

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT ORDINANCE

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-0001

NEWBURG BOROUGH

CUMBERLAND COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

Adopted at a Public Meeting Held on

Aug 17, 2020



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## ARTICLE I - GENERAL PROVISIONS

### Section 101. Short Title

This Ordinance shall be known and may be cited as the “Newburg Borough Stormwater Management Ordinance.”

### Section 102. Statement of Findings

The Newburg Borough Council finds that:

- A. Inadequate management of accelerated runoff of stormwater resulting from development throughout a watershed increases flows and velocities, contributes to erosion and sedimentation, overtaxes the carrying capacity of streams and storm sewers, greatly increases the cost of public facilities to carry and control stormwater, undermines flood plain management and flood control efforts in downstream communities, reduces groundwater recharge, threatens public health and safety, and increases non-point source pollution of water resources.
- B. A comprehensive program of stormwater management, including reasonable regulation of development and activities causing accelerated runoff, is fundamental to the public health, safety and welfare and the protection of people of the Commonwealth, their resources and the environment.
- C. Stormwater is an important water resource, which provides groundwater recharge for water supplies and base flow of streams, which also protects and maintains surface water quality.

### Section 103. Purpose

The purpose of this Ordinance is to promote health, safety, and welfare within Newburg Borough (“Borough”) and its watershed by minimizing the harms and maximizing the benefits described in Section 102 of this Ordinance, through provisions designed to:

- A. Meet legal water quality requirements under state law, including regulations at 25 Pa. Code Chapter 93 to protect, maintain, reclaim and restore the existing and designated uses of the waters of this Commonwealth.
- B. Preserve the natural drainage systems as much as possible.
- C. Manage stormwater runoff close to the source.
- D. Provide procedures and performance standards for stormwater planning and management.
- E. Maintain groundwater recharge, to prevent degradation of surface and groundwater quality and to otherwise protect water resources.
- F. Prevent scour and erosion of stream banks and streambeds.

- G. Provide proper operation and maintenance of all permanent Stormwater Management (SWM) Best Management Practices (BMPs) that are implemented within the Borough.
- H. Provide standards to meet NPDES permit requirements.
- I. Meet general water quality and soil disturbance goals by implementing measures to:
  - 1. Minimize disturbance to floodplains, wetlands, natural slopes over 15%, and existing native vegetation.
  - 2. Preserve and maintain trees and woodlands. Maintain or extend riparian buffers and protect existing forested buffer. Provide trees and woodlands adjacent to impervious areas whenever feasible.
  - 3. Establish and maintain non-erosive flow conditions in natural flow pathways.
  - 4. Minimize soil disturbance and soil compaction. Over disturbed areas, replace topsoil to a minimum depth equal to the original depth or 4 inches, whichever is greater. Use tracked equipment for grading when feasible.
  - 5. Disconnect impervious surfaces by directing runoff to pervious areas, wherever possible.
  - 6. Incorporate the techniques for Low Impact Development Practices described in the most current version of "The Pennsylvania Stormwater Best Management Practices Manual" (SWM Manual)<sup>1</sup>.
  - 7. Minimize thermal impacts to waters of the Commonwealth.

**Section 104. Statutory Authority**

A. Primary Authority:

The Borough is empowered to regulate these activities by the authority of the Stormwater Management Act, Act of October 4, 1978, P.L. 864 (Act 167), 32 P.S. § 680.1 et seq., as amended, Article XXII and Section 1202(74) of the Pennsylvania Borough Code, 53 P.S. § 47201 et seq., and 53 P.S. § 46202(74).

Pursuant to the Stormwater Management Act and the Cumberland County Stormwater Management Plan, all earthmoving activities and land development within the Borough, including without limitation, the location, design and construction within this watershed of stormwater management systems, obstructions, flood control projects, subdivisions and major land developments, highways and transportation facilities, facilities for the provision of public utility services and facilities owned or financed in whole or in part by funds from the Commonwealth, shall be in full compliance with the requirements of the Cumberland County Stormwater Management Plan and shall be conducted in a manner consistent therewith. Any violation of the Cumberland County Stormwater Management Plan shall be considered a violation of this Ordinance.

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<sup>1</sup> PA. DEP'T OF ENVTL. PROT., BUREAU OF WATERSHED MGMT., TECHNICAL GUIDANCE FINAL DOCUMENT NO. 363-0300-002, PENNSYLVANIA STORMWATER BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES MANUAL (2006), <http://www.depgreenport.state.pa.us/elibrary/GetFolder?FolderID=4673>.

**B. Secondary Authority:**

The Borough also is empowered to regulate land use activities that affect runoff by the authority of the Act of July 31, 1968, P.L. 805, No. 247, The Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code, as amended.

**Section 105. Applicability**

All activities set forth herein and other such activities that may affect stormwater runoff, including land development and earth disturbance activity, are subject to regulation by this Ordinance as is reasonably necessary to prevent injury to health, safety or other property. The following activities are defined as "Regulated Activities" and shall be subject to the provisions of this Ordinance (unless otherwise exempted by Section 302):

1. Land development and/or redevelopment;
2. Subdivision of ;
3. Construction of new or additional impervious or semipervious surfaces (driveways, parking lots, etc.);
4. Construction of structures or additions to existing structures, as determined by the municipality;
5. Diversion or piping of any natural or man-made stream channel;
6. Installation of stormwater management facilities or appurtenances thereto; and
7. Forest management/timber operations that include logging road construction and timber harvesting.

**Section 106. Repealer**

Any other ordinance provision(s) or regulation of the Borough inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Ordinance is hereby repealed to the extent of the inconsistency only.

**Section 107. Severability**

In the event that a court of competent jurisdiction declares any section or provision of this Ordinance invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of any of the remaining provisions of this Ordinance.

**Section 108. Compatibility with Other Requirements**

Approvals issued and actions taken under this Ordinance do not relieve the Applicant of the responsibility to secure required permits or approvals for activities regulated by any other code, law, regulation or ordinance.

## Section 109. Waiver Procedure

The provisions of this Ordinance are intended as minimum standards for the protection of the public health, safety and welfare. Borough Council, in its sole discretion, may waive any mandatory provision of these regulations to the benefit of the Applicant provided the Applicant can show the waiver:

1. Is consistent with the purpose of the Ordinance as described in Section 103.
2. Waivers or modifications of the requirements of this chapter may be approved by the Borough of Newburg if enforcement will exact undue hardship because of peculiar conditions pertaining to the land in question, provided that the modifications will not be contrary to the public interest and that the purpose of the chapter is preserved. Cost or financial burden shall not be considered a hardship. Modification may be considered if an alternative standard or approach will provide equal or better achievement of the purpose of the chapter. A request for modifications shall be in writing and accompany the stormwater management site plan submission. The request shall provide the facts on which the request is based, the provision(s) of the chapter involved and the proposed modification.
3. No waiver or modification of any regulated stormwater activity involving earth disturbance greater than or equal to one acre may be granted by the Borough of Newburg unless that action is approved in advance by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) or the Cumberland County Conservation District.



## ARTICLE II - DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this Ordinance, certain terms and words used herein shall be interpreted as follows:

- A. Words used in the present tense include the future tense; the singular number includes the plural, and the plural number includes the singular; words of masculine gender include feminine gender; and words of feminine gender include masculine gender.
- B. The word “includes” or “including” shall not limit the term to the specific example but is intended to extend its meaning to all other instances of like kind and character.
- C. The words “shall” and “must” are mandatory; the words “may” and “should” are permissive.

**Agricultural Activity** - The work of producing crops, including tillage, land clearing, plowing, disking, harrowing, planting, harvesting crops, pasturing and raising of livestock, and installation of conservation measures. Construction of new buildings or impervious area is not considered an Agricultural Activity.

**Applicant** - A landowner, developer or other person who has filed an application to the Municipality for approval to engage in any Regulated Activity at a project site in the Municipality.

**Best Management Practice (BMP)** - Activities, facilities, designs, measures or procedures used to manage stormwater impacts from Regulated Activities, to meet State Water Quality Requirements, to promote groundwater recharge and to otherwise meet the purposes of this Ordinance. Stormwater BMPs are commonly grouped into one of two broad categories or measures: “structural” or “non-structural”. In this Ordinance, non-structural BMPs or measures refer to operational and/or behavior-related practices that attempt to minimize the contact of pollutants with stormwater runoff whereas structural BMPs or measures are those that consist of a physical device or practice that is installed to capture and treat stormwater runoff. Structural BMPs include, but are not limited to, a wide variety of practices and devices, from large-scale retention ponds and constructed wetlands, to small-scale underground treatment systems, infiltration facilities, filter strips, low impact design, bioretention, wet ponds, permeable paving, grassed swales, riparian or forested buffers, sand filters, detention basins, and manufactured devices. Structural stormwater BMPs are permanent appurtenances to the project site.

**Borough** – The Borough of Newburg, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania.

**Borough Council** – The governing body of Newburg, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania.

**Conservation District** - A conservation district, as defined in section 3(c) of the Conservation District Law (3 P. S. § 851(c)), which has the authority under a delegation agreement executed with DEP to administer and enforce all or a portion of the erosion and sediment control programs in this Commonwealth.

**Design Storm** - The magnitude and temporal distribution of precipitation from a storm event measured in probability of occurrence (e.g. a 5-year-storm) and duration (e.g. 24 hours), used in the design and evaluation of stormwater management systems. See also, Return Period.

**Detention Volume** - The volume of runoff that is captured and then infiltrated, evaporated, reused, or released into the waters of this Commonwealth at a controlled rate.

**DEP** - The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

**Development Site (Site)** - See Project Site.

**Disconnected Impervious Area (DIA)** - An impervious or impermeable surface which has its stormwater runoff disconnected from any stormwater drainage or conveyance system and is redirected or directed to a pervious area which allows for infiltration, filtration, and increased time of concentration as specified in Appendix B, Disconnected Impervious Area.

**Disturbed Area** - An unstabilized land area where an Earth Disturbance Activity is occurring or has occurred.

**Earth Disturbance Activity** - A construction or other human activity which disturbs or exposes the underlying soil, including, but not limited to, clearing and grubbing; grading; excavations; embankments; road maintenance; building construction; the moving, depositing, stockpiling, or storing of soil, rock or earth materials.

**Erosion** - The natural process by which the surface of the land is worn away by water, wind or chemical action.

**Existing Condition** - The initial condition of a project site prior to the proposed construction.

**FEMA** - Federal Emergency Management Agency.

**Floodplain** - Any land area susceptible to inundation by water from any natural source or delineated by applicable FEMA maps and studies as being a special flood hazard area. Also includes areas that comprise Group 13 Soils, as listed in Appendix A of the Pennsylvania DEP Technical Manual for Sewage Enforcement Officers (as amended or replaced from time to time by DEP).

**Floodway** - The channel of the watercourse and those portions of the adjoining floodplains that are reasonably required to carry and discharge the 100-year flood. Unless otherwise specified, the boundary of the floodway is as indicated on maps and flood insurance studies provided by FEMA. In an area where no FEMA maps or studies have defined the boundary of the 100-year floodway, it is assumed -- absent evidence to the contrary -- that the floodway extends from the stream to 50 feet from the top of the bank of the stream.

**Forest Management/Timber Operations** - Planning and activities necessary for the management of forestland. These include conducting a timber inventory, preparation of forest management plans, silvicultural treatment, cutting budgets, logging road design and construction, timber harvesting, site preparation and reforestation.

**Hydrologic Soil Group (HSG)** – Refers to soils grouped according to their runoff-producing characteristics. The chief consideration is the inherent capacity of soil bare of vegetation to permit infiltration. Infiltration rates of soils vary widely and are affected by subsurface permeability as well as surface intake rates. Soils are classified into four HSG's (A, B, C, and D) according to their minimum infiltration rate, which is obtained for bare soil after prolonged wetting. The NRCS defines the four groups and provides a list of most of the soils in the United States and their group classification. The soils in the area of the development site may be identified from a soil survey report that can be obtained

from local NRCS offices or conservation district offices. Soils become less pervious as the HSG varies from A to D (NRCS<sup>3,4</sup>).

**Impervious Surface (Impervious Area)** - A surface that prevents the infiltration of water into the ground. Impervious surfaces (or areas) shall include, but not be limited to, roofs used to cover indoor living spaces, patios, garages, storage sheds and similar structures, and any new streets or sidewalks. For the purposes of this definition, compacted gravel is considered an impervious surface. Decks, parking areas, and driveway areas are not counted as impervious areas if they allow for infiltration.

**Karst** - A type of topography or landscape characterized by surface depressions, sinkholes, rock pinnacles/uneven bedrock surface, underground drainage and caves. Karst is formed on carbonate rocks, such as limestone or dolomite.

**Land Development (Development)** - Inclusive of any of the following activities: (i) the improvement of one lot or two or more contiguous lots, tracts, or parcels of land for any purpose involving (a) a group of two or more buildings, whether proposed initially or cumulatively, or a single nonresidential building on a lot or lots regardless of the number of occupants or tenure, or (b) the division or allocation of land or space, whether initially or cumulatively, between or among two or more existing or prospective occupants by means of, or for the purpose of streets, common areas, leaseholds, condominiums, building groups, or other features; (ii) any subdivision of land; (iii) development in accordance with Section 503(1.1) of the PA Municipalities Planning Code.

**Municipality** – Newburg Borough, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania.

**NRCS** - USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (previously SCS).

**Peak Discharge** - The maximum rate of stormwater runoff from a specific storm event.

**Pervious Area** - Any area not defined as impervious.

**Project Site** - The specific area of land where any Regulated Activities in the Municipality are planned, conducted or maintained.

**Qualified Professional** - Any person licensed by the Pennsylvania Department of State or otherwise qualified by law to perform the work required by the Ordinance.

**Regulated Activities** – Shall include, but not be limited to any Earth Disturbance Activities or any activities that involve the alteration or development of land in a manner that may affect stormwater runoff as specified in Section 105.

**Regulated Earth Disturbance Activity** - Earth Disturbance Activity subject to regulation under 25 Pa. Code Chapters 92, Chapter 102, or the Clean Streams Law.

**Retention Volume/Removed Runoff** - The volume of runoff that is captured and not released directly into the surface waters of this Commonwealth during or after a storm event.

**Return Period** - The average interval, in years, within which a storm event of a given magnitude can be expected to occur one time. For example, the 25-year return period rainfall would be expected to occur

on average once every 25 years; or stated in another way, the probability of a 25-year storm occurring in any one year is 0.04 (i.e. a 4% chance).

**Runoff** - Stormwater travelling along the surface of the land.

**Sediment** - Soils or other solid material transported by surface water as a product of erosion.

**State Water Quality Requirements** - The regulatory requirements to protect, maintain, reclaim, and restore water quality under Pennsylvania Code Title 25 and the Clean Streams Law.

**Stormwater** - Runoff that originates from precipitation events such as rain, snow, sleet, or hail, including snow or ice melt.

**Stormwater Management Facility** - Any structure, natural or man-made, that, due to its condition, design, or construction, conveys, stores, or otherwise mitigates the speed or volume of stormwater runoff. Typical stormwater management facilities include, but are not limited to, detention and retention basins, open channels, storm sewers, pipes, and infiltration facilities.

**Stormwater Management Plan** - The Cumberland County Stormwater Management Plan for managing stormwater runoff adopted by the County of Cumberland as required by the Storm Water Management Act.

**Stormwater Management Site Plan** - The plan prepared by the Applicant, indicating how storm water runoff will be managed at the development site in accordance with this Ordinance. **Stormwater Management Site Plan** will be designated as **SWM Site Plan** throughout this Ordinance.

Stormwater Manual "SWM Manual" - Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Document No. 363-0300-002 (2006), as amended and updated. Pennsylvania Stormwater Best Management Practices Manual. Harrisburg, PA.)

**Subdivision** - As defined in The Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code, Act of July 31, 1968, P.L. 805, No. 247, as amended.

**USDA** - United States Department of Agriculture.

**Waters of this Commonwealth** - Rivers, streams, creeks, rivulets, impoundments, ditches, watercourses, storm sewers, lakes, dammed water, wetlands, ponds, springs and other bodies or channels of conveyance of surface and underground water, or parts thereof, whether natural or artificial, within or on the boundaries of this Commonwealth.

**Watershed** - Region or area drained by a river, watercourse or other surface water of the Commonwealth.

**Wetland** - Those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions, including swamps, marshes, bogs, fens, and similar areas.

## ARTICLE III - STORMWATER MANAGEMENT STANDARDS

### Section 301. General Requirements

- A. For all Regulated Activities, unless preparation of a SWM Site Plan is specifically waived or exempted in Section 302:
1. Preparation and implementation of an approved SWM Site Plan is required.
  2. No Regulated Activities shall commence until the municipality issues written approval of an SWM Site Plan, which demonstrates compliance with the requirements of this Ordinance.
- B. SWM Site Plans approved by the Municipality, in accordance with Section 406, shall be on site throughout the duration of the Regulated Activity.
- C. The Municipality, after consultation with DEP, may approve measures for meeting the State Water Quality Requirements other than those in this Ordinance, provided that they meet the minimum requirements of, and do not conflict with, State law including but not limited to the Clean Streams Law<sup>2</sup>.
- D. For all Regulated Earth Disturbance Activities, erosion and sediment control BMPs shall be designed, implemented, operated, and maintained during the Regulated Earth Disturbance Activities (e.g., during construction) to meet the purposes and requirements of this Ordinance and to meet all requirements under the Pennsylvania Code Title 25 and the Clean Streams Law. Various BMPs and their design standards are listed in the *Erosion and Sediment Pollution Control Program Manual* (E&S Manual)<sup>3</sup>, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Environmental Protection, No. 363-2134-008 (2000), as amended and updated.
- E. For all Regulated Activities not exempted by Section 302, implementation of the Volume Controls in Section 303 is required.
- F. For all new development projects, the measurement of impervious areas shall include all of the impervious areas in the total proposed development even if development is to take place in stages. Similarly, for new development projects taking place in stages, the entire proposed new development plan must be used in determining conformance with this Ordinance.
- G. Stormwater flows/direct discharges onto adjacent property shall not be created, increased, decreased, relocated, or otherwise altered without written notification to the adjacent property owner(s). Such stormwater flows shall be subject to the requirements of this Ordinance.
- H. The design of all facilities over Karst shall include an evaluation of measures to minimize adverse effects in accordance with the procedures outlined in Section 7.4 (Special Management Areas – Karst Areas) of the most current version of the SWM Manual<sup>1</sup>.

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<sup>2</sup> 53 P.S. 691.1 et seq.

<sup>3</sup> PA. DEP'T OF ENVTL. PROT., BUREAU OF WATERSHED MGMT., TECHNICAL GUIDANCE FINAL DOCUMENT No. 363-0300-002, PENNSYLVANIA STORMWATER BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES MANUAL (2006), <http://www.depgreenport.state.pa.us/elibrary/GetFolder?FolderID=4673>.

- I. Storage facilities should completely drain both the volume control and rate control capacities within 72 hours from the end of the design storm subject to site conditions.
- J. Impervious areas:
  - 1. The measurement of impervious areas shall include all of the impervious areas in the total proposed development even if development is to take place in stages.
  - 2. For development taking place in stages, the entire development plan must be used in determining conformance with this chapter.
  - 3. For projects that add impervious area to a parcel, the total impervious area on the parcel is subject to the requirements of this chapter; except that the volume controls in § 303 and the peak rate controls of § 304 do not need to be retrofitted to existing impervious areas that are not being altered by the proposed regulated activity.
- K. The design storm precipitation depth estimates to be used in the analysis of peak rates of discharge should be obtained from the Precipitation-Frequency Atlas of the United States, Atlas 14, Volume 2, U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), National Weather Service, Hydrometeorological Design Studies Center, Silver Spring, Maryland, 20910. NOAA's Atlas 14 can be accessed at Internet address: <http://hdsc.nws.noaa.gov/hdsc/pfds/>.
- L. For all Regulated Activities, SWM BMPs shall be designed, implemented, operated, and maintained to meet the purposes and requirements of this Ordinance and to meet all requirements under Title 25 of the Pennsylvania Code, the Clean Streams Law, and the Storm Water Management Act.

### **Section 302. Exemptions**

- A. Regulated Activities resulting in less than or equal to 1,000 square feet of new impervious surface are exempt from Article IV SWM Site Plan preparation requirements including Sections 303 and 304 of this Ordinance. Regulated Activities greater than 1,000 square feet and less than or equal to 5,000 square feet of new impervious area may be exempt from the SWM Site Plan preparation requirements including Sections 303 and 304 of this Ordinance when justification is provided that stormwater impact is minimal.
- B. Regulated Activities that create new Disconnected Impervious Areas greater than 1,000 square feet and less than or equal to 5,000 square feet that are proven to meet the 75-foot minimum pervious flow path requirement outlined in Appendix B are exempt from the SWM Site Plan preparation requirements including Sections 303 and 304 of this Ordinance.
- C. Regulated Activities meeting the following parcel size and square footage requirements are exempt from the peak rate control requirements, but not the volume control or SWM Site Plan preparation requirements of this Ordinance. These criteria shall apply to the total proposed development even if development is to take place in phases. The date of this Ordinance's adoption shall be the starting point from which to consider tracts as "parent tracts" in which future subdivisions and respective impervious area computations shall be cumulatively considered.