

# **Local Program Report to the SCC**

## **Wake County**

Wake County's Local Program was reviewed May 13, 2009. Currently a staff of eight contributes eight full time equivalents to erosion control and stormwater in Wake County. There are currently 352 active projects. The staff has approved 91 projects since last year. The County disapproved approximately 92 plan submittals last year. The staff conducted approximately 6,389 inspections since last year. Ten civil penalties were assessed and no stop work orders have been issued.

Five projects were evaluated. The sedimentation and erosion control plans for each of the sites were adequate. Some problems were noted on three of the five sites. The first site was Associates Park II. Associates Park II is a 16-acre commercial site. There were routine maintenance issues with check dams and silt fence and there was a need for a construction sequence for how the culvert would be extended. There were many field revisions to this project plan and from the review of the plan in the office it was difficult to determine the adequacy of the plan. The second site was Langston Ridge Subdivision. The site is a 71.75-acre, multi-family residential subdivision. There were exposed slopes throughout the project that needed ground cover. The third project, Turnbridge Subdivision Phase II, is a residential subdivision that historically has had some issues with off-site sedimentation. There was no off-site sedimentation during the review, but there were exposed slopes that needed groundcover.

General documentation of plan reviews was good. The County tracks inspections on a mainframe electronic computer database. The inspectors have the ability to access this mainframe while in the field through the use of wireless air cards. The inspectors make comments about field conditions that are seen on the day of inspection and make notes of corrective actions that need to be taken to keep the site in compliance and the follow-up is usually through phone communication. The current system is antiquated and uses a variety of abbreviations and codes to indicate compliance or violations. A better database system is needed to track inspections.

Wake County regularly meets with the municipalities in which they administer an erosion and sedimentation program. They require preconstruction conferences on all projects as well as an initial inspection of clearing and grubbing erosion control measures before a grading permit is issued. Footing inspections will not be approved until all erosion control measures have been installed correctly.

After the local program review, Mr. Gray Hauser met with Ms. Melinda Clark, Stormwater Programs Manager on May 14, 2009 to review examples of computer based inspection reports. The County has developed an inspection report to use to document violations.

Staff recommends continued delegation of the program with the condition that written inspection reports be completed when violations are observed.

## **Gaston County**

The Gaston County program was reviewed May 20, 2009. Currently a staff of 4 contributes an equivalent of 3.7 full time equivalents to erosion control. There were currently 140 projects. Last year the staff approved 71 new projects and conducted 1230 inspections.

Five projects were evaluated. Three projects were found to be noncompliant with the local ordinance and SPCA as noted in recent inspection reports.

Dollar General of Gastonia, a 1.7 acre commercial site, was found to have maintenance issues and needed to establish groundcover.

Apple Creek Village was a 54 acre residential site with a history of NOV's. Off-site sediment damage was observed during the review. There was a recent NOV for failure to establish groundcover, exposed slopes, and failure to maintain measures. A civil penalty for \$4,000 was assessed, which was appealed and upheld—payment has not been made.

Evergreen Landing Apartments was a 7.48 acre residential site that was noncompliant with the local ordinance and SPCA. From field inspection it was determined that the plan was inadequate because it failed to address various phases of the project and the construction sequence didn't adequately address grading/fill with respect to the stream crossing and retaining wall. The slopes of the sediment basin needed stabilization and sediment in the creek/drainage way needed removal.

Documentation of plan reviews, inspections and enforcement actions was good. An integrated data management and word processing system generated inspection reports, all correspondence and a complete record for all sites as well as corresponding photo documentation to document activity.

Continued delegation of the program is recommended.

## **Village of Whispering Pines**

The Village of Whispering Pines Local Program was reviewed June 23, 2009. Currently a staff of (2) two is dedicated to sediment and erosion control. The local program is new and has been working on the transition of accepting projects from the Fayetteville Regional Office as of March 2009. The staff has approved ten projects. Since March the staff has conducted 18 inspections and three of the ten projects were noncompliant. To date there have been no Notices of Violations or stop work orders issued and no Civil Penalties assessed. The Village of Whispering Pines Local Program issues a Notice of Noncompliance to noncompliant sites.

Three projects were evaluated. The sedimentation and erosion control plans for each of the sites were adequate. One site, the Vinca subdivision, was noncompliant with the

Sedimentation Pollution Control Act. The other two sites were part of the Arrowstone Development and had minor maintenance issues with silt fence and gravel entrances.

The Vinca Subdivision was a 1.0 acre residential site. It was observed that graded slopes were too steep and inlet protection on pipes had been removed. Groundcover also needed to be established.

General documentation was adequate. The Village does a great job with keeping copies of their inspection reports in the files.

Staff recommends continued delegation of the program.

### **Town of Southern Pines**

The Town of Southern Pines Local Program was reviewed June 25, 2009. Currently a staff of (3) three is dedicated to sediment and erosion control. The staff has approved 6 projects. The staff conducted 448 inspections. There were currently 25 active projects and the local program had approved 6 projects since last year. There had been no Notices of Violations issued with no Civil Penalties assessed. There has been no Stop Work Orders issued. The Town of Southern Pines Local Program uses its Notices of Noncompliance to get noncompliant sites into compliance.

Four projects were evaluated. The sedimentation and erosion control plans for each of the sites were adequate. Two sites were noncompliant with the Sedimentation Pollution Control Act. The sites that were found to be noncompliant were Mill Creek Village Waste Area and S.P. Corporate Park, Lot 8.

The Mill Creek Village Waste Area was a 11.5 acre disturbed commercial site. It was observed the diversions and ditches needed shaping as well as seeded. Silt fence needed maintenance as well as inlet protected needed on all pipes. The spoil pile needed seeding as well as basins since there has been little to no activity.

S.P. Corporate Park, Lot 8 Area was a 4.82 acre disturbed commercial site. It was observed the diversions and ditches need to be shaping as well as seeded. Silt fence needed maintenance as well. The site needed groundcover established to keep sediment from moving offsite.

General documentation was adequate. The Town does a great job with keeping copies of their inspection reports in the files.

Staff recommends continued delegation of the program.

### **The City of Rocky Mount**

The City of Rocky Mount's Local Program was reviewed July 15, 2009. Currently a staff of five contributes two full-time equivalents to erosion control. There are currently

7 projects, 6 active and 1 inactive. The staff has approved 11 projects since last year. The staff conducted on about 1820 inspections. No notices of violation were issued and no civil penalties were assessed. The City holds certificates of occupancy and holds up building inspections to gain compliance.

Four projects were evaluated. The sedimentation and erosion control plans for most sites were fair based on office review. However once the plan was compared to what was happening in the field it was determined the City needs to request better detailed construction sequences and transitions between phases on plans. Three sites were noncompliant with the Sediment Pollution Control Act.

A 1.07-acre strip residential development was noncompliant. The construction entrance needed 2-3" stone instead of the #57 stone. Silt fence should have been used around the flared end section at the construction entrance. Also there was evidence that equipment was utilizing another open area for access to the project. There was evidence that there had been land disturbance outside the limits of disturbance. Also groundcover needed to be established. In the field it wasn't clear from the construction sequence how to transition from the sedimentation basin to a ditch and then to a concrete flume.

Another site that was noncompliant was a 1.07-acre site constructed for commercial purposes. It was clear that there was land disturbing activity was outside the limits of disturbance. Inlet protection was missing from installed curb inlets.

A 6-acre site constructed for commercial purposes was noncompliant. The erosion control plan did not address borrow/spoil areas offsite. During the inspection there was scouring beneath level spreaders and there was sediment loss in the buffer due to the absence of silt fence.

General documentation was good. Plan adequacy was fair. Plans should be revised to reflect current design standards and should be resubmitted when there are major changes on a project site, such as installing measures requiring design and supporting calculations. The City needs to conduct at least one written inspection a month and whenever violations are observed. Having previous inspection reports, field notes and the approved plan during inspections would allow the inspector to refer to them and help the City monitor sites and allow them to note deviations of measures from the approved plan.

The review of this program should be continued while the Raleigh Regional Office staff work with the local program to require better plans and adequate site inspection and inspection reports. A follow-up review will be presented at the November 2009 SCC meeting.

### **The Pitt County**

The Pitt County Local Program was reviewed July 21, 2009. The program has two staff members. There are currently 41 active projects. The staff has approved 21 plans since last year. The staff conducted approximately 1200 inspections last year. Three notices of violation have been issued and no civil penalties have been assessed.

Five projects were evaluated. The sedimentation and erosion control plans for the projects reviewed were adequate. One site was found noncompliant with the Sedimentation Pollution Control Act.

A 23.6-acre strip residential development was noncompliant. There was evidence that there had been land disturbance outside the limits of disturbance as noted on the plans. Also groundcover needed to be established. Local program staff will issue a notice of violation to obtain compliance.

Documentation of plan reviews, inspections and enforcement actions was good.

Continued delegation is recommended