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3. In accordance with the Residential Site Improvement Standards at N.J.A.C. 5:21-7, if a stormwater management plan for the region has been approved by the Department, stormwater management systems must conform with that plan.

4. The Department shall not issue a permit for a project or activity that conflicts with an Areawide Water Quality Management Plan pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:15-3.1.

SUBCHAPTER 4. MUNICIPAL STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PLANNING

7:8-4.1 Scope

This subchapter describes stormwater management planning and implementation at the municipal level, including plan elements, county review and technical assistance, the schedule for adoption of the plan and ordinances, and variance or exemption from design and performance standards for stormwater management measures.

7:8-4.2 Municipal stormwater management plan and elements

(a) A municipal stormwater management plan shall address stormwater-related water quality, groundwater recharge and water quantity impacts of major development, and may also address stormwater-related water quality, water quantity and groundwater recharge impacts of existing land uses. For purposes of this subchapter, major development is limited to projects that ultimately disturb one or more acres of land.

(b) A municipal stormwater management plan and stormwater control ordinance(s) shall conform with applicable regional stormwater management plan(s).

(c) A municipal stormwater management plan shall, at a minimum:

1. Describe how the municipal stormwater management plan will achieve the goals of stormwater management planning set forth at N.J.A.C. 7:8-2.3;
2. Include maps showing water bodies based on Soil Surveys published by the U.S. Department of Agriculture; the U.S. Geological Survey Topographic Map, 7.5 minute quadrangle series; or other sources of information depicting water bodies in similar or greater detail;
3. Map groundwater recharge areas and well head protection areas based on maps prepared by the Department under N.J.S.A. 58:11A-13 or a municipal ordinance;
4. Describe how the municipal stormwater management plan incorporates design and performance standards in N.J.A.C.7: 8-5 or alternative design and performance standards adopted as a part of a regional stormwater management plan or water quality management plan;

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5. Describe how adequate long-term operation as well as preventative and corrective maintenance (including replacement) of the selected stormwater management measures will be ensured;
6. Describe how the plan will ensure compliance with Safety Standards for Stormwater Management Basins at N.J.A.C. 7:8-6;
7. Describe how the municipal stormwater management plan is coordinated with the appropriate Soil Conservation District and any other stormwater management plans, including any adopted regional stormwater management plan, prepared by any stormwater management planning agency related to the river basins or drainage areas to which the plans and/or ordinances apply;
8. Evaluate the extent to which the municipality's entire master plan (including the land use plan element), official map and development regulations (including the zoning ordinance) implement the principles expressed in N.J.A.C. 7:8-5.3(b). This evaluation shall also be included (with updating as appropriate) in the reexamination report adopted under N.J.S.A. 40:55D-89;
9. Include a map of the municipality showing:
 - i. Projected land uses assuming full development under existing zoning, and
 - ii. The hydrologic unit code 14 (HUC14) drainage areas as defined by the United States Geological Survey; and an estimate, for each HUC14 drainage area, of the total acreage in the municipality of impervious surface and associated future nonpoint source pollutant load assuming full build out of the projected land uses.
10. At the option of the municipality, document that it has a combined total of less than one square mile of vacant or agricultural lands rather than provide the information required in (c)8 and 9 above. Agricultural lands may be excluded if the development rights to these lands have been permanently purchased or restricted by covenant, easement or deed. Vacant or agricultural lands in environmentally constrained areas may be excluded if the documentation also includes an overlay map of these areas at the same scale as the map under (c)10i below.
 - i. Documentation shall include an existing land use map at an appropriate scale to display the land uses of each parcel within the municipality. Such a map shall display the following land uses: residential (which may be divided into single family, two-to-four family, and other multi-family), commercial, industrial, agricultural, parkland, other public uses, semipublic uses, and vacant land;

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11. In order to grant a variance or exemption from the design and performance standards in N.J.A.C. 7:8-5, include a mitigation plan that identifies what measures are necessary to offset the deficit created by granting the variance or exemption. The mitigation plan shall ensure that mitigation is completed within the drainage area and for the performance standard for which the variance or exemption was granted;

12. Include a copy of the recommended implementing stormwater control ordinance(s) requiring stormwater management measures, and

13. The municipal stormwater management plan may also include a stream corridor protection plan to address protection of areas adjacent to waterbodies. For waterbodies subject to N.J.A.C. 7:8-5.5(h), the plan shall provide, at a minimum, protections equivalent to those provided at N.J.A.C. 7:8-5.5(h) and be approved by the Department.

7:8-4.3 Schedule for adoption of municipal stormwater management plan and ordinances

(a) A municipality shall adopt a municipal stormwater management plan as an integral part of its master plan and official map in accordance with the schedule in (a)1 or 2 below, whichever is sooner. The requirements in N.J.A.C. 7:8-4.2(c)8 and 9 are not operative until February 2, 2006.

1. By the deadline established in a New Jersey Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit obtained by the municipality for a municipal separate storm sewer system under N.J.A.C. 7:14A; or

2. By the next reexamination of the master plan under N.J.S.A. 40:55D-89, if a grant for 90 percent of the costs for the preparation of the municipal stormwater management plan has been made available to a municipality by the Department;

(b) Within one year after the municipality adopts the municipal stormwater management plan, the municipality shall adopt stormwater control ordinance(s) to implement the adopted plan and shall submit the adopted municipal stormwater management plan and ordinance(s) to the county review agency for approval. The adopted municipal stormwater management plan and ordinance(s) shall not take effect without approval by the county review agency.

(c) The municipality shall amend the municipal stormwater management plan and stormwater control ordinance(s) as necessary and submit the amended plan and amended ordinance(s) to the county review agency for approval.

(d) The municipality shall reexamine the municipal stormwater management plan at each reexamination of the municipality's master plan in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40:55D-89.

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(e) Within one year of the adoption of a regional stormwater management plan as an amendment to the Areawide Water Quality Management Plan, or an amendment thereto, each municipality within the regional stormwater management planning area shall amend their respective municipal stormwater management plans and stormwater control ordinance(s) to implement the regional stormwater management plan.

7:8-4.4 County review process

(a) A municipality shall submit a copy of the adopted stormwater management plan and stormwater control ordinance(s) to the county review agency and the Department.

(b) In reviewing the adopted municipal stormwater management plan and ordinance(s), the county review agency shall consider whether the plan and ordinance(s) conform with the requirements of this chapter.

(c) In accordance with N.J.S.A. 40:55D-97, it is the county review agency's responsibility to review and approve, conditionally approve (specifying the necessary amendments to the plan and ordinance(s)) or disapprove the adopted municipal stormwater management plan and ordinance(s) within 60 calendar days of receipt of the plan and ordinance(s). If the county review agency does not approve, conditionally approve, or disapprove the plan or ordinance(s) within 60 calendar days, the plan and ordinance(s) shall be deemed approved. The county review agency shall issue a written decision to the municipality, with a copy to the Department.

(d) A municipal stormwater management plan and ordinance(s) approved under (c) above shall take effect immediately. A municipal stormwater management plan and ordinance(s) conditionally approved under (c) above shall take effect upon adoption by the municipality of the amendments specified by the county review agency.

(e) Within 30 days of the effective date of the municipal stormwater management plan and ordinance(s) under (d) above, the municipality shall place the plan and ordinance(s) on its website and notify the Department, the Soil Conservation District and State Soil Conservation Committee, or:

1. Submit a copy of the approved municipal stormwater management plan and ordinance(s) to the Department; and
2. Provide notice of such approval to the Soil Conservation District and the State Soil Conservation Committee and, upon request, submit a copy of the approved plan and ordinance(s).

7:8-4.5 Reservation of rights

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The Department reserves the right to review stormwater management plans and ordinances for compliance with this subchapter and make recommendations to correct any deficiencies.

7:8-4.6 Variance or exemption from the design and performance standards for stormwater management measures

A municipality may grant a variance or exemption from the design and performance standards for stormwater management measures set forth in its approved municipal stormwater management plan and stormwater control ordinance(s), provided the municipal plan includes a mitigation plan in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:8-4.2(c)11 and the municipality submits a written report to the county review agency and the Department describing the variance or exemption and the required mitigation.

SUBCHAPTER 5 DESIGN AND PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FOR STORMWATER MANAGEMENT MEASURES

7:8-5.1 Scope

(a) This subchapter establishes design and performance standards for stormwater management measures for major development intended to minimize the adverse impact of stormwater runoff on water quality and water quantity and loss of groundwater recharge in receiving water bodies.

(b) The standards specified in this subchapter do not apply to major development if alternative design and performance standards that are at least as protective as would be achieved through this subchapter when considered on a regional stormwater management area basis are applicable under a regional stormwater management plan adopted in accordance with this chapter or a water quality management plan adopted in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:15.

7:8-5.2 Stormwater management measures for major development

(a) Stormwater management measures for major development shall be developed to meet the erosion control, groundwater recharge, stormwater runoff quantity, and stormwater runoff quality standards at N.J.A.C. 7:8-5.4 and 5.5. To the maximum extent practicable, these standards shall be met by incorporating nonstructural stormwater management strategies at N.J.A.C. 7:8-5.3 into the design. If these measures alone are not sufficient to meet these standards, structural stormwater management measures at N.J.A.C. 7:8-5.7 necessary to meet these standards shall be incorporated into the design.

(b) The development shall incorporate a maintenance plan under N.J.A.C. 7:8-5.8 for the stormwater management measures.