

- (excluding a crop of annual vegetation and seeding of target crop perennials appropriate for the region). Final stabilization applies to each phase of construction.
19. **Finished Grade:** The final elevation and contour of the ground after cutting or filling and conforming to the proposed design.
 20. **Grading:** Altering the shape of ground surfaces to a predetermined condition; this includes stripping, cutting, filling, stockpiling and shaping or any combination thereof and shall include the land in its cut or filled condition.
 21. **Ground Elevation:** The original elevation of the ground surface prior to cutting or filling.
 22. **Land-Disturbing Activity:** Any activity which may result in soil erosion from water or wind and the movement of sediments into state waters or onto lands within the state, including, but not limited to, clearing, dredging, grading, excavating, transporting, and filling of land but not including agricultural practices as described in Section III, Paragraph 5.
 23. **Larger Common Plan of Development or Sale:** A contiguous area where multiple separate and distinct construction activities are occurring under one plan of development or sale. For the purposes of this paragraph, "plan" means an announcement; piece of documentation such as a sign, public notice or hearing, sales pitch, advertisement, drawing, permit application, zoning request, or computer design; or physical demarcation such as boundary signs, lot stakes, or surveyor markings, indicating that construction activities may occur on a specific plot.
 24. **Local Issuing Authority:** The governing authority of any county or municipality which is certified pursuant to subsection (a) O.C.G.A. 12-7-8.
 25. **Metropolitan River Protection Act (MRPA):** A state law referenced as O.C.G.A. 12-5-440 et.seq. which addresses environmental and developmental matters in certain metropolitan river corridors and their drainage basins.
 26. **Natural Ground Surface:** The ground surface in its original state before any grading, excavation or filling.
 27. **Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTU):** Numerical units of measure based upon photometric analytical techniques for measuring the light scattered by finely divided particles of a substance in suspension. This technique is used to estimate the extent of turbidity in water in which colloiddally dispersed or suspended particles are present.
 28. **NOI:** A Notice of Intent form provided by EPD for coverage under the State General Permit.
 29. **NOT:** A Notice of Termination form provided by EPD to terminate coverage under the State General Permit.
 30. **Operator:** The party or parties that have: (A) operational control of construction project plans and specifications, including the ability to make modifications to those plans and specifications; or (B) day-to-day operational control of those activities that are necessary to ensure compliance with an erosion, sedimentation and pollution control plan for the site or other permit conditions, such as a person authorized to direct workers at a site to carry out activities required by the erosion, sedimentation and pollution control plan or to comply with other permit conditions.
 31. **Outfall:** The location where storm water in a discernible, confined and discrete conveyance, leaves a facility or site or, if there is a receiving water on site, becomes a point source discharging into that receiving water.
 32. **Permit:** The authorization necessary to conduct a land-disturbing activity under the provisions of this ordinance.
 33. **Person:** Any individual, partnership, firm, association, joint venture, public or private corporation, trust, estate, commission, board, public or private institution, utility, cooperative, state agency, municipality or other political subdivision of the State of Georgia, any interstate body or any other legal entity.
 34. **Phase or Phased:** Sub-parts or segments of construction projects where the sub-part or segment is constructed and stabilized prior to completing construction activities on the entire construction site.
 35. **Project:** The entire proposed development project regardless of the size of the area of land to be disturbed.
 36. **Properly Designed:** Designed in accordance with the design requirements and specifications contained in the "Manual for Erosion and Sediment Control in Georgia" (Manual) published by the Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission as of January 1 of the year in which the land-disturbing activity was permitted and amendments to the Manual as approved by the Commission up until the date of NOI submittal.