



November 19, 2020

To Whom It May Concern,

The City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County (in partnership with the Towns of Cornelius, Davidson, Huntersville, Matthews, Mint Hill, and Pineville) have amended their existing Stormwater Pollution Control Ordinances ("Ordinances") which now include a prohibition on the use of pavement sealant products that contain high levels of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs). Effective January 1, 2021, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Storm Water Services (CMSWS) will begin enforcing this prohibition where pavement sealant products with PAH levels greater than 0.1% by weight can no longer be applied in the City of Charlotte, Mecklenburg County, and the Towns. Violations are subject to enforcement actions including a requirement to remediate and possible issuance of fines up to \$10,000 per day.

CMSWS completed a multi-year study of local streams and consistently found PAHs at levels harmful to aquatic life. While there are many potential sources of PAHs in the urban environment, multiple studies have shown that high PAH pavement sealant products are the primary source. Pavement sealant products containing low levels of PAHs, which are safer for the environment, are locally available at a comparable cost. If you hire, or have hired, a contractor to apply pavement sealant products, you should check to ensure a low PAH sealant is used. If you have a multi-year contract in place, you will want to make sure the vendor can use a low PAH sealant going forward.

CMSWS has developed an educational handout specific to the pavement sealing industry to assist businesses and contractors in achieving and maintaining compliance with these Ordinances. The handout is enclosed in this letter and is also available on Charlotte-Mecklenburg Storm Water Services' website:

<https://charlottenc.gov/StormWater/SurfaceWaterQuality/Documents/PAHSealants.pdf>

If you have any questions or concerns about how this applies to your business, please feel free to contact Olivia Edwards at 980-314-3213 or at Olivia.Edwards@MeckNC.gov.

Thank you for your time and cooperation,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marc Recktenwald".

Marc Recktenwald
Surface Water Quality & Environmental
Permitting Program Manager
Charlotte Storm Water Services

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rusty Rozzelle".

Rusty Rozzelle
Water Quality Program Manager
Mecklenburg County Storm Water
Services

