

Protect Our Stormwater Today for Clean Water Tomorrow

“Let everyone sweep in front of his own door, and the whole world will be clean.”
Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

It is the responsibility of everyone disturbing the surface of the ground in unincorporated El Paso County to take measures to prevent erosion and other potential contamination of stormwater runoff and other surface waters.

If the disturbance is one acre or more, an Erosion and Stormwater Quality Control Permit (ESQCP) is required.

- If the project, such as a subdivision, is reviewed by the El Paso County Development Services Department (DSD), the ESQCP will be issued by DSD.
- Other projects such as roads or pipelines that are not reviewed by DSD will be issued by El Paso County Department of Transportation.
- Single family homes and duplexes will obtain a Builders' Erosion and Stormwater Quality Control Permit from DSD before construction. Other building projects will obtain an ESQCP.

To obtain an ESQCP, the following must be submitted:

- Approved Stormwater Management Plan (SWMP)
- Completed and signed application form
- Permit fee and permit surcharge
- Financial surety equivalent to the expected cost of construction stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs) including maintenance costs.

For almost all projects covered by ESQCPs, Permanent Best Management Practices (PBMPs) such as Extended Detention Basins with water quality features to protect water quality will be required. Projects with PBMPs will also submit the following with the plan set to be reviewed

- Signed Maintenance Agreement
- Operation & Maintenance manual for the PBMPs.

El Paso County Development Services Department: (719) 520-6300

http://adm.elpasoco.com/Development_Services/

El Paso County Department of Transportation: (719) 520-6460

Criteria Manuals to be used on projects in unincorporated El Paso County:

El Paso County Engineering Criteria Manual:

Appendix I provides basic stormwater information. There are also Standard Drawings in Appendix F, Permit Form in Appendix E and Maintenance Agreement in Appendix G.

<http://adm.elpasoco.com/NR/exeres/78BD0718-BA43-4387-BF82-9F17638FE29F.frameless.htm>

City of Colorado Springs/El Paso County Drainage Criteria Manual (also referred to as *Drainage Criteria Manual, Volume 1* or *DCM1*) for drainage criteria and policy

<http://www.springsgov.com/Page.asp?NavID=2336>

City of Colorado Springs Drainage Criteria Manual, Volume 2: Stormwater Quality Policies, Procedures and Best Management Practices (BMPs) (DCM2). This manual has been adopted for use in El Paso County with the variations described in the *Engineering Criteria Manual*, Appendix I.

<http://www.springsgov.com/Page.asp?NavID=2951>

Stormwater Management Plans are required for both ESQCP and State of Colorado stormwater discharge permit. The requirements are in DCM2 and the Application and SWMP Guidance Document for the permit for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Construction Activity. <http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/wq/PermitsUnit/stormwater/SWConstructionApplication.pdf> As an aid, a detailed checklist of requirements (*link to checklist*) has been developed.

The owner or his/her representative who is conducting self-monitoring inspections should be a professional engineer registered in Colorado, a certified erosion control specialist, or certified in a County-approved inspection training program in stormwater protection techniques. Red Rocks Community College has a one-day course with optional field trip: CETC 150 Stormwater Management and Erosion Control and CETC 151 Stormwater Compliance Inspector. See <http://www.rccc.edu/rmec/cetc.html> or <http://www.rccc.edu/rmec/pdfs/06-07RMECSchedule.pdf> Occasionally, other approved courses are given in El Paso County.