Henrico County Public Works Environmental Update FAQ

1. Do comments on preliminary plans count as comments in this new RPA notice?

Answer: Yes. An email or other written correspondence from Henrico Public Works confirming the presence / absence of RPA will suffice for a project to fall under the 1991 Info Bulletin 6. This written correspondence will be a required component of plan submittal if you wish to continue following Info Bulletin 6 for any given project.

2. Who is the new contact person for determining RPA streams now that Robin has been promoted?

Answer: The current hiring freeze has stalled filling the Water Quality Research Analyst position. Jen Cobb is fielding wetland, stream, and RPA questions in the meantime. Depending on the request, she, field personnel, or Henrico's contracted environmental consultants will respond. Robin is still able to answer simple / quick questions regarding field calls she has previously made in the meantime.

3. Will Henrico require/create an RPA Determination Form, to include a checklist of items to be submitted as part of the RPAD for review? (for example, Chesterfield and New Kent County each have their own forms)

Answer: No.

4. Will you please provide us with the slides from the presentation?

Answer: Yes. These are included at the end of this document.

5. Will Henrico County be performing a site visit to "confirm" an RPA determination completed by a consultant?

Answer: Henrico County's contracted consultants (AMT and Timmons) are confirming RPA determinations until such a time that a replacement is hired. Should one of these firms require confirmation on one their own projects, the other consultant will confirm.

6. How will you handle RPA determinations going forward?

Answer: The only changes to the development community at this point will be to follow the 2007 guidance for determining the extent of the RPA features and to have a temporary point of contact with the County.

Henrico County Public Works Environmental Update

June 29, 2020

Agenda

- Welcome
- County staff roles
- Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act Compliance Review by DEQ
- Previous RPA Delineation requirements
- Upcoming RPA Delineation requirements
- Implementation
- Questions

Welcome to Our Community Development Partners

- Attorneys
- Builders
- CIP Contractors
- Design Engineers
- Developers
- Environmental Consultants
- Economic Development Authority

Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act Compliance Review by DEQ

- 5 "Recommended Conditions" (required)
- Only one condition resulting a significant change: RPA designations
- Information Bulletin 6: RPA Wetlands Designations issued by CBLAB in 1991
- Resource Protection Areas: Nontidal Wetlands Guidance on the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Area Designation and Management Regulations issued by DCR in 2007
- Henrico has been following Info Bulletin 6.

Information Bulletin 6 Chesapeake Bay Local Assistance Board (CBLAB), 1991

- Wetlands associated with intermittent streams are "optional" RPA features.
- Many of these optional areas are now designated as Stream Protection Areas (SPA) in accordance with Henrico's Environmental Compliance Manual.



Resource Protection Areas: Nontidal Wetlands 2007 DCR Guidance Document

• Wetlands associated with intermittent streams, yet still "connected and contiguous" to a perennial stream are *required* RPA.



This nontidal wetland is an RPA feature because it is connected by surface flow and contiguous to a water body with perennial flow.



This nontidal wetland is an RPA feature because it is connected by surface flow and is contiguous to a water body with perennial flow. FIGURE 2c

FIGURE 2B

Implementation

- Henrico will begin implementing the 2007 guidance July 1, 2020.
- A letter will be emailed to those on the invite list to this webinar.
- The County will allow projects that have received formal written comments from Henrico Public Works on RPA features prior to July 1, 2020 may continue following Info Bulletin 6.
- Any plans that have not received formal written comments from Henrico Public Works by July 1, 2020 will be subject to the 2007 guidance.
- Other Virginia localities are already following this guidance or have more stringent requirements in place.
- DEQ will be returning in the early fall for reassessment. We will not be entertaining exception requests to the RPA boundary.

Questions



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