

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

If I grant an easement, is it still my property?

Yes. An easement does not take away ownership of your property. An easement grants another party access to a portion of the property for a specific use and protects the community's financial investment.

Is Storm Water Services easement voluntary?

Yes. An easement is voluntary, but our community relies heavily on cooperation from landowners. The health, beauty and quality of water in our creeks is dependent on stream improvement projects.

Can an easement be used for public access?

No. A Storm Water Services easement does not include public access, like greenways.

What is permitted in a Storm Water Services easement?

Trees, shrubs and other plants that hold together the creek's bank and overbank areas.



For more information

Call:

704-432-RAIN

Email:

floodinfo@MecklenburgCountyNC.gov

Visit:

StormWater.CharMeck.org

Watch:

bit.ly/Streamtoolkit



EASEMENTS

What is an Easement?

Frequently Asked Questions

Is an Easement Voluntary?



WHY DOES STORM WATER SERVICES ASK FOR A DONATED EASEMENT?

Storm Water Services invests tens of thousands of dollars improving your property along the creek at no cost to you. Most owners find this personally beneficial and aesthetically pleasing. Easements are typically in a portion of your property that will flood. There is rarely any impact to actively usable or developable portions of the property.



WHAT IS AN EASEMENT?

An easement is sometimes necessary to complete a stream enhancement project. It is a 'right of use' from a property owner to allow another party to cross or use their land for a specific and limited purpose.

Stream Enhancement typically includes removal of blockages, stabilizing the stream banks, installing rocks and logs in-stream and planting native vegetation.



WHY DOES STORM WATER SERVICES NEED AN EASEMENT?

Storm Water Services needs a property owner's permission to work on private property and to protect the public investment after the project is complete.



WHEN WORKING WITHIN AN EASEMENT, STORM WATER SERVICES MAY:

- Remove fallen trees and large debris causing blockages in the creek
- Repair severe creek bank erosion to protect further property loss and reduce soil pollution from harming water quality
- Restore and construct a new stable stream channel
- Inspect, monitor, and maintain the work that has been performed within the easement area
- Replant native grasses, bushes and trees as needed

WHAT SERVICES ARE NOT PROVIDED WITHIN AN EASEMENT?

- Does not clean up sticks, leaves or trash on private property after heavy rain or flooding
- Does not repair or replace private property damaged by stormwater runoff or flooding
- Does not guarantee the property will be free from all flooding and /or erosion



THANK YOU FOR GRANTING AN EASEMENT TO STORM WATER SERVICES

With a signed easement from the property owners, Storm Water Services can provide a safe, clean and reliable stream system all while protecting and aesthetically improving your property at no cost to you.