Due Date

None

Environmental Monitoring

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Predevelopment Monitoring

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The development process and preconstruction monitoring should begin as soon as possible, in order to establish a baseline to compare against future monitoring results. Water quality samples for the predevelopment background (baseline) study should be taken at the following locations:

- Upstream and downstream of the golf course development on adjacent major rivers, streams, or lakes, if present,
- Flowing tributaries, wetlands, and water features draining golf course development, if present,
- Any additional sites selected prior to development, and
- At upgradient and downgradient wells, as suggested by the hydrogeologist or regulatory agency.

Water Quality is typically assessed based on concentration of compounds measured in the water, but the volume of water is also a factor that can affect the concentration as well as assist in interpretation of results. Therefore, an assessment of the relative quantity of water at the time of sampling is also useful. This can be done by measuring the "stage" or water level at the time of sampling or the presence or absence of flow/discharge. This also helps to define whether a measured concentration is actually moving onto or off of the golf course area.

Four rounds of samples should be taken about three months apart, to cover the seasonal weather patterns for an entire year. At a minimum, at least one wet season and one dry season set of samples should be taken. Surface waterbodies are typically more dynamic than groundwater systems and therefore should be monitored more frequently.

Sampling parameters are determined based on golf course operation and basin-specific parameters of concern (these may be identified by FDEP's Total Maximum Daily Load [TMDL] Program). Typically, samples should be analyzed for nutrients, pH and alkalinity, sediments and suspended solids, dissolved oxygen (DO), heavy metals, and any pesticides expected to be used on the golf course. A stream or lake biodiversity analysis should also be conducted to characterize the predevelopment condition and every five years thereafter.

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