



Land Development Services

Technical Bulletin

Subject: New Consolidated Erosion and Stormwater Management Ordinance (Chapter 124.1 of the County Code) **Date:** July 9, 2024 **No.:** 24-07

Summary:

On June 25, 2024, the Board of Supervisors (Board) adopted Chapter 124.1 (Erosion and Stormwater Management Ordinance) and repealed Chapter 104 (Erosion and Sedimentation Control) and Chapter 124 (Stormwater Management Ordinance) of the County Code. The new Erosion and Stormwater Management Ordinance consolidates erosion and sediment control and stormwater management requirements into a single ordinance. Additional guidance on compliance with the new ordinance is provided below. The new ordinance is posted on the Land Development Services (LDS) website under [Recently Adopted Amendments](#).

Effective Date:

Effective immediately except for land-disturbing activity that would have been eligible for the water quality exemption under §124-1-7(3) of the Stormwater Management Ordinance and for which lot grading plans (infill lot and conservation plan types) were accepted for review before July 1, 2024, the effective date of the water quality technical criteria set forth in Chapter 124.1 is January 1, 2025. Lot grading plans not approved by December 31, 2024, must comply with Chapter 124.1.

Background:

In response to the mandates of the Virginia Erosion and Stormwater Management Act (the Act) and the Virginia Erosion and Stormwater Management Regulation (VESMR), effective July 1, 2024, the Board adopted Chapter 124.1 and repealed Chapters 104 and 124 of the County Code. Chapter 124.1 consolidates erosion and sediment control and stormwater management requirements into a single ordinance, clarifies program requirements, eliminates redundancies, and corrects inconsistencies between the existing ordinances.

The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) also consolidated, with revisions, the Virginia Stormwater Management Handbook and Erosion and Sediment Control Handbook, as well as numerous other approved standards, specifications and policies, into a new Stormwater Management Handbook and developed a new Virginia Runoff Reduction Method (VRRM 4.1) spreadsheet for use with the new handbook. The new handbook and VRRM 4.1 spreadsheet are available through the [Virginia Department of Environmental Quality](#) website.

Department of Land Development Services

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Policy:

No substantive changes to existing erosion and sediment control minimum standards or to the post-construction stormwater management technical criteria are included in the new ordinance. However, the previous water quality exemption provisions for development and redevelopment of single-family lots not part of a larger common plan of development or sale in §124-1-7(3) of the Stormwater Management Ordinance are not included in the new ordinance. Therefore, development and redevelopment of all such lots must now meet both water quantity and water quality control requirements subject to the effective date as described above.

Use of VRRM spreadsheets and Virginia Stormwater Management Handbook

Designers have the option of using either the existing VRRM Version 3.0 spreadsheet or the new VRRM Version 4.1 spreadsheet to demonstrate compliance with the water quality control criteria. The VRRM Version 3.0 spreadsheet may only be used with the existing Virginia Stormwater Management Handbook and Best Management Practices (BMP) specifications. The VRRM Version 4.1 spreadsheet may only be used in conjunction with the new Virginia Stormwater Management Handbook Version 1.0 and BMP specifications. The new handbook and VRRM 4.1 are effective July 1, 2024, but their use is not mandatory until July 1, 2025.

Technical Bulletin [TB 22-06](#) (Localized Flooding Mitigation Policy for Residential Infill Development-Detention Requirements) and Use of the Simple Infill Detention Method (SIDM) outlined in [TB 22-06](#)

The water quantity control requirements in Chapter 124.1 supersede the detention requirements in [TB #22-06](#). Plans for non-bonded residential infill lot development may still use the Simple Infill Detention Method (SIDM) to demonstrate compliance with the water quantity control requirements in Chapter 124.1.

For additional assistance or if you have any questions, please contact the Site Code Research and Development Branch, at **703-324-5175, TTY 711**.

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