

Summary of Proposed Ordinance Relating to Surface Water Management

K.C.C. Title 9, "Surface Water Management"

Section 1 – Definitions. (*K.C.C. 9.04.020*)

- Clarify and update existing definitions.
- Add several new definitions and amend others related to when and what type of drainage review is required by King County as a result of clearing and grading or other changes in land surface that affect the amount and quality of stormwater runoff.
- Add several new definitions and amend others related to the amendments in Sections 2 and 3.

Section 2 – Drainage Review – When Required – Type. (*K.C.C. 9.04.030*)

- The impervious surface threshold for when drainage review is required of a development proposal is reduced from 5,000 square feet of added impervious surface to 2,000 square feet.
- A new threshold is added that requires drainage review when there is 7,000 square feet or more of land disturbing activity. Land disturbing activity includes clearing and grading. A similar limitation currently applies only to areas with clearing restrictions.
- The threshold for when drainage review is required of larger redevelopment projects is changed from one based on the total cost of proposed improvements to one based on the cost of proposed improvements relative to the assessed value of existing improvements.

Section 3 – Drainage Review – Requirements. (*K.C.C. 9.04.050*)

- Requirements applied through drainage review are updated or clarified.
- The threshold for the amount of impervious surface requiring a flow control facility or best management practices (BMPs) is reduced from 5,000 square feet to 2,000 square feet. The clearing or alteration of 35,000 square feet or more of pervious land surface also requires a flow control facility or BMPs.
- Flow control requirements for redevelopment projects are revised to apply to both new and replaced impervious surface.
- Flow control and water quality requirements are revised to apply to impervious surface added on or after January 8, 2001, the effective date of the rule applying ESA take prohibitions to Puget Sound Chinook.
- Water quality requirements are revised to apply to the clearing or alteration of 35,000 square feet or more of a pervious surface that is subject to the use of pesticides or fertilizers.
- Water quality performance goals are revised to apply an "enhanced basic water quality" goal to certain types of developments in areas of the County now subject to the basic water quality goal. This enhanced basic goal replaces the resource

stream protection goal and is applied to development types that generate the highest concentrations of metals in stormwater runoff.

- A special requirement is added that sets upper limits for the amount of impacting impervious surface allowed on RA zoned parcels. For most RA zoned parcels the maximum allowed will be ten percent of the parcel area.
- Terminology related to adjustments of drainage review requirements is corrected.

Section 4 – Engineering plans for the purposes of drainage review. (*K.C.C. 9.04.070*) Minor changes to update terminology are made.

Section 5 – Definitions. (*K.C.C. 9.12.015*) Clarify and update existing definitions.

Section 6 – Discharges into King County waters. (*K.C.C. 9.12.025*) The list of allowable discharges to King County waters is revised to exclude water line flushing, excessive lawn watering, residential car and boat washing, and dechlorinated swimming pool water.

Section 7 – Stormwater Pollution Prevention Manual. (*K.C.C. 9.12.035*) In applying the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Manual to normal residential activities that create prohibited discharges to King County waters, King County will use public education, and warnings as the primary method of gaining compliance. Civil penalties may only be used only if the discharge is causing a significant contribution of contaminants or the poses a public health or safety hazard.