

The Orange County Government Gazette

Serving Orange County Residents since 1752

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Orange County's Erosion Control and Stormwater Division Wins Top Statewide Recognition

Orange County's Erosion Control and Stormwater Division (EC&S) has been awarded the Best All-Around Local Program in Erosion and Sedimentation Control by the North Carolina Sedimentation Control Commission. The recognition was presented during the Commission's Annual Local Program Workshop and Awards Program, honoring outstanding performance among local governments. The award highlights EC&S's comprehensive efforts to protect natural resources while supporting responsible development throughout the county. Serving more than 150,000 residents across nearly 400 square miles of regulated land, the division plays a vital role in permitting, inspecting, and enforcing compliance on land disturbance and stormwater-related activities. "We are proud to be recognized for the effectiveness and dedication of our team," said Orange County Planning and Inspections Director Cy Stober. "Our staff works tirelessly to ensure erosion and sedimentation control standards are upheld, and this award is a reflection of their commitment to environmental stewardship and public service."

"The Orange County Erosion Control and Stormwater Division shows their dedication to the environment and the people of Orange County by protecting natural habitats, preventing water pollution, and by preserving soil health," said the Erosion Control Division Manager, Steve Kaltenbach. "This award shows the lengths that we go to in order to reduce flood risks and protect infrastructure and property."

Comprehensive Program Impact

- Over the past year, the EC&S Division has:
- Issued and monitored 176 land disturbance permits
 - Conducted 1,042 site inspections
 - Performed 33 surface water identifications
 - Granted 11 buffer authorization certificates
 - Issued 5 floodplain development permits

To ensure transparency and community awareness, the county maintains a public portal map of major projects: <https://arcg.is/19nuXf2>. EC&S also investigates violations, issues enforcement actions such as stop work orders and civil penalties, and provides monthly and quarterly reporting to state agencies and local municipal partners.

Orange County is one of 54 jurisdictions delegated authority by the NC Sedimentation



Back row, left to right: Cy Stober, Orange County Planning and Inspections Director; Hathir Galbraith Pfau, Permit and Development Technician; Patrick Mallett, Deputy Director of Development Services; Christopher J. Sandt, County Engineer.
Front row, left to right: Kenny Owens, Erosion Control Officer; Chase Ellis, Erosion Control Officer; Tyler Sliger, Erosion Control Officer; Steve Kaltenbach, Division Manager and Nathan Jacobsen, Erosion Control Officer.



Control Commission to implement the Sedimentation Pollution Control Act (SPCA) by adopting a local qualifying erosion and sediment control ordinance in compliance with North Carolina state requirements. The staff of the delegated Local Programs perform plan reviews and enforce compliance of the SPCA within their jurisdictions.

Community Engagement & Education

The division is deeply committed to public outreach, offering brochures, translated materials for Spanish-speaking residents, and personalized education for property owners. Staff frequently participate in community events like World Water Day and Creek Week, and visit schools to educate future stewards of the environment.

"Public education is a cornerstone of what we do," continued Stober. "By equipping residents and developers with the knowledge and tools to comply with environmental standards, we reduce violations and protect our shared resources."

Orange County has Launched the 'Beat the Heat' Campaign

Extreme heat is the leading cause of weather-related deaths in the United States, surpassing deaths caused by hurricanes, floods, and tornadoes. It is a silent, invisible, and often underestimated threat. In 2024—the hottest year on record—Orange County experienced 12 days over 95°F, up from a historical average of eight days. Projections suggest the region could see between 28 to 41 days over 95°F annually by the 2060s. Warmer nights also mean less recovery time for the body, amplifying the health impacts of heat.

The Orange County Board of Commissioners officially proclaimed the week of May 25–31, 2025, as "Heat Awareness Week" in Orange County, North Carolina, underscoring the urgent need to prepare for extreme heat as rising temperatures threaten public health and safety across the region.

In advance of the heat, local governments and emergency partners are taking action. A Heat Action Plan has been developed to outline the community's coordinated approach to mitigation, preparedness, adaptation, and response to extreme heat. This plan, initially drafted by a Heat Cohort—comprised of representatives from the towns of Hillsborough, Carrboro, and Chapel Hill, as well as Orange County's Sustainability and Emergency Management departments—will be reviewed in the summer of 2025 by a larger Heat Task Force to ensure it meets the needs of all residents.

Orange County has launched the "Beat the Heat" campaign, a multilingual, four-month public education initiative using social media to raise awareness about extreme heat, its health impacts, and how residents can stay safe.

"Heat-related illnesses and deaths are preventable. By increasing awareness and preparation, we can save lives—especially among our most vulnerable residents, including those without air conditioning, people who work outdoors, the unhoused population, and individuals with pre-existing health conditions," said Orange County Emergency Services Director Kirby Saunders.

The county's heat communication strategy includes establishing formal protocols for disseminating heat advisories and health tips—particularly important early in the season, when residents are less acclimated to rising temperatures. All residents are encouraged to



sign up for OC Alerts at www.orangecountync.gov/OCAlerts to get important weather updates.

Orange County has compiled a list of resources for individuals and families experiencing homelessness during dangerous hot weather events at www.orangecountync.gov/Heat

Important Links:

- Heat Action Toolkit Graphics in English, Spanish, Mandarin, Karen, and Burmese: orangecountynccommunityrelations.zenfolio.com/multilingual-severe-weather-graphics
- Orange County Hot Weather Resources: orangecountync.gov/Heat
- Sign up for OC Alerts: member.everbridge.net/453003085611768/login
- Orange County, NC Facebook: facebook.com/orangecountyncgov
- Orange County, NC Instagram: instagram.com/ocncgov/
- Orange County, NC X: x.com/OCNCGOV
- Orange County, NC Threads: threads.com/@ocncgov
- Orange County, NC YouTube: youtube.com/@orangecountyncgov

The community is encouraged to share the graphics and resources throughout the summer. They will be posted on Orange County's Facebook and other social media channels every Monday and Wednesday beginning on May 26 through September 10. All images are available for download in five languages on the Extreme Weather Graphics site.

Working with YOU to prevent or manage diabetes.

- Small in-person classes begin every month.
- Covered by Medicare, Medicaid, and most private insurance.

For more information, scan code or call 919-245-2380.



Free Fans!*

June 26 or July 7 • 9am-12pm

Seymour Center, 2551 Homestead Rd, Chapel Hill

June 25 • 8am-5pm

Passmore Center, 103 Meadowlands Dr, Hillsborough

Fans cannot be reserved and must be picked up in person on the days and times above.

Must be an Orange County resident 60+ or have a disability.

*Fans will be similar to the one shown here.



*While supplies last!

www.orangecountync.gov/Aging



DOG ADOPTION SPECIAL

May 23 - June 30, 2025
Only \$25 for Adoptable Dogs

SCAN ME!

ORANGE COUNTY NC ANIMAL SERVICES
in Chapel Hill
(919) 942-7387

2025 Juneteenth Celebration

WHERE FREEDOM GATHERS, WE RISE
FRIDAY, JUNE 13, 2025 | HILLSBOROUGH, NC

SCHEDULE

Opening Ceremony: 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.
David E. Price Farmers' Market Pavilion
140 E Margaret Lane, Hillsborough, NC, 27278

Afternoon Film + Luncheon: 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.
Orange County Public Library (Main)
137 W. Margaret Lane, Hillsborough, NC 27278

Evening Block Party: 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.
Eno Arts Mill – Orange Co. Arts Commission
437 Dimmocks Mill Rd #17, Hillsborough, NC 27278

ORANGE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
ORANGE COUNTY ARTS COMMISSION
ORANGE COUNTY OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS & CIVIL LIFE
ORANGECOUNTYNC.GOV/JUNETEENTH2025

SUMMER 2025 JOB FAIR & RECRUITMENT

Wednesday, June 25, 2025 • 9 am - 1 pm

Orange Works Employment & Training Center, 113 Mayo Street, Hillsborough, NC



GET YOUR RESUME READY!
JOB SEEKERS
All job-seekers must be registered with NCworks.gov. Update or create your profile today!

We support our troops! Let us know if you are a veteran at the registration table!
For more information, call 919-245-4354 or 919-245-4335

EMPLOYERS
• Recruit for multiple candidates or positions at a high-traffic public event
• Meet and pre-screen qualified applicants
Online Registration for Employers ONLY: orangecountync.gov/Employers

For more information, call 919-245-4354 or 919-245-4335.



Does your home need repairs?

- You may qualify for financial assistance if you
- are an Orange County resident
 - are a single parent, a veteran, age 62 or older, or handicapped/disabled
 - your total household income is less than:
 - \$59,300 for a household of 1
 - \$67,800 for a household of 2
 - \$76,250 for a household of 3
 - \$84,700 for a household of 4
 - \$91,500 for a household of 5
 - \$98,300 for a household of 6
 - \$105,050 for a household of 7
 - \$111,850 for a household of 8

To learn more, please visit orangecountync.gov/HomeRepair or call 919-895-0164.



WE ARE HIRING!

To learn more about job opportunities available in Orange County Government, please visit www.orangecountync.gov/Careers or contact the Human Resources Recruitment Manager at (919) 245-2557