

Department Staff

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Community Development

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Compliance Officer

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Civil Engineer

Sherry Coffey,
Administrative Secretary

Regulatory Agencies

**United States Army Corps of Engineers
(USACE)**

Norfolk District
803 Front Street, ATTN: CENAO-TS-REG
Norfolk, VA 23510-1096
Phone: (757) 201-7652, Fax: (757) 201-7678
Websites: [http://www.nao.usace.army.mil/
regulatory/regulatory.html](http://www.nao.usace.army.mil/regulatory/regulatory.html)
[http://www.nao.usace.army.mil/Regulatory/
varegions.com](http://www.nao.usace.army.mil/Regulatory/varegions.com)

**Virginia Marine Resources Commission
(VMRC)**

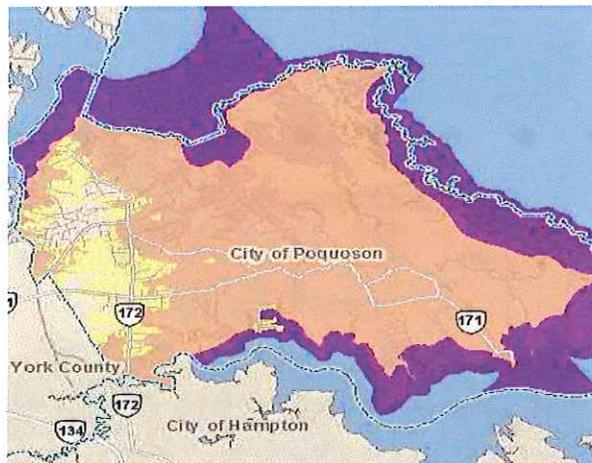
Habitat Management Division
2600 Washington Avenue, 3rd Floor
Newport News, VA 23607-0756
Phone: (757) 247-2200, Fax: (757) 247-8062
Website: <http://www.mrc.virginia.gov/index.htm>

**Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
(DEQ)**

Virginia Water Protection Program
Post Office Box 10009
Richmond, VA 23240
Phone: (804) 698-4000, Fax: (804) 698-4032
Websites: <http://www.deq.virginia.gov/>
[http://www.deq.virginia.gov/regions/
homepage.html](http://www.deq.virginia.gov/regions/homepage.html)

*The Virginia Marine
Resources Commission
coordinates the respective
permit review process for the
Joint Permit Application
which must also be reviewed
by the US Army Corps of En-
gineers and Poquoson Wet-
lands Board*

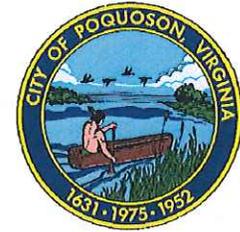
*Please look inside for more
details and
contact information.*



Community Development

**500 City Hall Avenue
Poquoson, Virginia 23662-1996**

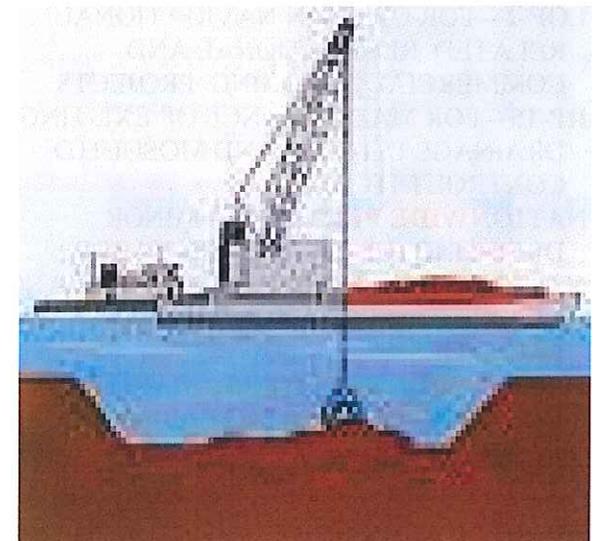
**Phone: 757-868-3040
Fax: 757-868-3105**



Community Development

**Department of Planning
& Engineering**

Overview of Local Dredging Projects



Although numerous local, state and federal agencies have jurisdiction over dredging projects, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is the primary responsible agency for dredging projects in tidal waters. Permits will be required from the Corps and possibly the Virginia Marine Resource Commission (VMRC) and the Poquoson Wetlands Board.

1. To begin the process, locate all previous information concerning when and how the channel was previously created or maintenance dredged and to what dimensions.
2. Review the following USACE Letter's of Permission (LOP-), Regional Permits (RP-) and Nationwide Permits (NWP). These can be found on-line at the USACE's Norfolk District web site. If the project fits into one of the existing permit categories, the permitting process may be greatly simplified.

LOP-2—FOR CERTAIN NAVIGATIONAL RELATED RECREATIONAL AND COMMERCIAL DREDGING PROJECTS

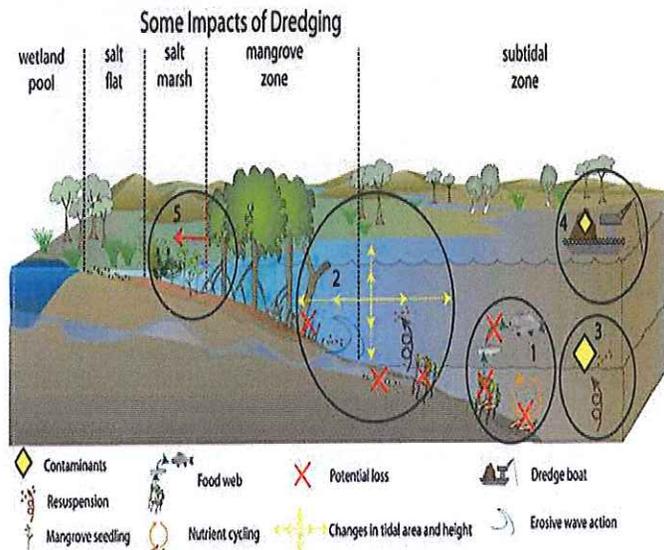
RP-15—FOR MAINTENANCE OF EXISTING DRAINAGE DITCHES AND MOSQUITO CONTROL DITCHES

NATIONWIDE PERMIT 19—MINOR DREDGING (UP TO 25 CUBIC YARDS)

NATIONWIDE PERMIT 31—MAINTENANCE OF EXISTING FLOOD CONTROL FACILITIES

NATIONWIDE PERMIT 35—MAINTENANCE DREDGING OF EXISTING BASINS

3. If the project does not fit one of the listed permits, it will be necessary to complete a Joint Permit Application (JPA) for a dredging project individual permit. Blank forms with instructions and helpful contacts are available on-line from the USACE's Norfolk District web site. Hard copies are available at the Planning & Engineering front desk.
4. The completed forms must be sent to the VMRC who in turn will notify the USACE, the necessary state agencies and local wetlands board. The USACE will notify all the required federal agencies and an individual permit will either be approved or denied by the applicable agencies.



There are numerous items of concern to be evaluated for a dredging project. One major question of the USACE is where the dredged material will be placed. The property owner must be concerned about the impact on other properties along the channel. Care must be taken not to undermine or damage existing bulkheads, seawalls, and other structures. Another issue is dredging to the desired width and depth while avoiding wetlands impacts as required by the regulatory agencies.

City Engineering staff can provide additional guidance, answer questions and help you begin the process.

Property owners may find it advantageous to hire an environmental engineering firm or dredging contractor to help apply for the proper permits.

Wetlands Board

Joint Permit Applications for tidal and non-tidal wetlands impacts are filed with the Virginia Marine Resources Commission. Upon distribution to several government agencies such as, but not limited to, the Department of Environmental Quality, the Army Corps of Engineers, and the local government, jurisdiction of the activity is established. When deemed within the jurisdiction of the City of Poquoson Wetlands Board, a public hearing for the application must be conducted. Advertisements, adjacent property owner notifications, and placement of a sign on the subject parcel follows the same process as BZA and Planning Commission requests. *Staff contact is Karen Holloway.*