



Commonwealth of Virginia

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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MEMORANDUM

To: All Local Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Program Administrators
All Local Virginia Stormwater Management Program Administrators

From: Megan Mayfield, Director, Division of Water Permitting

Date: December 27, 2023

Subject: Virginia Erosion and Stormwater Management Program and Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Program Model Ordinances

At the June 22, 2023 State Water Control Board (Board) meeting, the Board approved and adopted the Virginia Erosion and Stormwater Management (VESM) Regulation (9VAC25-875) and approved the repeal of the Erosion and Sediment Control Regulations (9VAC25-840), Erosion and Sediment Control and Stormwater Management Certification Regulations (9VAC25-850), and Virginia Stormwater Management Program Regulation (9VAC25-870). The VESM Regulation and repeal of the other regulations, will be effective July 1, 2024. The Final VESM Regulation was published on December 4, 2023 in the *Virginia Register of Regulations*, Volume 40 Issue 8. Below is a link to the final regulation:

[Vol. 40 Iss. 8 \(Final\) 9VAC25-840, Erosion And Sediment Control Regulations
December 04, 2023 \(virginia.gov\)](#)

Also on July 1, 2024, Chapters 68 and 758 of the 2016 Acts of Assembly become effective. Those Acts, referred to as the "Consolidation Bill," combine stormwater management and erosion and sediment control requirements under the Virginia Erosion and Stormwater Management Act (VESMA), §§ 62.1-44.15:24 through 62.1-44.15:50 of the Code of Virginia. Requirements for a Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Program (VЕСP) are in the Erosion and Sediment Control Law (ESCL) for Localities Not Administering a Virginia Erosion and Stormwater Management Program, §§ 62.1-44.15:51 through 62.1-44.15:66 of the Code of Virginia. With the Consolidation Bill and VESM Regulation becoming effective on July 1, 2024, local ordinances for the administration of a Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Program

(VESCP) or Virginia Stormwater Management Program (VSMP) will need to be updated to reflect both the new law and regulations.

Consistent with § 62.1-44.15:27 of the Code of Virginia, the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has prepared a Virginia Erosion and Stormwater Management Program (VESMP) Model Ordinance and a Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Program (VESCP) Model Ordinance to assist in the development of the appropriate local ordinance for your locality. The model ordinances incorporate requirements in the VESMA, ESCL for Localities Not Administering a Virginia Erosion and Stormwater Management Program, and VESM Regulation. Copies of each are attached for your use.

The DEQ is not required to review and/or approve the local ordinances, or associated documents, manuals, etc., prior to adoption. Please note that a locality may, by local ordinance adopted pursuant to § 62.1-44.15:33 or 62.1-44.15:65 of the Code of Virginia, establish more stringent local requirements. If a VESMP authority elects to adopt more stringent ordinances, the authority shall submit a letter report to the DEQ when more stringent stormwater management ordinances or more stringent requirements are authorized by such stormwater management ordinances. If a VESCP authority elects to adopt more stringent ordinances, the authority shall report to the DEQ when more stringent erosion and sediment control ordinances are determined to be necessary.

Please feel free to contact Rebecca Rochet if you have any questions or need additional assistance (Rebecca.Rochet@deq.virginia.gov or 804-801-2950).