

November Storm Water Report

*So you want to build your dream home?
Here are some things to consider:*

Will you be disturbing at least one acre of land during construction? A land disturbance is any activity that causes soil to be moved from one place to another. For example, shaping, grading, landscaping, cutting, filling, clearing and grubbing are all land disturbances. An acre is equal to 43,560 square feet or approximately 208 feet by 208 feet. It's pretty easy to disturb an acre of land if you're planning a driveway with a house and a garage and some landscaping on your lot.

So what if you disturb an acre or more of land? If you think you'll be disturbing an acre of land, you'll need to obtain coverage under the Department of Environmental Conservation's (DEC) General Permit for Construction Activities, called GP 0201.

How to obtain coverage under GP 0201: You'll need to develop a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and send a Notice of Intent to the DEC's office. You'll also need to submit information to your local municipality. To find out more about the GP 0201, contact your local Codes Enforcement Officer at 733-7447, the DEC at 793-2554 or the SWCD office at 736-3334. Also, check out the DEC's stormwater page on their website (<http://www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dow/mainpage.htm>). This site includes the permit, the Notice of Intent form, and a list of frequently asked questions about the permit.

What is a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan? A Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) is a comprehensive plan created by the operator of a construction site that includes a list and location of erosion and sediment and runoff control practices and structures. If you're disturbing less than 5 acres for single family residence, you'll only need to develop an Erosion and Sediment Control Plan and submit a Notice of Intent. However, **if you're creating a subdivision**, or if you'll be disturbing more than 5 acres or if you're planning to construct anything other than a single family residence regardless of size, you'll need to develop a **full SWPPP** and submit a Notice of Intent. The full SWPPP will outline a construction phasing schedule as well as a construction inspection format. In addition, a full SWPPP will describe temporary and permanent measures to control erosion and treat and contain stormwater runoff from your site.

Remember, you can prevent pollution of our waterways by protecting the vegetation on your site, minimizing paved areas and properly maintaining practices.