

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT BUILDING PONDS AND CLEARING LAND

- There are two very important items to consider before building a pond: soil type and watershed size.
 - Will the pond serve its intended purpose when built? Such as for livestock, irrigation, or other.
 - Is the overall site suitable in relation to property boundaries, buildings, roads, etc.
 - Are there restrictions to building a pond in the desired location?
 - Call the **Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)** or the **Orange Soil and Water Conservation District (Orange SWCD)** if you need someone to do a site evaluation for a pond. **(Phone numbers are below)**
 - If you are planning to clear land call **Orange County Erosion Control** or the **NRCS** or **Orange S&WCD**.
1. For a pond site evaluation contact **NRCS** at 919-241-3965, or **the Orange S&WCD** at 919-245-2750
 2. For land clearing call one of the above numbers or call **Orange County Erosion Control** at 919-245-2588
 3. All ponds require you to contact the **U. S. Army Corp of Engineers** regarding streams and wetlands. You may need to get a 404 permit, or they may give you an exemption especially if for agricultural use. Contact: Samantha Dailey at 919-554-4884 extension 22
 4. For NC state permit information regarding wetlands, buffers, stormwater compliance, and stream permitting, you may need to contact Paul Wajonski with the **Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ)** at 919-707-3631
 5. For larger ponds with the dam more than 25 feet high and the capacity more than 50-acre feet, a Dam Safety Law permit will be required. Contact George Eller with **DEQ** at 919-707-9214.
 6. For local Orange County permit information regarding land clearing and Neuse River Basin buffer rules, contact Steve Kaltenbach with **Orange County Erosion Control** at 919-245-2588.
 7. For information relating to the USDA benefits and the Food Security Act and the production of commodity crops on newly cleared land contact the **Farm Service Agency (FSA)** at 919-241-3963 extension 2.

It is very important to call all these agencies above that apply to your situation before beginning any work on a pond or clearing land. **While our staff (Orange Soil and Water Conservation District or the Natural Resources Conservation Service) may provide you with an estimate of drainage area, soil type, height of dam, and water line, this does not constitute an engineering design.**

Failure to follow federal, state and local regulations may result in fines and / or legal actions. In order to ensure that your pond will be built properly and be maintained for years to come, proper engineering design and installation procedures should be followed. Our staff can provide you with a list of contractors that perform the type of services needed.



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