

Information Item C, Regional Office Assistance of Local Programs

Chatham County

Karyn Pageau and Joe Dupree of the Raleigh Regional Office reviewed the Chatham County local program on April 9, 2013. They met with Dan LaMontagne, PE, Rachel Thorn and Natalie Landry of Chatham County. Last year the County reviewed 17 projects, with 15 approvals and 8 disapprovals. Chatham County has 91 active projects. Projects are ranked according to activity and phase of construction to set priorities for inspections. Land Quality staff discussed NPDES construction stormwater requirements and were pleased to note that the new requirements were easy to find and read on the most recently approved plans. Staff also discussed construction phasing, as related to making both temporary and permanent stream crossings, and staged seeding. Local program issues discussed were how to deal with sites that are inactive or newly active after the initial developer abandoned the site, amending specifications for ground cover seeding rates, and vegetative selection to include more quantity and types of drought tolerant plants and grasses. The Chatham County program is currently in negotiation with the Town of Pittsboro to expand its jurisdiction over projects in Pittsboro.

Four sites were picked for review and inspection. Plan review in the office showed plans to be complete with good documentation in the form of supporting design calculations for basins, storm drainage facilities and channels. Details were of good quality with good explanations of installation and maintenance requirements.

Four sites were inspected. Two were in compliance. The other two needed revised plans to address additional land disturbance or stream crossing design, and existing measures needed improvement or maintenance.

Conclusion

The Chatham County program is a well run and organized program that inspects its sites frequently based on the level of activity. Plan review is good but Land Quality staff recommended additional attention to sequencing of construction during clearing and grubbing, temporary and permanent stream crossing installation and concrete truck clean out areas. The Chatham County program participates in group meetings and communications with other local programs in the Triangle area.