

## **Section 109. General Definitions.**

***Agricultural Activities.*** Includes the breeding and grazing of livestock, undertaken on agricultural land for the production of plants and animals useful to man, including, but not limited to:

- (i) forage and sod crops, grain and feed crops, tobacco, cotton, and peanuts.
- (ii) dairy animals and dairy products.
- (iii) poultry and poultry products.
- (iv) livestock, including beef cattle, sheep swine, horses, ponies, mules, and goats.
- (v) bees and apiary products.
- (vi) fur producing animals.

***Agricultural Use.*** The use of waters for stock watering, irrigation, and other farm purposes.

***Animal Unit.*** A unit of measurement developed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency that is used to compare different types of animal operations.

***Bankfull Discharge.*** The flow of water which fills a stable alluvial channel to the elevation of the active floodplain. This discharge is morphologically significant because it identifies the bankfull elevation. On average, bankfull discharge occurs every 1.5 years in frequency.

***Bankfull Elevation.*** The elevation where flooding occurs on an active floodplain. This elevation may or may not be the top of bank.

***Best Management Practices.*** Effective and practical structural or nonstructural methods which prevent or reduce the movement of sediment, nutrients, pesticides and other pollutants from the land to surface or ground water, or which otherwise protect water quality from potential adverse effects of development, silvicultural, agricultural and other land disturbance activities. These practices are developed as industry standards to achieve a balance between water quality and natural habitat protection and the economic benefits and desired use of the land.

***Building.*** Any structure having a roof supported by columns or by walls, and intended for shelter, housing or enclosure of persons, animals or property. The connection of two buildings by means of an open porch, breezeway, passageway, carport or other such open structure, with or without a roof, shall not be deemed to make them one building.

***Built-upon area.*** Built-upon areas shall include that portion of a development project that is covered by impervious or partially impervious cover including buildings,

pavement, gravel roads, recreation facilities (e.g. tennis courts), etc. (Note: wooden slatted decks and the water area of a swimming pool are considered pervious.)

**Channel.** A natural water-carrying trough eroded vertically into low areas of the land surface by erosive action of concentrated flowing water or a ditch or canal excavated for the flow of water.

**Clerk to the Watershed Review Board.** The Watershed Administrator or other person appointed by the County.

**Cluster Development.** The grouping of buildings in order to conserve land and provide for innovation in the design of the project. This term includes non-residential development as well as single-family residential subdivisions and multi-family developments that do not involve the subdivision of land. "Planned Residential Developments," as provided for under the Chatham County Zoning Ordinance and "Planned Unit Developments," as provided for under the Chatham County Subdivision Regulations, shall each be deemed to be Cluster Development under this Chatham County Watershed Protection Ordinance.

**Compact Community.** A compact residential development with a mixed commercial use village center with a conditional use permit required as a prerequisite to any use or development.

**Composting Facility.** A facility in which only stumps, limbs, leaves, grass and untreated wood collected from land clearing or landscaping operations is deposited.

**Critical Area.** The area adjacent to a water supply intake or reservoir where risk associated with pollution is greater than from the remaining portions of the watershed. The critical area is defined as extending either one mile from the normal pool elevation of the reservoir in which the intake is located or to the ridge line of the watershed (whichever comes first); or one mile upstream from the intake located directly in the stream or river (run-of-the-river), or the ridge line of the watershed (whichever comes first). Local governments may extend the critical area as needed. Major landmarks such as highways or property lines may be used to delineate the outer boundary of the critical area if these landmarks are immediately adjacent to the appropriate outer boundary of one mile.

**Development.** Any land disturbing activity which adds to or changes the amount of impervious or partially impervious cover on a land area or which otherwise decreases the infiltration of precipitation into the soil. See definition of Land Disturbing Activity.

**Diffuse Flow.** Non-concentrated, low velocity flow of storm water runoff that is spread out or distributed evenly along the same elevation. Diffuse flow prevents or reduces scour and erosion and provides for increased ground contact for infiltration and pollutant removal.



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