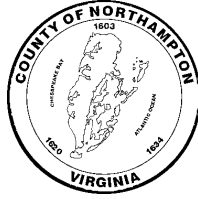


# NORTHAMPTON COUNTY



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## **Shrink – Swell Soils Policy 2000 Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code Section R 401.4**

The State of Virginia has identified soils in the Northampton County area as potential shrink-swell soils. All footings must have a minimum of 2 runs of # 4 or larger reinforcing steel (re-bar) evenly spaced, placed in the lower half of the footing. Footings wider than 16 inches must have one run of re-bar for every 8 inches (or portion thereof ) of footing width. Persons wishing to place footings without re-bar must submit a report from a Va. Licensed soils engineer, stating that the footings are adequate to support the structure without re-bar, and that shrink-swell soils will not adversely affect the structure.

### Examples:

- A footing that is 8 inches thick and 16 inches wide must have 2 runs of rebar in the bottom 4 inches of the footing.
- A footing that is 8 inches thick and 20 inches wide must have 3 runs of rebar in the bottom 4 inches of the footing.
- A footing that is 12 inches thick and 20 inches wide must have 3 runs of rebar in the bottom 6 inches of the footing.
- A footing that is 12 inches thick and 30 inches wide must have 4 runs of rebar in the bottom 6 inches of the footing.