

## Press Release

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**- GRAYSON COUNTY IMPLEMENTS A NEW STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM –  
State Wide Mandate Requires Localities to Adopt New Stormwater Management Program**

The most recent changes to the Virginia Stormwater Management Act (VSMA) occurred in 2012 through the passage of House Bill 1065, also called the Integration Bill. Among the changes is the requirement that all counties, cities, and towns adopt and administer a local Virginia Stormwater Management Program (VSMP) - creating a statewide stormwater management program that moves management and enforcement from the state level to the local level. The Virginia Stormwater Management Program is the requirement for coverage under the General Permit for discharges of stormwater from regulated land-disturbing activities.

Starting July 1, 2014, Grayson County will be mandated to hold the primary role of reviewing and approving applications for coverage under the Construction General Permit. Final permit coverage will be issued by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). Grayson County will also be required to serve the primary role of inspecting best management practices and enforcing compliance with the permits as part of the newly mandated Grayson County Stormwater Management Ordinance. "Grayson County is not excited about this new mandate, but we are working hard to develop this local program in the best interest of Grayson County and its citizens," stated Jonathan Sweet, County Administrator. "We have a 100% certified Building Department that is more than capable of effectively and fairly implementing this new state requirement."

The movement of the VSMP from the state level to the local level will integrate Grayson County's stormwater management requirements with the requirements of Grayson Counties Erosion & Sediment Control Ordinance and the Flood Plain Management Ordinance into a unified stormwater program.

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