

Southborough Stormwater and Erosion Control Bylaw

1. Why does Southborough have a Stormwater Management Bylaw?

- a) The National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Phase II program for the Clean Water Act mandated that all urbanized areas create a regulatory mechanism to control non-point source discharges into the nation's waterways. Southborough passed its Stormwater Management Bylaw at 2006 Annual Town Meeting to protect the environment through the control of stormwater discharges.
- b) Regulation of activities that result in the disturbance of land and the creation of stormwater runoff is necessary for the protection of the Town of Southborough to safeguard the health, safety, and welfare of the general public and protect the natural resources of the Town. The purpose of this Bylaw is to prevent or diminish these impacts by controlling runoff and preventing soil erosion and sedimentation resulting from site construction and development.

2. Who needs a Stormwater Management Permit?

- Any activity subject to the Planning Board's Major Site Plan Review (§ 174-10);
- Any activity that will result in soil disturbance of one acre or more, or more than fifty percent (50%) of the parcel or lot, whichever is less;
- Any residential development or redevelopment of five (5) or more acres of land proposed pursuant to "the Subdivision Control Law" G. L. c. 41 sec. 81K to 81GG inclusive, or proposed under a special permit process pursuant to G. L. c. 40A sec. 9;
- Any activity that will increase the amount of impervious surfaces more than 50% of the area of a parcel or lot;
- Any activity that will disturb land with 15% or greater slope and where the land disturbance is greater than or equal to 15,000 square feet within the sloped area.

3. How do I get a Stormwater Management Permit?

Complete the Application for a Stormwater Management Permit attached to the regulations and file with the Conservation Commission, along with the appropriate fee. A public hearing will be held at a regular Conservation Commission meeting.

4. If I need a Notice of Intent for work near wetlands, do I also need a Stormwater Management Permit?

If your project is applicable under any of the activities listed in #2 above, then the answer is yes. The Conservation Commission will make every attempt to schedule the public hearings for the different permits concurrently.