

Proposed Construction Effluent Limitations Guidelines

EPA has proposed new guidelines to control the discharge of pollutants from construction sites. The proposal would require all construction sites to implement erosion and sediment control best management practices to reduce pollutants in stormwater discharges. In addition, for certain large sites located in areas of the country with high rainfall intensity and soils with high clay content, stormwater discharges from the construction site would be required to meet a numeric limit on the allowable level of turbidity. Turbidity is a measure of sediment in the water, likely requiring treatment or filtration of stormwater discharges. For more information on the proposal go to <http://www.epa.gov/ost/guide/construction/>. Comments on the proposed guidelines may be submitted until February 26, 2009.

Federal Economic Stimulus/Infrastructure Funding

Measures to stimulate the nation's economy have received much attention in Congress. The House passed legislation (HR 1) on Wednesday. The Senate legislation (S 336) is still in committees. Copies of both Bills can be found at <http://www.thomas.gov>. The House legislation has a higher level of funding for Clean Water Act projects than the Senate - \$6 billion versus \$4 billion. Generally, projects that are "shovel-ready" will get priority rankings for funding. The White House President has announced a website where you can monitor the implementation of the Act after it is adopted at <http://www.recovery.gov>.

2009 Survey of Southeastern Stormwater Utilities Released

The 2009 Survey of Stormwater Utilities has been sent to all identified stormwater utilities in Region IV. The first Survey was first conducted in 2007 so the 2009 Survey will also present trends in the characteristics of stormwater programs, utility rates and other practices within local government. If you completed last year's Survey, your jurisdiction's information is provided in the 2009 questionnaire – allowing for a quick review of previous responses.

All persons who respond to the Survey (SESWA member or not) will receive a copy of the final Report at no charge. If you have a stormwater utility and have not received a survey, please contact Gwen Erwin at 850/561-0904 or gwene@ksanet.net for more information.

2009 Annual Conference - Call for Presentation Proposals Released

The 4th Annual SESWA Conference will provide stormwater managers with innovative solutions to many of the day-to-day challenges in stormwater management. This year's theme will be *Coping with Change: Balancing Environmental Needs with Economic Realities*. The deadline to submit a presentation is February 27th! Watch for details about the Annual Conference on the SESWA website, <http://www.seswa.org/conferences.asp>.

The location of the Conference was moved to the Augusta (Georgia) Marriott on the Savannah River to be more centrally located for the membership. Sessions qualify for continuing education credits. On-line registration will open in April 2009.

SESWA Offers Spring Seminar in Atlanta

SESWA's spring Seminar - "LID, BMP and Stream Restoration: Tools for Water Quality Compliance" is set for Friday, April 24th at the Westin Atlanta North at Perimeter. As federal and state regulations continue to evolve and become more stringent, local governments are forced to consider new approaches to help assure that surface waters attain water quality standards. The Seminar will review key aspects of three approaches: Source control through Low Impact Development, pollutant removal through the use of stormwater Best Management Practices and the control of stream bank erosion using Stream Restoration techniques. It will provide you with an in-depth understanding of stormwater pollutants and how to select and implement LID, BMPs and stream restoration techniques to cost effectively meet your specific needs. Case studies will be included. Click on <http://www.seswa.org/seminars.asp> for more information and the registration form.

Regional Stormwater Partnership Forms near Charlotte

A Charlotte, NC-based Regional Stormwater Partnership was formed in 2007 through the Centralina Council of Governments as a forum for local stormwater professionals to work collaboratively on stormwater issues. The City of Charlotte is the largest member of the 24 municipality organization.

With matching funds from each of the Partnership members, the group received a Clean Water Management Trust Fund Grant. The grant is being used to continue a media campaign with the meteorologist at WCNC News Channel (<http://wncn.envirocast.net/>), purchase supplies for regional public involvement programs and fund quarterly Partnership meetings.

This past year the group has made great strides in working on mutual stormwater issues. Two demonstration BMP projects were funded, Adopt-A-Stream and Storm Drain Marking materials were developed and shared, and more than 40 original news segments were run on the local NBC affiliate station during the 5pm news broadcasts. Future projects for the group include a joint educational media buy, BMP Maintenance and Inspection Certification training and continued quarterly meetings.

Protecting Johnson's Branch

Hamilton County Water Quality Program and Emergency Response

As a Phase II Stormwater Program, Hamilton County, Tennessee's Water Quality Program has a responsibility to identify and eliminate illicit discharges into community waters under the provisions of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination Permit (NPDES) issued to the county by the State of Tennessee. In addition, the Program has responsibilities for administering and enforcing a program to reduce pollutants from construction site runoff. Runoff from firefighting operations can serve as the source of pollutants that may be considered illicit discharges due to the presence of contaminants from burned and partially burned materials, particularly when petroleum products and semi-volatile products are involved.



A fire at a construction site in the County on November 11, 2008, provided the Program an opportunity to apply its skills and abilities to control pollutants from fire suppression foam application and contaminated runoff from the fire and sediment resulting from overland flow of excess water from fire fighting equipment. Read about the quick clean water emergency response at <http://www.seswa.org/PDFs/TNHamiltonCountyEmergency.pdf>.