



## FEBRUARY 2021 NEWSLETTER



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Greetings!

NPDES Permitted Construction Sites in the USA became Stormwater Treatment Systems as they were defined as pollutant sources in the Clean Water Act. Sediment is the primary pollutant of concern they're tasked to remove from their discharges that flow into our watersheds. Southeastern states are famous for their hard hitting rain events, some states averaging up to 75 inches of rain/year. That volume of rain hitting a single acre of exposed sediment can severely bury a creek, river, lake or coastal bay over the course of a single rain event, IF preventing erosion is not a big consideration in the mind of a land developer.



That said, it's incumbent upon the superintendent, local enforcement officer and state or federal regulatory authority to understand the difference between the NPDES regulated stormwater treatment system with implemented devices to keep our watersheds clean, and a construction site with a completely different agenda, that of finishing a project under budget and ahead of schedule. Operators of the Stormwater Treatment System are most often the same individuals tasked to bring said projects to completion within those budget and timeline parameters.

The end result of a successful construction project cannot be at



the expense of our sensitive watersheds. The Superintendent as the Stormwater Treatment System Operator must have the support of his upper management who understands a "successful" project is not only one that comes in under budget and ahead of schedule, but also protects water quality and property values down stream through NPDES permit compliance. That means effective SWPPP implementation of best management practices (BMPs)

that prevent erosion via ground cover like ryegrass, millet, grassing, mats, blankets, anchored mulch, etc., in order to more effectively control the sediment through structural devices like silt fences, check dams, sediment traps, etc.

Call us at 678-469-5120, visit [www.npdestraining.com](http://www.npdestraining.com) or email us at [Rita@npdestraining.com](mailto:Rita@npdestraining.com) to learn more about how you can accomplish both a successful construction project as well as keep our watersheds clean.

Sincerely, T. Luke Owen, PG MS4CECI MS4GIT

## Quick Links



[CHECK EXAM RESULTS](#)

[COURSE SCHEDULE](#)

[NEWSLETTER ARCHIVES](#)



## TECH TALK

*Tech Talk is a forum for resolving erosion and sediment control and/or construction related problems from a technical perspective. Questions are submitted by the reader; suggestions may be from the NPDES Training Institute, [Southeast Environmental Consultants, LLC \(SEC\)](#) or other sources. The reader is solely responsible for the results, if suggestions are implemented.*



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## CONTRACTOR'S CORNER

By Dr. Dirt

Volume 19 Issue 3

### Solving Erosion and Sediment Problems In The Field

#### The problem:

What is the first BMP that people see on your site? That's right, your construction exit/entrance. No one wants your dirt on their street! If yours looks like this, you have a problem that can be prevented.



This is a common problem when you do not have a geotextile underliner beneath your materials and when the stone size is not correct.



#### The problem can be minimized by: addressing three aspects



Let me propose- 3 aspects:

- Aggregate stone
- Length & width
- The tire wash area



#### 1. Aggregate Stone:

Voids in smaller-sized stone keep the dirt on the surface and available for your tires to track it off-site

Voids in larger-sized stone promote movement of dirt down from the surface. Tires can't track it out.

-1-

### HVPS Training for the MS4 Inspector

What is a Highly Visible Pollutant Source (HVPS) and how am I supposed to inspect one? What does HVPS have to do with keeping our watersheds clean? Click on photo to the right for a brief site walk on a HVPS. The number and amount of pollutants sitting on the parking lot surface will amaze you. We need to keep our watersheds clean and it's the MS4 Stormwater Inspector that can make all the difference! The next 4-hour training is March 24th.

[Register Now](#)





# YES, We Can Travel To You!

For More Information or to Schedule a Class

**678-469-5120**

or

[Rita@npdestraining.com](mailto:Rita@npdestraining.com)

## **GSWCC**

### **GEORGIA EROSION & SEDIMENT CONTROL**

#### **INITIAL CERTIFICATION COURSES**



**Level 1A - Blue Card**

**Level 1B - Red Card**

**Level II- Tan/Grey  
Card**

### **RE-CERTIFICATION COURSES**





## Filter Ring

Fr



### DEFINITION

A temporary stone barrier constructed at storm drain inlets and pond outlets.

### PURPOSE

This structure reduces flow velocities, preventing the failure of other sediment control devices. It also helps prevent sediment from leaving the site or entering drainage systems, prior to permanent stabilization of the disturbed area.

## SEDIMENT BASINS

4 PDHs

Whether it's Filter Rings, Baffles, Flocculants or a Surface Skimmer, Dr. Jim Spotts and I provide training on how to integrate Best Management Practices (BMPs) into the site plan so your sediment basin can actually do its job and prevent sediment from entering our watersheds.

We hope to see you at our next class!

[Sediment Basins - REGISTER HERE](#)

## Online Courses -

**GEOS, Site Inspections & State Waters**

**Trees & Construction, Site Inspections & State Waters**

## Classroom Courses -

**Level 1A - Level 1B or Level II**

# STORMWATER COURSES



## WE GUARANTEE OUR TRAINING!

Our reputation is built on providing YOU the best stormwater education, taught by **EXPERIENCED INSTRUCTORS** that know how to effectively teach!

**You NEVER pay twice for the same course you take from us, EVEN if you don't pass the test!**

## MS4CECI

Initial 2-Day Classroom/Field Course

CLASSROOM - [Click Here](#)

Recertification 4-Hour Course

ONLINE - [Click Here](#)

CLASSROOM - [Click Here](#)



## The MS4 Stormwater Inspector Course 4-Hour Online

[CLICK HERE](#)

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

**Call Rita at 678-469-5120**  
or if you prefer you can email  
**[Rita@npdestraining.com](mailto:Rita@npdestraining.com)**

**[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)**

**We're Here to Serve You!**

## 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



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**We Can't Give Up on Demanding  
NPDES Permit Compliance from  
Polluters!**

**Even When They're American Cities!**

*America's past water pollution and the severe modern day pollution found in some American cities, as well as countries like China and India, send a resounding message of the importance of NPDES permit compliance. What cities like [Los Angeles \(see right\)](#) are doing is inexcusable in*



*America. They are willingly violating their MS4 Permit by pressure washing human excrement and other pollutants directly down their storm drains. Los Angeles, Seattle and others are just another reminder of how important it is that we Americans demand compliance with Clean Water Act NPDES rules & regulations! Every time you go fishing or jump in the lake to take a swim, be grateful for our NPDES permitting program that makes it all possible. Respecting our neighbors downstream is what America is all about and it's compliance with NPDES Permits that helps us do that!*



*"We all need to view NPDES Permit compliance 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! " T. Luke Owen*

Sincerely,

*T. Luke Owen, PG MS4CECI MS4GIT*

Owner/Operator - Principal Trainer

[www.npdestraining.com](http://www.npdestraining.com)

[tlowen@npdestraining.com](mailto:tlowen@npdestraining.com)

