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## NEWS & EVENTS...

*Town of Hillsborough's stormwater Web site is up and running!*

[www.ci.hillsborough.nc.us](http://www.ci.hillsborough.nc.us)

*Earth Day*..... April 21

*NC Big Sweep*..... Oct. 6  
[www.ncbigssweep.org](http://www.ncbigssweep.org)

*This is a publication of the...*

**Town of Hillsborough  
Public Works Department  
Stormwater Program**

*This is the inaugural issue, distributed one time with water bills; future issues will be available online at [www.ci.hillsborough.nc.us](http://www.ci.hillsborough.nc.us).*



**Our Stormwater Drains  
to the Eno River!**

## Hillsborough's Stormwater Program

In 1972, the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System was established under the authority of the Federal Clean Water Act. Phase 1 of the NPDES stormwater program was established in 1990. It required NPDES permit coverage for municipalities with populations of 100,000 or more.

Phase 2 of the NPDES stormwater program was signed into law in December 1999. The Phase 2 program extends permit coverage to smaller communities and public entities that own or operate a municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4). It requires these smaller communities to obtain an NPDES permit for stormwater discharges.

In North Carolina, temporary rules were established to implement the federally mandated Phase 2 regulations. In August 2006, permanent rules were passed and signed into law. The Division of Water Quality in the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources administers the NPDES Stormwater program in North Carolina. The division issued the town's Phase 2 permit Oct. 1, 2005.

In March 2006, the town entered into an inter-local agreement with Orange County for the county to provide services in implementing the town's Phase 2 stormwater permit. The town's stormwater program operates as a division of the Public Works Department.

**The Stormwater Almanac is available online. Download your copy today!**

[www.ci.hillsborough.nc.us](http://www.ci.hillsborough.nc.us)

The assistant town manager oversees the program and works closely with the county stormwater staff. The stormwater program is implemented by Orange County's Erosion Control Division.

Under its permit, the town is required at a minimum to develop, implement and enforce a stormwater program designed to reduce the discharge of pollutants from the MS4 to the maximum extent practicable.

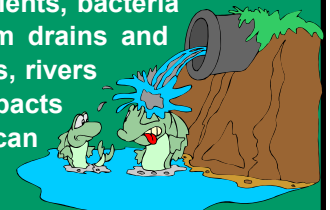
The stormwater management program includes six minimum control measures to be implemented over a five-year period. These minimum control measures include:

1. Public education and outreach.
2. Public involvement/participation.
3. Illicit discharge detection and elimination.
4. Construction site stormwater runoff control (erosion control).
5. Post-construction stormwater management.
6. Pollution prevention/good housekeeping for municipal operations.

Look for more information about each of these measures in future issues of *The Stormwater Almanac*, available electronically on the Town of Hillsborough's Web site.

## So why do we care about stormwater? Quite simply ...

North Carolina's No. 1 water quality problem is stormwater runoff pollution. As stormwater flows across impervious (i.e., paved) surfaces or exposed soil, it picks up various pollutants, such as oil and grease, excess nutrients, bacteria and sediment. Polluted stormwater flows down our storm drains and ditches, where it is discharged, untreated, into our streams, rivers and lakes. Stormwater runoff pollution causes adverse impacts to aquatic ecosystems, poses human health risks and can greatly increase the cost of treating our drinking water.



# Orange County Erosion Control,

*What we do* ... We are Orange County Erosion Control, a division within the Orange County Planning and Inspections Department. Our primary function is to enforce Orange County's *Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Ordinance*. Under this ordinance, land disturbance as little as 20,000 square feet (about a half acre) requires an approved erosion control plan and land disturbance permit **before** clearing and grading can begin. In protected watersheds, the threshold is 10,000 square feet. The primary focus of the ordinance is to keep sediment-laden runoff out of our local waterways.



In addition to enforcing the county's erosion control ordinance, the Erosion Control Division has local delegated authority from the state to administer the Neuse River Basin rules. This includes:

- Stream buffer impact review and approval.
- Stormwater plan review to reduce nitrogen in runoff from new development projects.
- Surface water identification (i.e., "stream calls").

Erosion Control staff also manages the Town of Hillsborough's NPDES Phase 2 Stormwater Permit/Program. The program's primary focus is to reduce pollutants from entering local streams carried by stormwater runoff.

Lastly, Erosion Control staff is actively involved in local watershed initiatives, public outreach and education. These include:

- Technical Advisory Committee member, *Upper Neuse River Basin Association*
- Participant, *Eno River Confluence*
- Member, *North Carolina Water Resources Association*
- Steering Committee member, *Clean Water Education Partnership*
- Participant, *Falls Lake Stakeholder process*
- Participant, *Falls Lake Clean Water Initiative*
- Member, *Stormwater Implementation Group, UNC Institute of Government*
- Participant, *Jordan Lake TMDL Stakeholder Group*
- Conducts public education/outreach on erosion and stormwater impacts
- Investigates public requests regarding water quality impacts from erosion and stormwater runoff (more than 100 public assistance requests in 2006!)



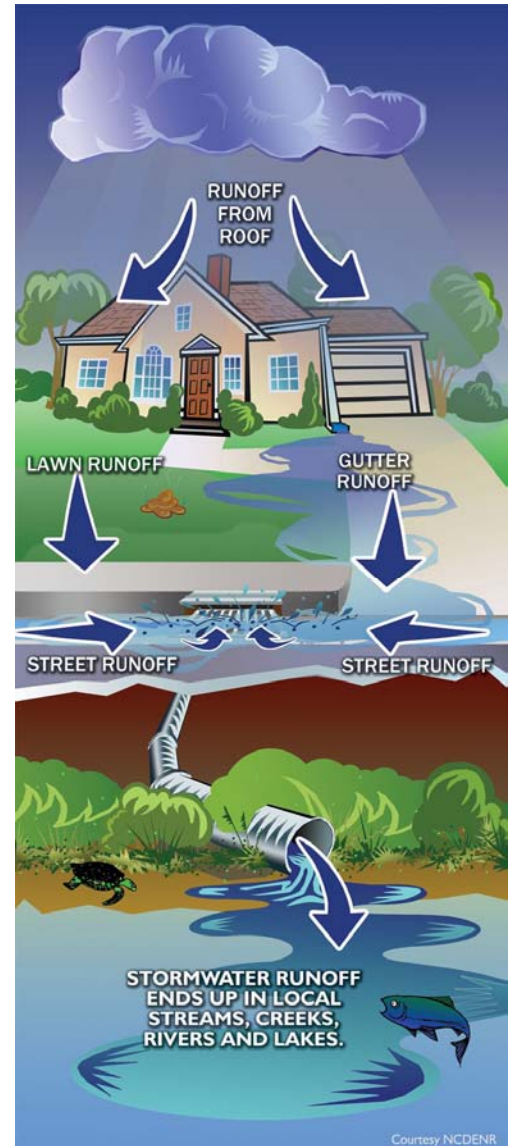
## Orange County Erosion Control...

*For more information, contact:*



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## When It Rains, It Drains



## I live in the Eno ...



**Roanoke Bass** — This fish species is found only in the Roanoke, Tar, Chowan and Neuse river drainages. It is listed as a "species of concern" because numbers have dwindled. Roanoke Bass are great sport on ultralight tackle and fly rods, but if you fish for them, please practice "catch and release." They can be found throughout the Eno near large rocks next to deeper water; they need clean water to survive.