

Orange County
Erosion Control and Pre Approval Requirements
for Land-disturbing Activities

FAQ's

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

- No. The Ordinance makes no mention of "Residential" or "Commercial", only Land-disturbing activity.

2) How much may I clear or grade without requiring an Erosion Control Plan and a Land-disturbing permit?

- In general, a disturbance of less than 20,000 square feet does not require a pre-approved Erosion Control plan and land-disturbing permit. However, if you are in the [University Lake, Cane Creek or Upper Eno Watersheds](#), the Planning Department's Erosion Control Division reviews any proposed disturbance.

3) I am in the one of those Watersheds. What do I do?

- Your Building Permit Application notes amount of disturbance, watershed, stream buffers and related information. If your project disturbs less than 10,000 square feet (roughly ¼ of an acre) AND has no stream buffers, stormwater easements or similar complicating factors, Erosion Control staff may grant a **Waiver**.
- The Owner (or Applicant) must sign the Waiver to expedite the review process (Waiver included in the application packet). If you are not sure what watershed you are in, our software will recognize a Protected Watershed PIN number and automatically generate a Waiver form for you to sign when you submit your Application. *Waivers do not require additional fees or additional pre-approvals by Erosion Control.*

NOTE: This is NOT an exemption from the requirements of the Erosion Control Ordinance, rather a judgment call by Staff allowed under the Ordinance that your project would not adversely affect University Lake, Cane Creek or the Upper Eno Watersheds or their tributaries.

4) I plan to disturb more than 10,000 square feet in a protected Watershed.

- Disturbance of more than 10,000 square feet will require pre-approval from Erosion Control.
- Fill out the Application for Erosion Control and Statement of Financial Responsibility, pay the fees and submit an erosion control plan to the Erosion Control Division.

5) I plan to disturb more than 10,000 square feet, but not in a Protected watershed.

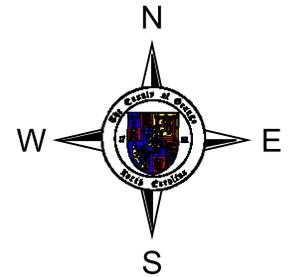
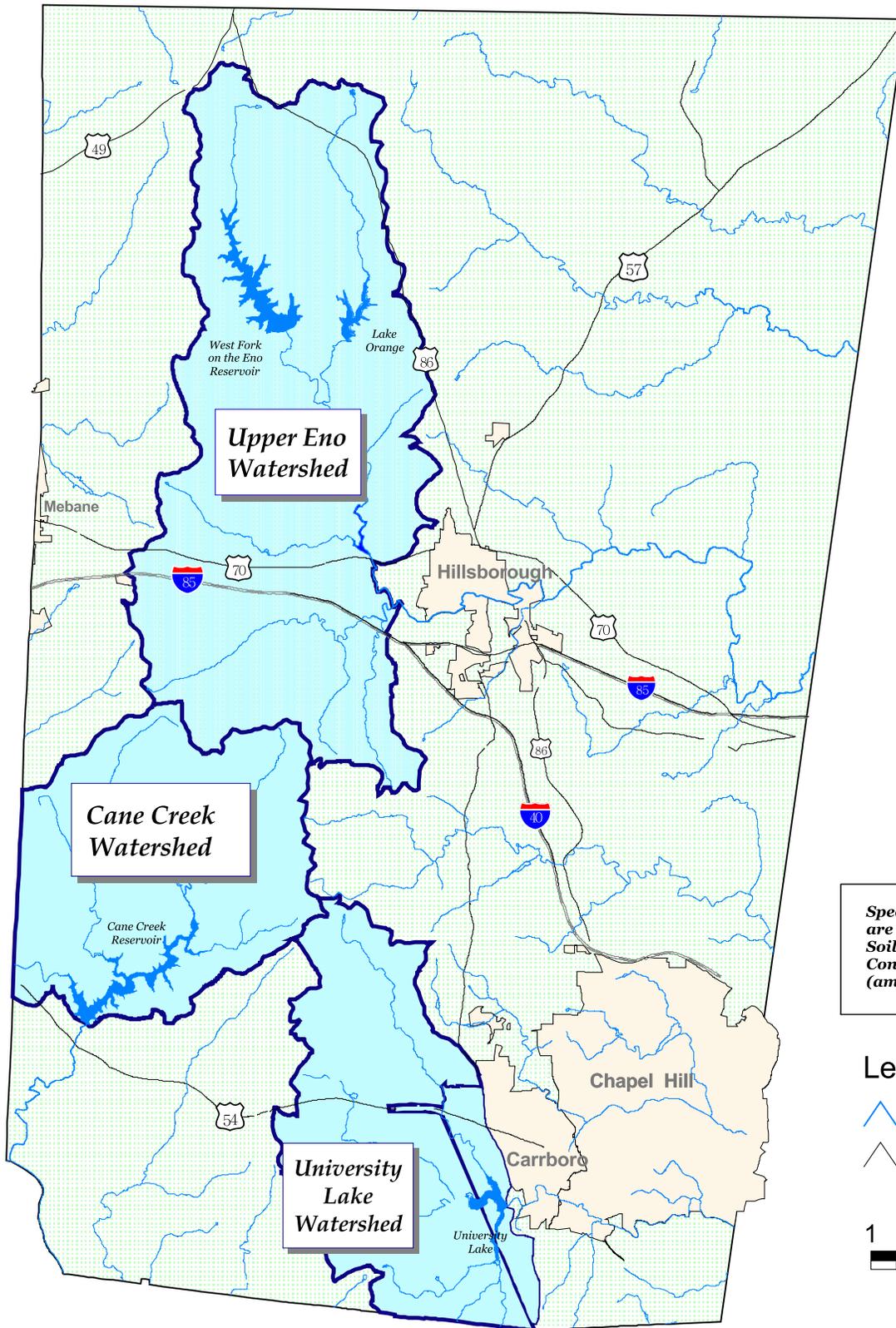
- Outside of the three protected Watersheds, the threshold for land-disturbance requiring pre-approval from Erosion Control rises to 20,000 square feet.
- If you are NOT in a Protected Watershed and are NOT exceeding 20,000 square feet of disturbance no application or pre-approval by Erosion Control is required.
- Any disturbance of 20,000 square feet or more requires pre-approval by Erosion Control.

6) Historical Note:

- Staff recommended that the same protections enjoyed by University Lake since December 30, 1975 be extended to the Cane Creek (Town of Chapel Hill & Carrboro) and Upper Eno Watersheds (Town of Hillsborough's reservoir). On June 27, 2002 the Board of County Commissioners voted to approve Staff recommendations. All three of the County's Protected Watersheds now have uniform Erosion Control requirements and protections.

Contact the Erosion Control Division at 245-2586 for Assistance
Visit our website at www.co.orange.nc.us

Watersheds with Additional Erosion Control Requirements Orange County, NC



Specific erosion control requirements are outlined in the Orange County Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Ordinance (amended June 27, 2002).

Legend:

- Major Streams & Rivers
- Major Roads



**Contact the Erosion Control Division
at (919) 245-2586 for more information.**

ORANGE COUNTY PLANNING & INSPECTIONS DEPARTMENT

Craig N. Benedict, AICP, Director
Administration 245-2575

Erosion Control Division
(919) 245-2586
(919) 644-3002 (FAX)
www.co.orange.nc.us



306F Revere Road
P O Box 8181
Hillsborough,
North Carolina, 27278



Waiver Of Erosion Control Fees And Pre Approval Requirements for Land-disturbing Activities Totaling Less Than 10,000 Square Feet

****POST IN INSPECTIONS BOX****

The land-disturbing activity in a Protected Watershed as described to this office will disturb less than 10,000 square feet (approximately ¼ acre) and does not, in the judgment of staff, at this time, constitute a threat to the above named surface waters or it's tributaries.

This Waiver does **NOT EXEMPT** the Person or Persons responsible for the land-disturbing activity from the requirements of the Orange County Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Ordinance.

I, (property owner **or Agent**, print below)

acknowledge that this Wavier will be revoked if I or my contractors, agents, etc. exceed 10,000 square feet of land-disturbing activity on the below listed parcel.

Signature of Owner/Agent _____ Date _____

TMBL or PIN _____
Address _____
Permit _____

Issued by: Orange County Planning & Inspections Department
Erosion Control Division

Reynolds J. (Ren) Ivins
Erosion Control Supervisor
(Not valid if unsigned or not dated)

Date _____