ORANGE COUNTY
NORTH CAROLINA

Erosion Control & Stormwater Requirements

For Land Disturbance Activities

FAQs

1) Is single-family residential exempt from Erosion Control & Stormwater requirements?

- No. The Unified Development Ordinance considers both residential and commercial projects as land disturbance. The only current exemption is land disturbance for forestry or bona fide farming. If there is residential development associated with either, that portion will not be exempt and will be reviewed accordingly.

2) How much can I clear or grade without requiring an Erosion Control Plan, Land Disturbance Permit, and/or a Stormwater Management Plan?

- The following watershed matrix outlines land disturbance thresholds for erosion control, stormwater, and nutrient exports for each watershed in the County.

- Special conditions apply in the following watersheds:

  A. University Lake Watershed / University Lake Critical Area
  B. Cane Creek Watershed / Cane Creek Critical Area
  C. Upper Eno Watershed / Upper Eno Critical Area

  The Board of County Commissioners requires Staff to review <u>any</u> proposed disturbance in the above noted watersheds due to the proximity of these areas to surface waters. As long as the project is less than the 10,000 square feet erosion control threshold, no additional plans need to be submitted. The building permit application will be evaluated and if no issues are noted, a Waiver will be issued for the project at no cost. The applicant will be required to sign the Waiver, acknowledging the conditions set forth.

3) Who should I contact if I have further questions concerning Erosion Control & Stormwater requirements in Orange County?

- Call (919) 245-2587.

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When do I need an erosion control plan, land disturbance permit and/or a stormwater management plan?

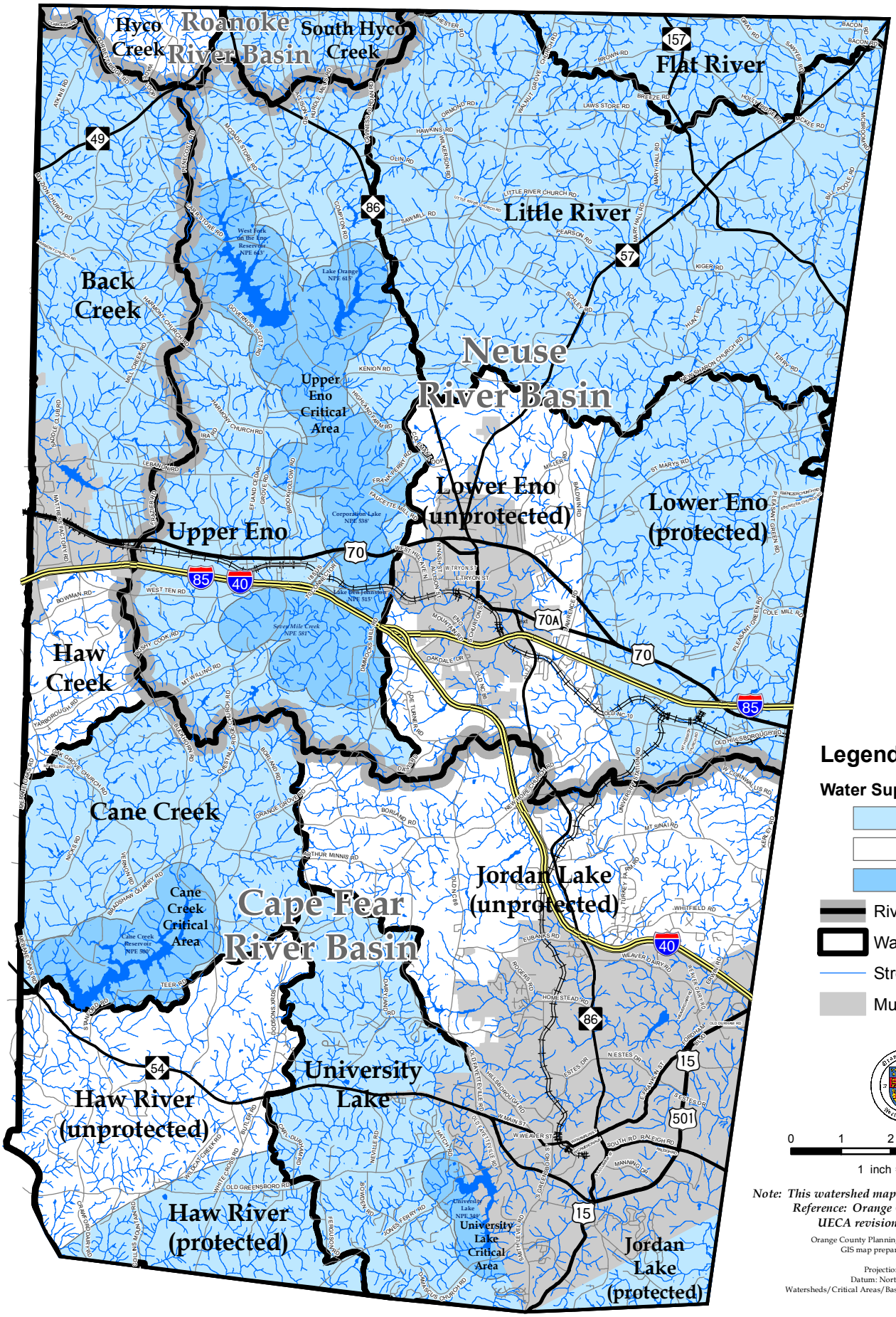
When proposed land disturbance exceeds thresholds listed below.

WATERSHED			EROSION CONTROL	STORMWATER		NUTRIENTS	
				Commercial	*Residential*	*N*	*P*
Cape Fear	*Haw River Arm*	Back Creek	20,000	21,780	43,560	3.8	1.43
		Haw Creek	20,000	21,780	43,560	3.8	1.43
		Cane Creek	10,000	21,780	43,560	3.8	1.43
		Cane Creek Critical Area	10,000	21,780	43,560	3.8	1.43
		Haw River (protected)	20,000	21,780	43,560	3.8	1.43
		Haw River (unprotected)	20,000	21,780	43,560	3.8	1.43
	U New Hope Arm	Jordan Lake (unprotected)	20,000	21,780	43,560	2.2	0.82
		Jordan Lake (protected)	20,000	21,780	43,560	2.2	0.82
		University Lake	10,000	21,780	43,560	2.2	0.82
		University Lake Critical Area	10,000	21,780	43,560	2.2	0.82
Neuse	*Falls Lake*	Flat River	20,000	12,000	21,780	2.2	0.33
		Little River	20,000	12,000	21,780	2.2	0.33
		Upper Eno	10,000	12,000	21,780	2.2	0.33
		Upper Eno Critical Area	10,000	12,000	21,780	2.2	0.33
		Lower Eno (unprotected)	20,000	12,000	21,780	2.2	0.33
		Lower Eno (protected)	20,000	12,000	21,780	2.2	0.33
Roanoke		Hyco Creek	20,000	NA	NA	NA	NA
		South Hyco Creek	20,000	43,560	43,560	NA	NA

Notes:

1. Thresholds are listed in square feet
2. Nutrients listed in pounds/acre/year
3. 43,560 square feet = 1 acre
4. 21,780 square feet = ½ acre
5. 10,890 square feet = ¼ acre
6. Also be aware your site plan may be constrained by riparian buffer requirements and impervious limitations, in addition to typical zoning setback requirements.

Orange County Watersheds



Legend

Water Supply Watersheds:

- Protected
- Unprotected
- Critical
- River Basin Boundary
- Watersheds
- Streams
- Municipal Jurisdiction

0 1 2 3 4 Miles

1 inch = 2.75 miles

Note: This watershed map replaces previous versions.
Reference: Orange County Zoning Ordinance
UECA revision adopted June 1, 2010

Orange County Planning & Inspections Department
GIS map prepared by Brian Carson

Projection: State Plane
Datum: North American 1983
Watersheds/Critical Areas/Basins Data: November, 2005 Revision

4/13/2015