



Office of the Town Manager  
Frank Cassidy

**Warrenton Town Council**  
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Brett Hamby, Ward 3  
James Hartman, Ward 4 Vice Mayor  
Eric Gagnon, Ward 5  
Paul Mooney, At Large  
David McGuire, At Large

# STAFF REPORT

<b>Council Meeting Date:</b>	March 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2024
<b>Agenda Title:</b>	Initiation to create a stand-alone Erosion and Stormwater Management Ordinance
<b>Requested Action:</b>	Initiate the creation of a standalone Erosion and Stormwater Management Ordinance
<b>Department / Agency Lead:</b>	Public Utilities
<b>Staff Lead:</b>	Steven Friend, Director of Public Utilities

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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The Virginia Erosion & Sedimentation Control and Stormwater Management Regulation (9VAC25-875) updates included consolidation requirements of the Erosion and Sediment Control Regulations (9VAC25-850); Erosion and Sediment Control and Stormwater Certification Regulations (9VAC25-850); and Virginia Stormwater Management Program Regulation (9VAC25-870) into one chapter of the Virginia Administrative Code. The new Town of Warrenton’s Virginia Erosion & Sedimentation and Stormwater Regulations will be named the “Erosion and Stormwater Management Ordinance” and is slated to take effect July 1, 2024.

## **BACKGROUND**

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Storm water management is the collection and use of storm water to protect the environment by preventing unregulated and potentially harmful pollutants from entering the Town’s waterways. Pollutants include silt, dirt, trash and other contaminants. Storm Water Management also reduces the nutrient loading in the streams which can disrupt the natural ecology of the waterways and could harm aquatic plant life and animal life.

The current Storm Water Ordinance is included in the Zoning / Planning Ordinances as articles 4 & 5. The “Consolidation Bill” required the combination of the three chapters; the new regulation clarifies program requirements, eliminate redundancies, and corrects inconsistencies between the stormwater management and erosion control regulations. Our current ordinance administers the Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Program and the Virginia Stormwater Management Program separately within the Town’s Zoning Ordinance. A new erosion and stormwater ordinance is being produced to address the new combined Erosion and Stormwater Regulations as required per state code. The new Town of Warrenton’s Virginia Erosion & Erosion and Stormwater Regulations (Erosion and Stormwater Management Ordinance) will be effective July 1, 2024.

## **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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Staff recommends initiating the creation of the standalone document. A separate initiation will be pursued to strike the language from the Town of Warrenton’s Zoning Ordinance.

**Service Level/Collaborative Impact**

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Adoption of the ordinance will bolster the vision of Plan Warrenton 2040 by helping to preserve the visual aesthetics and protect environmentally sensitive areas from unregulated / unmonitored runoff related to new and existing construction. This will have a collaborative impact on the Public Utilities Department, Community Development Department, and Public Works departments.

**Policy Direction/Warrenton Plan 2040**

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Plan Warrenton 2040 seeks to preserve, enhance, and protect the environmental, scenic, and natural quality of the Town. The proposed Erosion and Stormwater Management Ordinance ensures all construction activities are properly regulated and maintained and limit pollution and enhance water quality through proper Stormwater Management practices. It directly relates to Community Facilities Goal of:

**CF-4:** Ensure healthy, safe, adequate water and wastewater services.

**Fiscal Impact**

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None identified at this time.

**Legal Impact**

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None identified at this time.

**ATTACHMENTS**

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1. Working draft of the Erosion and Stormwater Management Ordinance for consideration at the April Town Council Meeting.