
The cheapest and most efficient way to protect your home from flooding is to actively maintain all stormwater conveyance facilities on your property.



If you have any questions or are aware of any encroachments or obstructions into easements or drainage ways, please contact the **New Hanover County Engineering Department:**

Jerry May
Water Quality Specialist
(910) 798 – 7129

or

Tim Lowe, PE
Chief Project Engineer
(910) 798 - 7072



New Hanover



New Hanover County is flat and most drainage ways and pipes are on a minimum grade so any blockage of water flow can become a major problem to upstream property owners. Property owners are required to refrain from using drainage areas to dispose of refuse, tree limbs, grass clippings or other yard wastes. New Hanover County Code, Ch. 23 Art. VII Div. 2 Sec. 312(b)(4), allows for a civil penalty not to exceed \$500 for any person who improperly disposes in drainage network.

Who is responsible for ditch

New Hanover County Code, Ch. 23 Art. VII Div. 3 Sec. 342, requires the individual property owner to be responsible for maintaining stormwater conveyance facilities within their properties. These facilities may include waterways, streams, creeks, ditches, swales, channels, canals, conduits, culverts, ponds, and lakes.

Properly maintained



Improperly



Property owners

- Construct fences, buildings, structures, electrical boxes, light poles, HVAC units, etc. within a drainage easement.
 - Plant trees, bushes, or other permanent plantings within a drainage easement.
 - Impede or obstruct the flow of stormwater runoff through a stream, channel, swale, pipe, sheet flow, etc.
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Stormwater runoff picks up pollution such as pet waste, fertilizer, pesticides, motor oil, litter and yard waste on the way to local creeks, streams and waterways. In New Hanover County stormwater does not go to a treatment plant.