

Warrington Township Adopts Updated Stormwater Management Ordinances

As required by state law, the Warrington Township Board of Supervisors has updated and revised stormwater management ordinances to be consistent with the Neshaminy Creek Stormwater Management Plan adopted by the Bucks County Commissioners in August, 2010 and approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection in November, 2010.

The new plan incorporates the Little Neshaminy Creek watershed into the Neshaminy Creek Watershed, encompassing all of Warrington Township. The goal of the plan is to manage the additional volume (gallons) of stormwater runoff caused by new development, control the peak rate of runoff (gallons per minute), and improve water quality by filtering runoff through vegetated areas to capture sediments and encouraging infiltration to groundwater.

The new ordinances require that all land developments and earth disturbances employ methods to control the volume of stormwater runoff being generated. Stormwater Management Site Plans are required when 1,001 square feet or more of impervious area (roofs, sidewalk, paving, stone/paver patios, etc.) are added. To lessen the burden on residents, site plans for residential projects adding between 1,001 and 5,000 square feet of impervious area may be prepared by the property owner using the procedures outlined in Appendix I of the Warrington Township Neshaminy Creek Watershed Act 167 Ordinance (Ordinance No, 2011-4, available online at <http://www.ecode360.com/?custId=WA0807>). These procedures are set up to enable the residential property owner to prepare a Stormwater Management Site Plan without obtaining the services of an engineer, land surveyor, or landscape architect. For all non-residential projects adding at least 1,001 square feet of impervious surface and all residential projects adding more than 5,000 square feet of impervious surface, the Stormwater Management Site Plan must be prepared and certified by a professional engineer, land surveyor, or landscape architect licensed to practice in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.