

Executive Summary: Updated Georgetown County Stormwater Design Manual

The Georgetown County Stormwater Design Manual has been updated to align with current state regulations, address the needs of various project types, and improve clarity for applicants and staff during plan review and enforcement. The revisions ensure consistency with State (SCDES, SCDOT) guidance, improve stormwater management practices, and support the County's commitment to flood mitigation and water quality protection.

Key updates include:

- **Agency References and Clarifications:** Updates to agency names, formula corrections, and clearer design criteria for stormwater BMPs and underground practices.
- **Expanded Applicability:** Added requirements for new lots in existing neighborhoods without prior drainage plans and provisions for 5+ acre lot subdivisions in line with other County development regulations.
- **Linear Project Guidance:** Inclusion of linear project (roadway) stormwater management options referencing SCDOT standards where conventional BMPs are impractical.
- **Clarified Design Requirements:** Clarified special protection area and water quality volume requirements.
- **Underground BMP Installation and Maintenance:** Expanded who can oversee and certify subsurface BMP installations, .
- **Alternative geotechnical and wetland options:** Provided for alternative methods to determine infiltration rates and wetland delineations, as performed by applicable professionals and subject to County approval.
- **Easement Requirements:** Simplified easement width determinations with clear tables while establishing a minimum easement width of 10 feet for all stormwater facilities.
- **Pipe and Culvert Specifications:** Added elliptical and box culverts as acceptable options under specific conditions.
- **BMP Maintenance Agreement:** BMP exhibit now required
- **Close-Out Procedures:** Updated the As-Built Certification Form to focus on construction and remove requirement of form to be signed by an engineer.

These updates streamline review, enhance enforceability, reduce ambiguity for developers and engineers, and help ensure Georgetown County remains compliant with state and federal stormwater regulations while managing stormwater effectively to protect life, property, and the environment.

Approval of this updated manual will allow the County to implement these improved standards uniformly, supporting sustainable growth and infrastructure resiliency across Georgetown County.