



FEBRUARY 2020 NEWSLETTER



BEFORE

AFTER

NPDES Permit

Enforcement Protecting America's Beneficial Uses



678-469-5120

NPDES Stormwater Training Institute

CORONA VIRUS



Click Here to Watch the Video According to this great article by the Water **Environment Federation, the 2019 Coronavirus** is

the cause of a respiratory illness called Coronavirus disease (COVID-19), but as the number indicates it's not the only Corona Virus.

It was identified as the cause of an outbreak first detected in Wuhan, China on Dec. 12, 2019. The disease has begun to spread worldwide. This means it is important that water sector professionals keep informed on the attributions of this virus and any measures needed to protect both workers and public health, in general

This video below from the World Health Organization provides the basics on the disease as know at the video release date of Jan. 24, 2020.

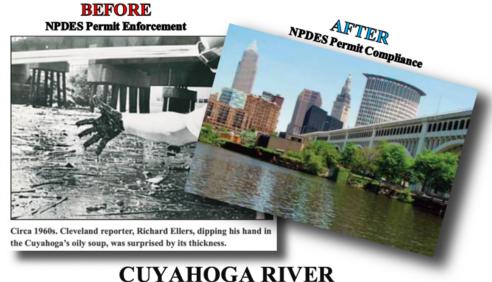
CLICK HERE to read the entire article

America's Water Quality comes with a price......

if industry complies with America's water quality laws.

Now that INDUSTRY is moving back to the United States and bringing much-needed jobs and a healthy economic outlook with them, we can't afford to forget what our water quality was like before industries moved out of our country to places like China, Indonesia, South America, etc. Many industries were polluting America's waterways and it was expensive to comply with America's NPDES discharge permits. For many companies it was cheaper to make their products overseas because of nonexistent or slack air and water quality laws, but now that they're coming back to the Clean Water Act and NPDES Permit accountability for water quality violations, whose going to enforce the requirements. We have already been told the USEPA is going to take a backseat approach and put most of the burden on states. The states are telling us they're going to lay enforcement inspections on the shoulders of local governments, otherwise known as municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s). So what's going to happen?

For contrast, take a look at much of Indonesia's water quality, and you will find polluters willingly violating laws set in place to protect people downstream. Logic holds that it is cheaper to produce goods in places where there is less regard for quality of life. In America, the same logic holds true. If local or state governments choose not to enforce clean water permits, polluted rivers and lakes are sure to follow - we're already seeing it with regard to nutrient pollution from agriculture. It's an unfortunate truth that the fear of paying big fines, stop work orders and possible jail







Good Water Quality Today Takes NPDES Compliance and Enforcement to Happen!

time is what motivates most pollutant dischargers to be good stewards of rivers and lakes, not just getting coverage under a NPDES Permit.

Why do companies like the NPDES Stormwater Training Institute work so hard to educate and empower people to comply with and enforce the NPDES permit program without apology? One needs only to look at these powerful <u>photos from the archives of the EPA</u>.

Clean Water in America's future is going to take local governments stepping up to the plate. Will MS4s be supported by our state and federal agencies....we'll have to see! Proper and effective enforcement takes involvement (ie pre-construction meetings/consistent regulatory inspections), where well informed

communication occurs between the permittee and regulator. There are simple steps any NPDES Permittee can follow to not only avoid polluting the surface waters, but also the lawsuits and significant fines that can result when pollutant discharges happen. Contact us for your training, this is what our knowledgeable and experienced trainers at the NPDES Training Institute do best!

T. Luke Owen, PG MS4CECI President, NPDES Stormwater Training Institute

UPCOMING CLASSES INITIAL CERTIFICATION COURSES



Level 1A Fundamentals Blue Card Click Here

Level 1B Advanced Fu ndamentals Red Card Click Here

Level II Introduction to Design Tan / Gray Card Click Here for Design Pros (Tan Card) and Plan Reviewers (Gray Card)

RECERTIFICATION COURSES - CLASSROOM

Classroom

Level 1A - Level 1B or Level II Click Here

* SPECIAL <u>SEDIMENT BASIN COURSE in AUGUSTA (Evans), GA</u> <u>Click Here</u>

Online

- Understanding GEOS, the NPDES General Permit & State Waters Click Here
- Trees and Their Design in Construction Click Here





MS4 Compliance & Enforcement Certified Inspector

Classroom

MS4CECI 2-Day Classroom/Field Course Click Here

MS4CECI - Classroom RECERTIFICATION Click Here Online

MS4CECI - Online Recertification Click Here

MS4GIT



MS4 Green Infrastructure Technician Click Here

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BUY THE NEW 2016 FIELD MANUAL

The NEW 2016 version of the FIELD MANUAL. It is NOT THE GREENBOOK.







GEORGIA LEGISLATIVE UPDATE House Bill 422 ES&PC Plan Review Options

HB 422 - By Rep. Tim Barr (R-Lawrenceville) Amended version would allow non-Local Issuing Authorities (LIA) two new options for soil and erosion plan review.

Currently, a non-LIA government must use EPD for soil and erosion plan review. This bill would allow a non-LIA government to contract with an LIA government within their water district for plan review or allow a non-LIA to employ or contract with an individual with Level 2 Design status for in-house plan review.

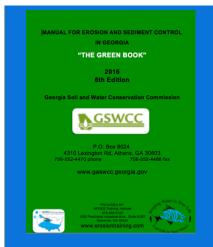
WOTUS UPDATE FINAL RULE



On January 23, 2020, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Department of the Army (Army) finalized the Navigable Waters Protection Rule to define "waters of the United States" (WOTUS). For the first time, the agencies are streamlining the definition so that it includes four simple categories of jurisdictional waters, provides clear

exclusions for many water features that traditionally have not been regulated, and defines terms in the regulatory text that have never been defined before. Congress, in the Clean Water Act, explicitly directed the Agencies to protect "navigable waters." The Navigable Waters Protection Rule regulates these waters and the core tributary systems that provide perennial or intermittent flow into them. The final rule fulfills Executive Order 13788 and reflects legal precedent set by key Supreme Court cases as well as robust public outreach and engagement, including pre-proposal input and comments received on the proposed rule. The final rule will become effective 60 days after publication in the Federal Register. Once effective, it replaces the rule published on October 22, 2019. The Navigable Waters Protection Rule was the second step in a two-step process to review and revise the definition of "waters of the United States" consistent with the February 2017 Presidential Executive Order entitled " Restoring the Rule of Law, Federalism, and Economic Growth by Reviewing The Waters of the United States." This final rule will become effective 60 days after publication in the Federal Register and will replace the Step One Rule published in October, 2019.

WHY IS CERTIFICATION SO IMPORTANT?



OR
DOWNLOAD A
FREE COPY of the
Green Book here!

AS OF JULY 1, 2016 ONLY
THE 2016 EDITION
GREENBOOK CAN BE
USED IN GEORGIA.



START A FREE TRIAL





Certification courses, when **taught by an experienced trainer and good communicator**, are one of the most effective ways of learning and subsequently demonstrating your knowledge and proficiency for stormwater treatment system design, compliance and enforcement.

Being certified is like being licensed to operate a vehicle. Your card demonstrates your willingness and ability to perform your duties in a highly professional manner, ensuring that your actions do not damage the financial health of your employer, the physical health of the people downstream and/or the aquatic habitat of the adjacent waterway. Certification shows others that you are knowledgeable, competent and that you understand the legal and technical i mplications behind the NPDES permitting program and its mission of holding responsible individuals accountable for damage caused to others downstream!

WE GUARANTEE OUR TRAINING

We promise to <u>deliver more!</u> Our reputation is built on providing trainers that know their stuff and care about their students. **PLUS**, **you will NEVER pay twice for the same course if you don't pass the test!**

<u>CLICK HERE</u> to register for an erosion and sediment control course, MS4 Compliance and Enforcement Certified Inspector course or an MS4 Green Infrastructure Technician Course.

EFFECTIVE MS4 & LIA ENFORCEMENT is critical to America's Quality of Life

Our population is <u>tremendously r eliant</u> on **state enforcement** and moreso on <u>local enforcement efforts</u> that ensure our streams, rivers, lakes and coasts are

protected.

Research shows:





5% will violate water quality laws no matter

20% will comply with water quality laws no matter what, and

75% will comply only with effective local enforcement!

"Improving the Efficiency and Effectiveness of Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement of **Environmental Policies**"

Cheryl Wasserman

USEPA





MORE STORMWATER CONFERENCES & TRAINING EVENTS



SOUTHEAST STORMWATER ASSOCIATION (SESWA) (UPCOMING CONFERENCES)



GEORGIA ASSOCIATION OF WATER PROFESSIONALS (UPCOMING CONFERENCES)



GEORGIA RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION (GRWA) (UPCOMING CONFERENCES)



INTERNATIONAL EROSION CONTROL ASSOCIATION SE CHAPTER (UPCOMING CONFERENCES)



WATER ENVIRONMENT FEDERATION -WATER'S WORTH IT! (UPCOMING CONFERENCES)



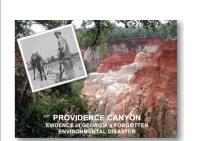
Inspections, Dust **Control or Sediment** Basins? **CALL JIM SPOTTS**

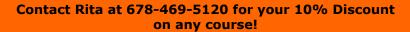
NEED HELP with Site

770-216-9514 southeastenvironment alconsultants.com

10% DISCOUNT







USE CODE CleanWater!

HERE'S TO TIGHT LINES & GOOD TIMES in Clean, Abundant Water!

Respecting our neighbors downstream is what America is all about and it's the us do that! It's OUR CHILDREN that will be <u>living through decisions</u> we make today. NPDES is an investment into our nation's future generations, so they also can have an equally

great place in which to

"Conservation means development as much as it does protection. NPDES permit that helps I recognize the right and duty of this generation to develop and use the natural resources of our land but I do not recognize the right to waste them, or to rob, by wasteful use, the generations that come after us."

live, swim, fish, boat and hunt tomorrow!



Sincerely, NPDES TRAINING INSTITUTE

T. Luke Owen, PG President

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