

Johnston County
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
POST OFFICE BOX 2263
SMITHFIELD, N.C. 27577
(919) 989-5075

July 25, 2013

Mr. Stephen T. Smith
Chairman, North Carolina Environmental Management Commission
1617 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1617



Re: Johnston County – Riparian Buffer Protection Ordinance

Dear Mr. Smith:

Johnston County would like to request authority to implement and enforce the State’s riparian buffer protection requirements within our jurisdiction. Johnston County has adopted a Riparian Buffer Protection Ordinance (for Lands within the Neuse River Basin). The ordinance closely follows rules set forth in NCGS 15A NCAC 02B .0233 and includes plans to address violations. An excerpt from the May 6, 2013 Board of Commissioners meeting minutes detailing public hearing comments and the adopted ordinance is included in this package.

The Riparian Buffer Protection Ordinance was added as an amendment to the Johnston County Land Development Code. The Land Development Code describes jurisdiction and zoning districts within the County and can be found at the following website:
[http://www.amlegal.com/nxt/gateway.dll/North%20Carolina/johnstoncounty_nc/codeofordinancescountyofjohnstonnorhthcar?f=templates\\$fn=default.htm\\$3.0\\$vid=amlegal:johnstoncounty_nc](http://www.amlegal.com/nxt/gateway.dll/North%20Carolina/johnstoncounty_nc/codeofordinancescountyofjohnstonnorhthcar?f=templates$fn=default.htm$3.0$vid=amlegal:johnstoncounty_nc)

A map of the current adopted zoning districts and jurisdiction is included with this package.

The Riparian Buffer Protection Ordinance places responsibility for oversight of the County’s Riparian Buffer Protection Program to the Environmental and Stormwater Manager. The position is described in the ordinance as “personnel within the Johnston County Public Utilities Department who has successfully completed the Division of Water Quality’s Surface Water Identification Training Certification Course, its successor, or other equivalent training curriculum approved by the Division, and whose job responsibility includes the administration and enforcement of the Johnston County Riparian Buffer Protection Ordinance.” Jamie Guerrero, P.E., CPSWQ currently holds this position. He can be reached by telephone at 919-209-8333 and by e-mail at jamie.guerrero@johnstonnc.com. Please feel free to contact him with any questions about the program.

Thank you for considering our request. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Chandra C. Coats

Chandra C. Coats, PE
Director of Utilities

cc: Jamie Guerrero, PE, CPSWQ
Karen Higgins, DWQ

Enclosures

Neuse Riparian Buffer Johnston County Jurisdictional Boundary Map

-  County Jurisdictional Area
-  Town Jurisdictional Areas

1 inch = 5 miles

