



1.1 Background and Purpose

The Knox County Stormwater Management Ordinance (No. O-YY-YY-YYY) was adopted by the Knox County Commission to take effect on xx/xx/xxxx (see Volume 1, Appendix A). The ordinance established the legal framework for reviewing building permits for stormwater management and floodplain management provisions and for requiring grading permits to control erosion and sedimentation problems. The Knox County Flood Damage Protection Ordinance (No. O-94-3-101) provides further regulation on floodplain management and development in floodplains. These regulations, policies and technical guidelines provided in this Stormwater Management Manual have been developed to assist in the implementation of the regulatory program established by the ordinances.

In addition to dealing with the potential for personal injury or property damage associated with the improper management of stormwater and floodplains, these ordinances secure the eligibility of Knox County to participate in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and the Community Rating System (CRS), which are administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The benefits of participation in these federal flood management programs are threefold. First, participation in the NFIP provides local property owners with the opportunity to purchase federal flood insurance. Second, participation in the CRS program may result in decreased costs of federal flood insurance for those property owners. Finally, inclusion in both programs allows Knox County to have a higher degree of eligibility for federal disaster funds beyond emergency relief, along with Federal Housing Administration and Veterans Housing Administration funds than communities that do not participate.