

PICKENS COUNTY

SOUTH CAROLINA



DEPARTMENT OF STORMWATER MANAGEMENT - DO YOU NEED A STORMWATER PERMIT?

General Information

This document is intended to summarize the stormwater permitting process in Pickens County. For more information, copies of the Stormwater Ordinance and Design Manual can be obtained from the [Department of Stormwater Management](#).

Who Needs a Stormwater Permit?

Pickens County requires that all land disturbance activities of one acre or more obtain a stormwater permit.

- In certain cases, projects disturbing less than one acre must also obtain a stormwater permit if the project is part of a Larger Common Plan (LCP) that will ultimately disturb one acre.

Exemptions

Certain activities are exempt and therefore do not need a stormwater permit such as agricultural and timbering. However, best management practices to control sediment and erosion should still be used.

What are Land Disturbance Activities?

Land disturbance is defined as any use of the land resulting in a change of the physical characteristics or topography that may contribute to erosion and alter the quality and quantity of stormwater runoff. Typical activities include grading, clearing, excavation, removal of vegetation, and stockpiling or storing material.



Conceptualization of Stormwater Permitting from "Developing Your Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan"

The Permitting Process

1. Applicant contacts the stormwater department regarding the proposed project.
2. The Stormwater Department will review the applicant's project to determine if the project qualifies for an exemption.
3. If the project is exempt, the applicant will be notified. In which case a stormwater permit will not be required.
4. If the project is NOT exempt, a stormwater submittal will be required including a stormwater pollution prevention plan (SWPPP) prepared by a licensed professional.
5. The Stormwater Department will review the SWPPP and respond to the applicant within 20 calendar days.
6. A stormwater permit will be issued after the review process ensures all permit requirements are met.

*Additional permits from separate Pickens County Departments (Planning, Engineering, Building Codes, etc.) or other entities may be required before construction activity can begin.