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Greetings!

Have you ever noticed how hard it is to shed a bad reputation, and yet how easy it is to lose a good one? When it comes to NPDES Permit compliance, I've seen companies lose their good reputation with one bad project, and have also seen companies with bad reputations never recover from that fact even after improving and intensifying their efforts to comply with NPDES.

The Georgia Department of

Transportation (GDOT) has been working under a dark cloud of permit non-compliance that was prevalent over a decade



ago. Today, however, GDOT and most of their

contractors put a lot of thoughtful effort into managing stormwater runoff on their sites.

It's easy to overlook good behavior when you remember all the former bad years, but with all the negativity flowing like rivers today, it's necessary that we make it a habit to look for the present good!



Could you use some professional help with your compliance and training challenges? Call Rita at 678-469-5120 or email us at Rita@npdestraining.com.
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.

CONTRACTOR'S CORNER

Volume 19 Issue 1

Solving Erosion and Sediment Problems In The Field





WE ARE HERE TO TRAIN YOU SAFELY (in the Classroom or Online)



YES, We Can Travel To You!

For More Information Call 678-469-5120

Email Us at:
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

SEDIMENT BASINS 4 PDHs

<u>Click here</u> for a brief video discussing the importance of erosion prevention, but secondly and just as importantly, proper sediment barrier installation. 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

MS4 Compliance & Enforcement
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INITIAL Course

MS4CECI 2-Day Classroom/Field Course Click Here

MS4CECI RECERTIFICATION Courses

ONLINE - Click Here

CLASSROOM - Click Here



MS4 Stormwater Inspector Course 4-Hour Online

NOTE: This course **is not** the Full 2-day MS4CECI Course!

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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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

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER



Did you know Beaver Dams can actually help clean our surface waters? The Atlanta Department of Watershed Management (DWM) recently announced that Beaver Dam Analogs (human-constructed structures that mimic natural beaver dams), also called BDA's, have been installed at the Blue Heron Nature Preserve and have made a positive difference in the watershed. The goal of the project was to implement an innovative wetland restoration strategy using BDAs to reduce sediment pollution, improve stream hydrology, restore habitat conditions, and reconnect wetland and flood storage areas. Beaver dams are known to create significant environmental benefits, including higher water tables, reconnected floodplains, higher baseflows, expanded wetlands, improved water quality, greater habitat complexity, increased wildlife diversity, and more complex ecosystems.

The BDAs were fully installed in September 2020, and educational signage will be installed in early 2021. Now

that the BDAs are installed and functional, the project will be closely monitored and maintained using an adaptive management strategy.



Too Much Rain?

By Gene Norman, President WaterWatch PRO

Is there such a thing as too much rain? Yes — and it's a trend we're all experiencing more frequently lately. Not only are landfalling tropical systems becoming increasingly wetter, but also, regular thunderstorms are depositing devastating deluges. Knowing about heavy rainfall events and having a plan should be a key part of your BMP.

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

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