



## MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

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Martin O'Malley  
Governor

Robert M. Summers, Ph.D.  
Secretary

Anthony G. Brown  
Lieutenant Governor

March 29, 2012

Mr. Dan Bishop  
Ernest Maier, Incorporated  
4700 Annapolis Road  
Bladensburg, MD 20710

Dear Mr. Bishop:

Thank you for your recent email to the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), Water Management Administration (WMA) regarding the **PaveDrain<sup>®</sup>** articulating permeable paving surface. WMA has evaluated the product description and supporting information with respect to potential treatment applications in Maryland. We offer the following:

In Maryland, environmental site design (ESD) must be used to the maximum extent practicable (MEP) to reduce runoff and mimic natural hydrologic conditions. The use of ESD planning techniques and treatment practices must be exhausted before any approved structural practices may be used. The **PaveDrain<sup>®</sup>** pavers are a proprietary type of permeable pavement. Permeable pavements that are designed in accordance with the criteria found in Chapter 5 (see pp. 5.46 to 5.51) of the 2000 Maryland Stormwater Design Manual may be used to meet the ESD mandate. With respect to your product, the limiting criterion is the requirement that the pavement surface have a permeability of eight inches per hour or greater. WMA has reviewed your recent submittal and concurs that the results of recent independent testing conducted in accordance with ASTM C1701/C1701M-09 demonstrate that the **PaveDrain<sup>®</sup>** paver meets the surface permeability criterion. Therefore, WMA has no objection to this product's use as a permeable pavement provided all pertinent design criteria are met.

WMA has no objections to the use of **PaveDrain<sup>®</sup>** pavers for redevelopment, pretreatment, and retrofitting provided they are accepted locally. However, local jurisdictions may request that a letter from MDE/WMA be provided verifying product classification. Please consider this that letter. Thank you again for your interest. If you have any additional questions, please contact me at 410-537-3550 or [scomstock@mde.state.md.us](mailto:scomstock@mde.state.md.us).

Sincerely,

Stewart R. Comstock, P.E.  
Regulatory & Compliance Engineer  
Sediment, Stormwater & Dam Safety Program

