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## News Release

For Immediate Release: August 5, 2016

**Share!** Field crews in #Durham neighborhoods begin work on @DurhamStormH2O Eno River Watershed Improvement Plan <http://bit.ly/2aEuQev>

### Durham Begins Eno River Watershed Improvement Plan

*Field Crews to Start Work Near Cole Mill Road and Old Oxford Road*

DURHAM, N.C. – Durham residents in the Eno River watershed may soon see field crews in their neighborhoods as the City of Durham starts work on the [Eno River Watershed Improvement Plan](#).

Field work is set to begin this month near Cole Mill Road and Old Oxford Road to assess the health of this watershed and then identify and prioritize improvement projects. Field workers will wear safety vests and carry identifying credentials as well as have project information sheets available upon request.

According to Project Manager [Sandra Wilbur](#) with the [Stormwater & GIS Services Division](#) of the City's Public Works Department, the final plan will outline projects to improve water quality in the Eno River and help the City comply with water quality regulations. "Each watershed needs customized strategies to reduce the effects of pollution," Wilbur said. "An important step in developing those strategies for the Eno River is the field crews observing and documenting the conditions they find in the watershed."

According to Wilbur, field crews will first inspect streams in the watershed in order to examine plant life. Then, later this fall they will inspect more than 50 miles of stream for overall stream quality. As part of their assessment, field crews will look for signs of stream bank erosion, water quality problems, such as waste dumping, as well as restoration potential. They will also evaluate over 80 existing stormwater control devices to see if their water quality function can be enhanced.

The Eno River watershed extends through the town of Hillsborough and Orange County before reaching Durham. Much of the northern part of the city of Durham is located in the Eno River watershed. Other landmarks in the watershed are Durham County North Regional Library, Riverside High School, Eno Valley Elementary School, and West Point on the Eno Park.

As part of this process, the department will invite residents to review the field work results, provide input, and hear updates at several public information meetings to be scheduled throughout the course of the project. Residents can read more about this project and receive updates by visiting the [project Web page](#) as well as the department's [Facebook page](#) and [Twitter feed](#). For additional information, contact Wilbur at (919) 560-4326 ext. 30286 or by [email](#).

#### **About the Public Works Department Stormwater & GIS Services Division**

The [Stormwater & GIS Services Division](#) with the City of Durham [Public Works Department](#) is guided by the City's [Strategic Plan](#) goals of Stewardship of City's Physical and Environmental Assets as well as Innovative and High-Performing Organization. Activities include storm drainage design and plans review; inspecting and maintaining City-owned drainage systems; enforcing stormwater ordinances and regulations; education and outreach; stream monitoring, restoration, and watershed master planning; maintaining multiple layers of the City's geographic information; and stormwater billing. To learn more, visit the [Web page](#), like on [Facebook](#), and follow on [Twitter](#).

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