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Greetings!

Merry Christmas & Happy Holidays to all reading this newsletter! This Christmas we are grateful for the water quality provided by you, the ones who comply with and enforce the Clean Water Act. It's not an over statement to say that the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permitting Program is responsible for keeping water in our life and life in our water, especially now that our population is growing so fast!

I hope this Christmas season finds you joyful, healthy and in the spirit to celebrate America the Beautiful, where individual liberty is valued by so many and the reason why we have fishable and swimmable urban watersheds!

For more information about our classes, certification courses, webinars or customized field courses, please contact us at 678-469-5120.

Hope to see you next year!



WE HAVE A WINNER!!!

Congratulations Katelyn! I know you're going to enjoy your 1/2 day catching striped bass on Lake Lanier.

Thanks to all of you who responded to last months contest. Some of you were close in your answers, and some of you nailed them. That said, we had to pick a single winner from a hat so please try again when we offer another contest within the next 3

months.

FYI....the answers to last months questions are below.

Answers to the questions below are:

1) What does the acronym MS4 mean?

Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System

2) What does the acronym MSGP mean?

Multi Sector General Permit

3) Are NPDES permits required for "point sources"? Y/N

Yes, (it's the NPDES point source program that gives us the water quality we have in our urban centers today.)

4) What is the name of the application for NPDES Permit coverage?

Notice of Intent (NOI)

5) Write down two examples of non-point sources? Are non-point sources required to file a NOI for NPDES Permit coverage? *The winner chose:*

1. Runoff from agricultural sources, like excess fertilizer (non-discrete conveyance).
2. Snowmelt picks up pollutants as it travels over land (non-discrete conveyance).
3. No, non-point sources fall under Section 319....

GOOD LUCK!

Quick Links

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TECH TALK

Tech Talk is a forum for resolving MS4, erosion and sediment control or industrial permit-related problems from a technical perspective. Questions, when asked, are often submitted by the reader; answers are



provided by the NPDES Training Institute, [Southeast Environmental Consultants, LLC \(SEC\)](#) or other sources. The reader is solely responsible for the results if suggestions are implemented.

Longevity is a key goal of any good erosion prevention measure. This week's Project Highlight examines how city officials in Illinois combated bank erosion in an urban waterway area by utilizing an engineered vegetative solution that provided the requisite strength and stability while acting as an effective runoff buffer. This natural alternative to other more "traditional" solutions such as rip rap and concrete walls is still intact and fully functional 10 years after its installment, alongside the flourishing habitat it served as a foundation for. Learn more about the solution used and whether it might be a good one for your own project, below!

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USES



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For the NPDES Permittee, being able to **demonstrate your intent to comply** is paramount if you are to be protected from regulatory enforcement actions or third party lawsuits! WaterWatchPRO provides the first step in that regard by relaying daily rainfall data, without you as the superintendent having to worry about recording it yourself. Check it out, hundreds of people have and they love it!

COURSES

GSWCC

GEORGIA EROSION & SEDIMENT CONTROL INITIAL CERTIFICATION COURSES



Level 1A - Blue Card

Level 1B - Red Card

**Level II- Tan/Grey
Card**

RE-CERTIFICATION COURSES

Online Courses -

GEOS, Site Inspections & State Waters

Trees & Construction, Site Inspections & State Waters

Classroom Courses -

Level 1A - Level 1B or Level II

MS4CECI

Initial 2-Day Classroom/Field Course

CLASSROOM - [Click Here](#)

Recertification 4-Hour Course

ONLINE - [Click Here](#)

CLASSROOM - [Click Here](#)



Course Information

This 2-day course was developed and designed specifically for municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) compliance and enforcement personnel, field inspectors, stormwater managers and consultants, with a focus on MS4 stormwater permit compliance and enforcement responsibilities.

A course examination is conducted immediately following classroom instruction. Course attendees are required to achieve a minimum examination score of 70% for their 3-year MS4CECI Certificate.

The MS4CECI course was designed by federal, state and local regulatory personnel as well as stormwater consultants with over 100 years of combined experience in educating municipal storm sewer system (MS4) stormwater personnel to manage and perform stormwater inspections of municipal, commercial, industrial and construction activities. The 2-day seminar teaches federal and state stormwater laws as well as local ordinances, and provides instruction on how to properly comply with and enforce the various NPDES permits assigned for MS4s, construction sites and industrial facilities.

MS4GIT

MS4 Green Infrastructure Technician

The MS4GIT Course is a 1-day training experience focusing on Green Infrastructure BMPs and their installation & maintenance. Attendees will learn how to

identify and solve issues surrounding poor maintenance, as well as avoid GI failures entirely. This course was designed especially for stormwater managers, stormwater engineers and consultants, MS4 Inspectors and maintenance crews.



Upon completion, trainees will have learned to:

- Implement correct construction sequencing protocol for BMPs
- Understand how to read a BMP landscape plan
- Identify soil mixtures and calculate soil / material volumes
- Identify and select appropriate plants for BMPs
- Understand maintenance requirements of BMPs
- Identify common problems and solutions for BMPs
- Understand how to implement a landscape maintenance plan
- Evaluate plant performance and how to replace failing plants



[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)



MS4 Stormwater Inspector 4-Hour Online Course

What is a Hot Spot or Highly Visible Pollutant Source (HVPS)? Once you see it causing an illicit discharge, how are you supposed to inspect one as compared to at a construction site or industrial facility?

This course will give you the confidence you need to properly perform a facility inspection. Designed for the new inspector, we believe that knowledge is power, but only if it's properly applied. When you know what to do in the field, it's actually fun to work with the compliance community in protecting our watersheds, and that's what this course will help you do!

Everyone agrees that *we need to keep our watersheds clean* and it's the **MS4 Stormwater Inspector** that makes all the difference in that regard!

[CLICK HERE](#)
[for a Brief Video & Course Description](#)

Call Rita at 678-469-5120

or if you prefer you can email
Rita@npdestraining.com

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"Conservation is a great moral issue, for it involves the patriotic duty of ensuring the safety and continuance of our nation!" - Theodore Roosevelt

We all need to view NPDES Permit compliance (conservation) as an investment in our nation's future quality of life, so our children will also have an equally great place to live, swim, fish, boat and hunt tomorrow!

www.npdestraining.com
tlowen@npdestraining.com

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