable steps to minimize or prevent any discharge in violation of this general permit that has a reasonable likelihood of adversely affecting human health or the environment.

3. Civil and Criminal Liability

Nothing in this permit shall be construed to relieve the permittee from any responsibilities, liabilities, or penalties for noncompliance pursuant to NCGS 143-215.3, 143-215.6A, 143-215.6B, 143-215.6C or Section 309 of the Federal Act, 33 USC 1319. Furthermore, the permittee is responsible for consequential damages, such as fish kills, even though the responsibility for effective compliance may be temporarily suspended.

4. Oil and Hazardous Substance Liability

Nothing in this permit shall be construed to preclude the institution of any legal action or relieve the permittee from any responsibilities, liabilities, or penalties to which the permittee is or may be subject to under NCGS 143-215.75 et seq. or Section 311 of the Federal Act, 33 USC 1321.

5. Property Rights

The issuance of this permit does not convey any property rights in either real or personal property, or any exclusive privileges, nor does it authorize any injury to private property or any invasion of personal rights, nor any infringement of federal, state, or local laws or regulations.

6. Severability

The provisions of this permit are severable, and if any provision of this permit, or the application of any provision of this permit to any circumstances, is held invalid, the application of such provision to other circumstances, and the remainder of this permit, shall not be affected thereby.

7. Duty to Provide Information

The permittee shall furnish to the Director, within a reasonable time, any information which the Director may request to determine whether cause exists for modifying, revoking and reissuing, or terminating the coverage issued pursuant to this permit or to determine compliance with this permit. The permittee shall also furnish to the Director upon request, copies of records required to be kept by this permit.

8. Penalties for Tampering

The Clean Water Act provides that any person who falsifies, tampers with, or knowingly renders inaccurate, any monitoring device or method required to be maintained under this permit shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not more than \$10,000 per violation, or by imprisonment for not more than two years per violation, or by both. If a conviction of a person is for a violation committed after a first conviction of such person under this paragraph, punishment is a fine of not more than \$20,000 per day of violation, or by imprisonment of not more than 4 years, or both.

9. Penalties for Falsification of Reports

The Clean Water Act provides that any person who knowingly makes any false statement, representation, or certification in any record or other document submitted or required to be maintained under this permit, including monitoring reports or reports of compliance or noncompliance shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not more than \$10,000 per violation, or by imprisonment for not more than two years per violation, or by both.

10. Permit Actions

Coverage under this permit may be modified, revoked and reissued, or terminated for cause. The notification of planned changes or anticipated noncompliance does not stay any permit condition.

SECTION B: OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF POLLUTION CONTROLS

1. Proper Operation and Maintenance

The permittee shall at all times properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems of treatment and control (and related appurtenances) which are owned and/or operated by the permittee to achieve compliance with the conditions of this permit. Proper operation and maintenance also includes adequate laboratory controls and appropriate quality assurance procedures. This provision requires the operation of back-up or auxiliary facilities or similar systems which are installed by a permittee only when the operation is necessary to achieve compliance with the conditions of the permit.

2. Need to Halt or Reduce not a Defense

It shall not be a defense for a permittee in an enforcement action that it would have been necessary to halt or reduce the permitted activity in order to maintain compliance with the condition of this permit.

SECTION C: MONITORING AND RECORDS

1. Representative Sampling

When required herein, stormwater samples collected and measurements taken shall be characteristic of the volume and nature of the permitted discharge. Analytical stormwater sampling shall be performed during a representative storm event. These samples shall be taken on a day and time that is characteristic of the discharge. Where appropriate, all stormwater samples shall be taken before the discharge joins or is diluted by any other waste stream, body of water, or substance. When specified herein, monitoring points established in this permit shall not be changed without notification to and approval of the Director.

2. Flow Measurements

Where required, appropriate flow measurement devices and methods consistent with accepted scientific practices shall be selected and used to ensure the accuracy and reliability of measurements of the volume of monitored discharges.

3. Test Procedures

Test procedures for the analysis of pollutants shall conform to the EMC regulations published pursuant to NCGS 143-215.63 et. seq, the Water and Air Quality Reporting Acts, and to regulations published pursuant to Section 304(g), 33 USC 1314, of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as Amended, and Regulation 40 CFR 136.

To meet the intent of any monitoring required by this permit, all test procedures must produce minimum detection and reporting levels and all data generated must be reported down to the minimum detection or lower reporting level of the procedure.

4. Inspection and Entry

The permittee shall allow the Director, or an authorized representative (including an authorized contractor acting as a representative of the Director), or in the case of a facility which discharges through a MS4, an authorized representative of a municipal operator of the MS4 receiving the discharge, upon the presentation of credentials and other documents as may be required by law, to;

- (a) Enter upon the permittee's premises where a regulated facility or activity is located or conducted, or where records must be kept under the conditions of this permit;
- (b) Have access to and copy, at reasonable times, any records that must be kept under the conditions of this permit;
- (c) Inspect at reasonable times any facilities, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices, or operations regulated or required under this permit; and

- (d) Sample or monitor at reasonable times, for the purposes of assuring permit compliance or as otherwise authorized by the Clean Water Act, any substances or parameters at any location.

5. Availability of Reports

Except for data determined to be confidential under NCGS 143-215.3(a)(2) or Section 308 of the Federal Act, 33 USC 1318, all reports prepared in accordance with the terms of this permit shall be available for public inspection at the offices of the Division of Water Quality. As required by the Act, analytical data shall not be considered confidential. Knowingly making any false statement on any such report may result in the imposition of criminal penalties as provided for in NCGS 143-215.6B or in Section 309 of the Federal Act.

PART VI LIMITATIONS REOPENER

The issuance of this permit does not prohibit the Director from reopening and modifying the permit, revoking and reissuing the permit, or terminating the permit as allowed by the laws, rules, and regulations contained in Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 122 and 123; Title 15A of the North Carolina Administrative Code, Subchapter 2H .0100; and North Carolina General Statute 143-215.1 et. al.

PART VII ADMINISTERING AND COMPLIANCE MONITORING FEE REQUIREMENTS

The permittee must pay the administering and compliance monitoring fee within 30 (thirty) days after being billed by the Division. Failure to pay the fee in a timely manner in accordance with 15A NCAC 2H .0105(b)(4) may cause the Director to initiate action to revoke coverage under the permit.

PART VIII DEFINITIONS

1. Act
See Clean Water Act.
2. Best Management Practice (BMP)
Measures or practices used to reduce the amount of pollution entering surface waters. BMPs can be structural or non-structural and may take the form of a process, activity, physical structure or planning (see non-structural BMP).
3. Clean Water Act
The Federal Water Pollution Control Act, also known as the Clean Water Act (CWA), as amended, 33 USC 1251, et. seq.
4. Department
Department means the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources.
5. Division (DWQ)
The Division of Water Quality, Department of Environment and Natural Resources.
6. Director
The Director of the Division of Water Quality, the permit issuing authority.
7. EMC
The North Carolina Environmental Management Commission.
8. Grab Sample
An individual sample collected instantaneously. Grab samples that will be directly analyzed or qualitatively monitored must be taken within the first 30 minutes of discharge.

9. Hazardous Substance
Any substance designated in 40 CFR Part 116 pursuant to Section 311 of the Clean Water Act.
10. Illicit Discharge
Any discharge to a MS4 that is not composed entirely of stormwater except discharges pursuant to an NPDES permit (other than the NPDES MS4 permit), allowable non-stormwater discharges, and discharges resulting from fire-fighting activities.
11. Industrial Activity
For the purposes of this permit, industrial activities shall mean all industrial activities as defined in 40 CFR 122.26.
12. Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4)
Pursuant to 40 CFR 122.26(b)(8) means a conveyance or system of conveyances (including roads with drainage systems, municipal streets, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, manmade channels, or storm drains):
 - (i) Owned or operated by the United States, a state, city, town, county, district, association, or other public body (created by or pursuant to state law) having jurisdiction over disposal of sewage, industrial wastes, stormwater, or other wastes, including special districts under state law such as a sewer district, flood control district or drainage district, or similar entity, or an Indian tribe or an authorized Indian tribal organization, or a designated and approved management agency under Section 208 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) that discharges to waters of the United States or waters of the State;
 - (ii) Designed or used for collecting or conveying stormwater;
 - (iii) Which is not a combined sewer; and
 - (iv) Which is not part of a Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW) as defined in 40 CFR 122.2.
13. Non-stormwater Discharge Categories
The following are categories of non-stormwater discharges that the permittee must address if it identifies them as significant contributors of pollutants to the storm sewer system: water line flushing, landscape irrigation, diverted stream flows, rising groundwater, uncontaminated groundwater infiltration, [as defined in 40 CFR 35.2005(20)], uncontaminated pumped groundwater, discharges from potable water sources, foundation drains, air conditioning condensation, irrigation water, springs, water from crawl space pumps, footing drains, lawn watering, individual residential car washing, flows from riparian habitats and wetlands, dechlorinated swimming pool discharges, and street wash water (discharges or flows from fire fighting activities are excluded from the definition of illicit discharge and only need to be addressed where they are identified as significant sources of pollutants to waters of the United States).

14. Non-structural BMP
Non-structural BMPs are preventive actions that involve management and source controls such as: (1) Policies and ordinances that provide requirements and standards to direct growth to identified areas, protect sensitive areas such as wetlands and riparian areas, maintain and/or increase open space, provide buffers along sensitive water bodies, minimize impervious surfaces, and/or minimize disturbance of soils and vegetation; (2) policies or ordinances that encourage infill development in higher density urban areas, and areas with existing storm sewer infrastructure; (3) education programs for developers and the public about minimizing water quality impacts; (4) other measures such as minimizing the percentage of impervious area after development, use of measures to minimize directly connected impervious areas, and source control measures often thought of as good housekeeping, preventive maintenance, and spill prevention.
15. Outfall
The point of wastewater or stormwater discharge from a discrete conveyance system. See also point source discharge of stormwater.
16. Permittee
The owner or operator issued this permit.
17. Point Source Discharge of Stormwater
Any discernible, confined and discrete conveyance including, but not specifically limited to, any pipe, ditch, channel, tunnel, conduit, well, or discrete fissure from which stormwater is or may be discharged to waters of the state.
18. Redevelopment
Means any rebuilding activity other than a rebuilding activity that results in no net increase in built-upon area, and provides equal or greater stormwater control than the previous development.
19. Representative Storm Event
A storm event that measures greater than 0.1 inches of rainfall and that is preceded by at least 72 hours in which no storm event measuring greater than 0.1 inches has occurred. A single storm event may contain up to 10 consecutive hours of no precipitation. For example, if it rains for 2 hours without producing any collectable discharge, and then stops, a sample may be collected if a rain producing a discharge begins again within the next 10 hours.
20. Stormwater Runoff
The flow of water which results from precipitation and which occurs immediately following rainfall or as a result of snowmelt.
21. Toxic Pollutant
Any pollutant listed as toxic under Section 307(a)(1) of the Clean Water Act.