

# Land Erosion and Sediment Control Certificate of Approval

**Express Option\***

**What Activities Require This Permit?** Any land-disturbing activity covering one acre or more, except certain agricultural activities which include production of plants or animals for the benefit of man, mining, reclamation of converted wetlands back to wetlands from agricultural use, and forestry activities conducted in accordance with N.C. Forest Practice Guidelines related to water quality.

**What Is The Purpose of This Permit?** To provide protective measures to vulnerable areas in developments against accelerated (man made) erosion and sedimentation that damages adjoining properties, streams and other water resources of the state.

**Who Issues This Permit?** Division of Energy, Mineral, and Land Resources.

**How Much Will This Plan Review Cost?** Fee: \$65 per acre. The fee is calculated by rounding the disturbed acreage up to the next whole acre and then multiplying this acreage figure by \$65. For example:  
4.08 acres = 5 acres x \$65/per acre = \$325 is the correct review fee.

**What Are My Payment Options for Plan Review Fees?** Business, Personal or Cashier's Check or money orders are currently accepted payment methods. DEQ is currently working on a system to allow for electronic payment. When this option is available, DEQ will give notice of when and how to take advantage of this system.

**If Paying by Check, to Whom Do I Make the Check Payable and Where Do I Send the Check?** The check should be made out to the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Division of Energy, Mineral, and Land Resources (DEMLR) and the check should be sent to the DEMLR Regional Office which oversees the area in which the project will take place. Please see the Regional Office map on the DEQ home website: <http://deq.nc.gov/>.

**Where Can I Get The Application For This Permit?** Not applicable. However, the required financial/responsibility ownership form and checklist may be found at the following: <http://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/energy-mineral-land-resources/energy-mineral-land-permits/erosion-sediment-control> (scroll down to "Forms").

**How Long Will It Take To Review My Application?** 30 calendar days (upon receipt of a complete application package) unless the responsible party takes advantage of the Express Permitting option. This option requires meetings prior to submittal and final reviews are generally negotiated and completed within a 3 to 5 day review period (upon receipt of a complete application).

**Where Do I Submit My Application?** Complete application packages should be sent to the appropriate regional office in your area. Click on the following link for regional office contact information:  
<http://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/energy-mineral-land-resources/contact-demlr> (scroll down to the regional office listings)

**How Long Is My Permit or License or Certificate Valid?** Three years if no land-disturbing activity has been undertaken.

**Notes/Comments:** Erosion control plans must be submitted at least 30 days prior to beginning a land-disturbing activity and the plans must be approved prior to beginning the activity.

\* The express permitting option is available for this permit type. This option offers quicker review times than the standard traditional review process. [Learn more](#) about express permitting.

**Legal Authority/Statute Reference:** GS 113A-50 thru GS 113A-66.

**Link:** <http://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/energy-mineral-land-resources/energy-mineral-land-permits/erosion-sediment-control>

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**Statewide Contact Information:**

NC Division of Energy, Mineral, and Land Resources  
Sediment Program  
1612 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-1612  
Telephone: (919) 707-9220