



Legislation Text

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TITLE:

Annual Report on Surface Waters and Stormwater Management Activities

PURPOSE: The purpose of this agenda item is to provide the Board with an update on Town activities related to management of surface water and stormwater quality in the Town's jurisdiction. This includes requirements under the existing development provisions of the Jordan Lake rules and the Town's NPDES stormwater permit, and creek monitoring.

DEPARTMENT: Planning

CONTACT INFORMATION: Randy Dodd (919) 918-7326

INFORMATION: Town staff continue to be involved in implementation of state rules passed in 2009 to reduce nitrogen and phosphorus inputs to Jordan Lake. This report includes an update on required Town compliance activities related to the existing development section of the rules. For the past two years, retrofit projects have been identified and included in the Capital Improvements Program, and ongoing planning is occurring to assess the feasibility and effectiveness of retrofits at other sites. State and Council of Government (COG) staff and the Jordan Lake Nutrient Scientific Advisory Board are also actively working on initiatives of interest to the Town related to the Jordan Lake rules. The Town continues to pursue benthic monitoring as a primary indicator of stream health.

FISCAL & STAFF IMPACT: There is no fiscal impact associated with accepting this report. However, impact is anticipated over the next decade and potentially beyond to meet the requirements of the Jordan Lake rules, particularly as they pertain to retrofitting existing development. In 2011, staff developed a very preliminary and conservative estimate that it will cost the Town a minimum of \$3M to comply with the 8% nitrogen reduction requirement by 2023. Significantly higher costs could be incurred after 2023 to meet the 35% nitrogen reduction if a decision to pursue this reduction is pursued. Sources of funding may need to be identified to address this fiscal impact, for example from a stormwater utility, bonding, general revenue, or other sources yet to be identified. An increase in staff workload to address these requirements, in tandem with NPDES implementation, is also anticipated in future years.

RECOMMENDATION: The staff recommends that the Board of Aldermen consider the attached resolution accepting this report.