



CHARLES SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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February 15, 2012

To: Consultants serving Charles County

From: Charles Soil Conservation District
Luis Dieguez, District Manager

Subject: **2011 Maryland Standards and Specifications for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control**

The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) formally adopted new erosion and sediment control regulations on January 9, 2012. The new regulations will enhance erosion and sediment control practices across the State, improve the water quality of construction site runoff, and help in Chesapeake Bay restoration efforts.

The handbook update has been supported by government entities, the regulatory community, trade groups, and members of the public for several years. Most of the new design specifications reflect proven practices that are already in use.

The immediate incorporation of the 2011 Maryland Standards and Specifications for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control is greatly encouraged on all projects.

Please note the following grandfathering conditions consistent with MDE regulations:

- After **January 9, 2013** the Charles Soil Conservation District (District) will only approve new plans adhering to the 2011 Maryland Standards and Specifications for Sediment and Erosion Control.
- After **January 9, 2013** **all** plans must adhere to the stabilization practices found in the 2011 Maryland Standards and Specifications for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control regardless of when the sediment and erosion control plan was approved. Plan revisions for this specific requirement will not be necessary. However, when a plan revision is submitted to the District for any other purpose, the plan must also incorporate the updated stabilization requirements.
- Revisions to previously approved plans and plan requests for time extension approvals that are submitted after **January 9, 2013** must address the 2011 Maryland Standards and Specifications for Sediment and Erosion Control **if** revisions involve changes to the grading plan **or** if revisions involve changes to the sediment and erosion control plan **or** if grading activities will begin after **January 9, 2015**.
- **After January 9, 2015, if the grading activities for an approved sediment and erosion control plan have not started, said plans must be revised to meet the 2011 Maryland Standards and Specifications for Sediment and Erosion Control in order for the District approval to remain valid. All other conditions noted above still apply.**

An updated handbook for the new standards and specifications can be accessed via the following MDE link:

http://www.mde.maryland.gov/programs/Water/StormwaterManagementProgram/SoilErosionandSedimentControl/Pages/Programs/WaterPrograms/SedimentandStormwater/erosionsedimentcontrol/esc_standards.aspx

This link can also be found on our website.

www.CharlesSCD.com