



Land Development Services

Technical Bulletin

Subject: Delineation of outfalls with known erosion or capacity problems

Date: 8/5/22

No.: 22-05

Summary: Increases in sheet flow runoff from regulated land disturbing activities must be identified and evaluated to ensure that no downstream flooding or erosion is created or exacerbated. Fairfax County has created a web application for use by plan preparers showing locations of specific issues within the stormwater conveyance network identifying locations of known flooding and erosion problems.

Effective Date: Immediately

Background: [Minimum Standard 19 of the Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Regulations](#) requires that increased volumes of sheet flows that may cause erosion or sedimentation on adjacent property be diverted to a stable outlet, adequate channel, pipe or pipe system, or to a detention facility (9VAC25-840-40.19.i). Similarly, the county Stormwater Management Ordinance requires that increased volumes of sheet flow must be identified and evaluated. Flows that will cause or contribute to erosion, sedimentation, or flooding of down gradient properties or resources shall be diverted to a stormwater management facility or a stormwater conveyance system that conveys the runoff without causing down-gradient erosion, sedimentation or flooding ([124-4-4.E](#)).

Erosion and flooding problems exist throughout Fairfax County, and evidence from natural channels has been collected into a new map. The map includes delineation of upstream drainage areas above known inadequate channel locations. This map provides an easy-to-use tool to determine if a potential project is upstream of a receiving channel known to have erosion or flooding problems. The new map viewer can be found here: [Inadequate Outfalls Map](#).

Policy: Plan designers are advised of the prevalence of erosion and flooding problems in channels throughout Fairfax County.

Designs must consider all available information in stormwater management plans and erosion and sediment control plans. Increases in sheet flow are not permissible upstream of inadequate channels.

If you have any questions, please contact Matthew Hansen in the Site Development and Inspections Division at **703-324-1720, TTY 711**

Approved by: Matthew Hansen, Director
Site Development and Inspections Division
Department of Land Development Services