SUBMISSION FORM

All submission forms must include the following information. Separate submission forms must be turned in for each eligible program. **Deadline: July 1, 2025.** Please include this submission form as the first page of your electronic entry. If you do not receive an email confirming receipt of your entry within 3 days of submission, please contact **Gage Harter**.

PROGRAM INFORMATION	
County:	
Program Title:	
Program Category:	
CONTACT INFORMATION	
Name:	
Title:	
Department:	
Telephone:	Website:
Email:	
SIGNATURE OF COUNTY ADMINISTRATO	OR OR DEPUTY/ASSISTANT COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
Name:	
Title:	
Signature: full the	



James City County Virginia Association of Counties (VACo) Achievement Awards 2025 Submission Stormwater Seminars

Submitted to
Virginia Association of Counties (VACo)
Achievement Awards
gharter@vaco.org

Attn: Gage Harter, VACo Director of Communications

James City County Stormwater and Resource Protection Division
General Services Department
101-E Mounts Bay Road
PO Box 8784
Williamsburg, VA 23187-8784

June 30, 2025

Executive Summary

The James City County (JCC) Stormwater Seminars hosted by the Stormwater and Resource Protection (SRP) Division have been a successful program providing public education and outreach to citizens and the development community. They offer a free and convenient way for local interested parties to attend, learn about the latest updates to local and state regulations related to stormwater and construction-related issues, and meet and interact with JCC staff. This outreach approach offers a more personal way for folks to receive information and ask questions and receive immediate feedback regarding related topics and issues.

The Stormwater Seminars are truly a collaboration or partnering between JCC and other entities including businesses and non-profits who have co-hosted the seminars along with SRP staff presenting timely information related to stormwater permitting and regulations, site stabilization, pipe installation and other stormwater related topics. One key to the success of the Stormwater Seminars is the relationship between SRP staff and the development community. The seminars are local, free, usually include a delicious lunch, and offer opportunities to network and ask questions in a casual environment outside of the JCC offices. Feedback on the Stormwater Seminars from the development community has been overwhelmingly positive as evidenced from the continued strong attendance and sponsorship support for each event.

Over the past ten years, the Stormwater Seminars have presented information on erosion controls, pipe installation, site stabilization, project permitting and development of stormwater pollution prevention plans, and upcoming regulatory changes.

State the problem, challenge, or situation faced by the locality

James City County was approved by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) as a Virginia Stormwater Management Program (VSMP) Authority (now VESMP Authority) back in 2014. One requirement of the County's "General VPDES Permit for Discharges of Stormwater from Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems" (MS4s) is to implement a public education and outreach program designed to:

- 1) Increase the public's knowledge of how to reduce stormwater pollution, placing priority on reducing impacts to impaired waters and other local water pollution concerns;
- 2) Increase the public's knowledge of hazards associated with illegal discharges and improper disposal of waste, including pertinent legal implications; and
- Implement a diverse program with strategies that are targeted toward individuals or groups most likely to have significant stormwater impacts.

Since becoming a VESMP Authority, James City County (JCC) staff within the Stormwater and Resource Protection (SRP) Division have hosted Stormwater Seminars as a way to provide

public education and outreach to citizens and the development community. These seminars are advertised on the James City County webpage, held at local JCC facilities and are free and open to the public as well as contractors, developers and engineers working within James City County.



Topics for the Stormwater Seminars held since 2013 have included the following:

- Erosion Controls
- Site Stabilization
- Storm Pipe Installation
- Virginia Stormwater Management Program (VSMP)
- Single Family Dwelling Site Stabilization
- Small Project Permitting and VSMP SWPPP Template
- Upcoming Stormwater Regulatory Changes



The Stormwater Seminars provide a free and convenient way for local interested parties to attend, learn about the latest updates to local and state regulations related to stormwater and construction-related issues, and meet and interact with JCC staff. This outreach approach offers a more personal way for folks to receive information, ask questions and receive immediate feedback regarding related topics and issues.

State how the program fulfilled the awards criteria (innovation, partnering or collaboration and a model for other localities)

James City County (JCC) was approved by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) as a Virginia Stormwater Management Program (VSMP) Authority (now VESMP Authority) back in 2014. Since then, James City County staff within the SRP Division (formerly the Engineering and Resource Protection Division or ERP) have hosted Stormwater Seminars as a way to provide public education and outreach to citizens and the development community. They are truly a collaboration or partnering between JCC and other entities including businesses and non-profits who have co-hosted the seminars along with SRP staff presenting timely information related to stormwater permitting and regulations, site stabilization, pipe installation and other stormwater related topics. Those entities have included the following:

- ACF Environmental
- A. Morton Thomas and Associates, Inc. (AMT)
- Advanced Drainage Systems (ADS)
- American Concrete Pipe Association (ACPA)
- CMS Environmental Solutions
- Colonial Soil and Water Conservation District (CSWCD)
- Concrete Pipe & Precast (CP&P)
- Environmental Construction Solutions (ECS)
- Ferguson Waterworks
- Kerr Environmental
- Landscape Supply, Inc.
- Prism
- Rinker Materials Concrete Pipe Division
- Stantec

Erosion Control Site Stabilization Seminar

The James City County Engineering and Resource Protection Division will be hosting an Erosion Control Site Stabilization Seminar. Please join us for detailed information in respect to site stabilization. Learn about the regulatory requirements and also about what products are locally available to assist you in stabilizing your project. The Seminar is <u>free</u> and open to the public.

When: October 1st, 2013

Where: Freedom Park Interpretive Center, 5537 Centerville Rd
Williamsburg, VA 23188

Time: 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Please RSVP by email to Joe.Buchite@jamescitycountyva.gov or at 253-6670

No Later than September 23rd, 2013, Space is limited







- Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc. (VHB)
- Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
- Wetland Studies and Solutions, Inc. (WSSI)
- Ziegler Plumbing

The Stormwater Seminars provide a great opportunity for businesses and non-profits associated with stormwater projects including pipe manufacturers, erosion and sediment control product providers, landscaping firms, soil & water conservation districts, and design engineers can highlight their specialties and offer information about how they can assist citizens and the development community with issues related to the Stormwater Seminar topic.



One key to the success of the Stormwater Seminars is the relationship between SRP staff and the development community. The seminars are local, free, usually include a delicious lunch, and offer opportunities to network and ask questions in a casual environment outside of the JCC offices. Attendance at each seminar varies but usually ranges between 40 to 50 attendees. The Stormwater Seminars also offer an opportunity for SRP staff to present information to the general public, which encourages them to develop public speaking skills as this is one component of their career ladders for professional development for certain positions.

<u>Tell how the program was carried out, including financing and staffing, and the program's results</u>

The Stormwater Seminars are held at JCC facilities such as the County's Recreation Center or Legacy Hall which feature meeting rooms large enough to hold such an event. Since JCC staff sponsor this event, there is no cost to the County for reserving the meeting space. Presenters at each Stormwater Seminar consist of JCC staff and employees from businesses and non-profits associated with stormwater projects including pipe manufacturers, erosion and sediment control product providers, landscaping firms, soil & water conservation districts, and design engineers. These speakers have the opportunity at the seminar to highlight their specialties and offer information about how they can assist citizens and the development community with issues related to the Stormwater Seminar topic.



The sponsors of each Stormwater Seminar cover the cost of food and drink provided at each event, usually lunch held near the end of the session, so there is no cost to JCC and no cost to attendees. Feedback on the Stormwater Seminars from the development community has been overwhelmingly positive as evidenced from the continued strong attendance and sponsorship support for each event.

According to one attendee from the June 2024 Seminar on Stormwater Regulatory Changes,

"Good Morning, I attended the Seminar on SWM Regulation, regarding the new CGP and Handbook details, Thursday 6/13. That was a very informative seminar, and I extend my deep appreciation for county hosting the event."

JCC regularly invites representatives from the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to attend and participate each seminar, if they are able, and invites them to join the closing panel discussion near the end of the event where attendees can ask questions of all the presenters.





Additional feedback from past attendees includes the following:

"It is always a pleasure working with you and everyone at James City County. I can't wait for the next seminar and am available for whatever you need - whenever you need it! It is so refreshing to see localities that are engaged and care about what they do and what's best for their citizens."

"I really think the seminar was a great event. I've never "felt" informed and comfortable with the whole deal before; but the seminar really put things in perspective, and made things very clear on "process" for me. Thanks again for making the time for it."

Over the past ten years, the Stormwater Seminars have presented information on pipe installation, site stabilization, project permitting, development of stormwater pollution prevention plans, and upcoming regulatory changes, providing excellent customer service and community outreach to citizens and the development community.