

Stormwater Wetlands

Definition/Purpose

Stormwater wetlands are constructed systems that mimic the functions of natural wetlands and are designed to mitigate the impacts of urbanization on stormwater quality and quantity. Stormwater wetlands provide an efficient method for removing a wide variety of pollutants such as suspended solids, nutrients (nitrogen and phosphorus), heavy metals, toxic organic pollutants, and petroleum compounds.

Policies

1. Stormwater wetlands are intended to treat impervious surface areas of greater than 2500 ft². Refer to the backyard wetland practice if the area to be treated is less than 2500 ft².
2. Stormwater wetlands that are constructed off-line from intermittent and perennial streams and are explicitly designed for stormwater management and once installed, are not subject to the provisions of Section 401 and 404 of the Clean Water Act. However, if stormwater wetlands are abandoned or no longer used for their original purpose, they may be regulated as wetlands.
3. Measures to reduce high flow velocities and sediments and pollutant loads should be considered. Pretreatment in conveyance facilities such as grass swales, filter strips or other buffers may be effective.

STORMWATER WETLANDS	
Lifespan	5 years single-family home, 10 years all other properties
BMP Units	SQUARE FEET
Required Effects	Nutrient reductions (SNAP tool)
JAA	There is no job approval authority for stormwater wetlands, this practice must be designed by a division or professional engineer
Supporting Standards	NC DEQ Stormwater BMP Manual: Stormwater Wetlands
CS2/Reference Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NC-ACSP-11 Signature Page • Map with BMP location and fields