

PURPOSE

Georgetown County (County) is an important coastal area that offers a wide range of employment opportunities, business and professional services, as well as historical, cultural, and recreational attractions. Georgetown County residents desire to maintain the character of their communities and sustain and improve the excellent quality of life that the area provides. Equally important to the residents of Georgetown County is the protection of the environment that helps this county be the unique place that it is. Equally important to the residents is the preservation of the Georgetown County's unique aquatic ecosystem.

It is the purpose of the Georgetown County Storm Water Management Program (Program) to meet the current and anticipated needs of the County. The Department of Public Services through its Program administers storm water services for the protection of public and private properties, rivers, estuaries, and other water bodies from the potential damage resulting from uncontrolled storm water releases and non-point source pollution.

The Georgetown County Storm Water Management Design Manual (Manual) is a guidance and performance tool of the Program. It contains rules and minimum requirements for the planning, design, construction, operation, and maintenance of all new drainage facilities within Georgetown County and all areas subject to its jurisdiction. Definitions, formulas, criteria, procedures, and data presented herein have been developed to support the Program policies. If a conflict arises between the technical data and these policies, the policies shall govern.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The goals and objectives of the Program and the Manual are as follows:

1. Protect human life and health.
2. Improve the quality of storm water runoff discharge to surface waters and groundwater.
3. Minimize private and public property damage resulting from erosion, sedimentation, and flooding.
4. Prevent new development and redevelopment from creating a demand for public investment in flood-control and water quality improvement works.
5. Provide an effective storm water management system that will not result in excessive public or private monies being used for maintenance and replacement of existing portions of the storm water system.
6. Facilitate the design of drainage systems that are consistent with good engineering practice and design and in accordance with the County's overall planning efforts and storm water management planning.
7. Provide a mechanism that allows development with minimum adverse effects to the natural environment.
8. Encourage preservation of the natural drainage systems in an aesthetically pleasing condition as best possible.
9. Ensure County compliance with all applicable Federal and State regulations.

JURISDICTION

On and after January 1, 2007, the specifications and standards contained herein shall be applicable to all new development and redevelopment within the regulatory jurisdiction of Georgetown County.

DISCLAIMER

This manual is established to provide the Georgetown County Department of Public Services Director; County Storm Water Engineer, or their duly appointed representative; property owners; developers; engineers; surveyors; and builders a better understanding of acceptable engineering methods to meet the intent of the County's Storm Water Management Program Ordinance. Design of storm water management for development requires the experienced judgment of the designer. The County accepts no responsibility for any loss, damage or injury as a result of the use of the Manual.

The application of the Manual, the Storm Water Management Program Ordinance, and the provisions expressed herein are the minimum storm water management requirements and shall not be deemed a limitation or repeal of any other powers granted by statute. In addition, if site characteristics indicate that complying with the County's minimum storm water management requirements will not provide adequate design or protection for local property or residents, the County, as part of its review process will require the owner and operator of these facilities to exceed the minimum storm water management practices, control techniques design and engineering methods and such other programs and controls as are required to comply with the County's NPDES permit.