

Does my construction site require a stormwater permit?

All construction sites disturbing 1 or more acres (with a few exceptions) need stormwater permit coverage!

- Does your construction project disturb 1 or more acres of land through removing vegetative cover, clearing, grading, excavating, or stockpiling of fill material? (Remember to count the acreage of the entire project, even if you are responsible for only a small portion.)
- Is your construction project less than 1 acre, but part of a larger common plan of development or sale?
- Is there any possibility that stormwater could run off of your site? (In almost every case the answer to this question is “yes”. However, if the topography at your site is such that there is no possibility that rainfall or snowmelt could leave the site or enter a waterway under any condition, you would not need permit coverage.)

If you answered “yes” to one of these questions...

***YOU NEED A
PERMIT***



**PICKENS COUNTY OFFICE
OF STORMWATER
MANAGEMENT**

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OF STORMWATER
MANAGEMENT**

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Tel: 864-898-5789

Do you need a stormwater permit?



GENERAL INFORMATION

This brochure is a brief summary describing the stormwater permitting process in Pickens County.

Copies of the Stormwater Ordinance and Design Manual can be obtained from the Pickens County Stormwater Department at (864) 898-5789 or on the website at www.co.pickens.sc.us.

STORMWATER PERMITS

Pickens County requires that all land disturbance activities of one acre or greater, or less than one acre if it is part of a larger common plan of development or sale that will ultimately disturb one acre, obtain a permit. This pamphlet details the process and procedures to be used in the implementation of these regulations.



Basic Criteria

1. All land disturbance activity associated with land development and construction is required to obtain a stormwater permit if one acre or greater will be disturbed, or less than one acre if it is part of a larger common plan of development that will ultimately disturb one acre. Land disturbance is defined as any use of the land that results in a change in the physical characteristics or topography that may cause erosion that contributes to sediment and alters the quality or quantity of stormwater runoff.



2. Exemptions—A number of activities are exempt and therefore do not need to obtain a stormwater permit. For example, agricultural and timbering activities are exempt from obtaining a stormwater permit, however, they are not exempt from utilizing best management practices in controlling sediment and erosion. If you have questions about exemptions, contact the Pickens County Stormwater Office.



The Permitting Process—What do I do?

1. The applicant fills out the current Stormwater Application.
2. Does this project qualify for an exemption? The application will be reviewed by Pickens County to determine if the project is exempt.
3. If the project is exempt, a letter will be issued to the applicant stating the project is exempt from obtaining a stormwater permit. Building Codes will be notified.
4. If the project is NOT exempt, a complete submittal will be required including a stormwater pollution prevention plan prepared by a registered engineer licensed in South Carolina. The Pickens County Stormwater Office will conduct a review of the project within 20 calendar days. Once all requirements of the Pickens County Stormwater Ordinance are met, the project owner will be notified that the project is approved.