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# Drainage Easements

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## New Hanover County

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Engineering Department  
230 Government Center Dr Suite 160  
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### Property Owner Responsibility for Storm Water Conveyance

It shall be the **responsibility of individual property owners** of developed or undeveloped land within the unincorporated areas of the county, to maintain stormwater conveyance facilities, such as waterways, streams, creeks, ditches, swales, channels, canals, conduits and culverts, and stormwater control facilities, such as ponds and lakes **within their property**. (Where conditions of existing stormwater facilities are determined to be deficient and a public nuisance, and the property owner fails to correct the deficiencies after being notified by the county, the county may arrange for the deficiencies to be corrected and recover all costs thereto from the property owner.)

### Owner/ Developer/ Home Builder shall not:

- 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.

### Restriction on Owner/ Developer's Use of Easements

Owner/ Developer shall not erect buildings, structures, trees, fences, berms, or ponds within the drainage easement. Owner/ Developer shall grant no additional easements on, over, or within the drainage easement without first securing the written authorization of the New Hanover County Engineering Department.

### **ALL ENCROACHMENTS & OBSTRUCTIONS MUST BE REMOVED!**

If you are aware of any encroachments or obstructions into easements or drainage ways, please contact the New Hanover County Engineering Department at (910) 798-7139