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Greetings!

Those of us who work in the stormwater sector are well aware of the "niche" job we have. The blank looks I've received over the years from neighbors and acquaintances when I answer their question, "what do you do?" attests to this fact. I love explaining in more depth what I do, its importance and why I love my job. Recently I was able to explain to my very curious and observant 3-year old granddaughter (pictured in the photo here with her first caught fish!) that when people leave trash on the ground, it becomes pollution and is bad for our waterways. Consequently, one of her new favorite activities is to collect the "pollution" she finds on the ground while out for walks with her grandpa – who quickly accumulates a collection of trash to carry back home and dispose of!



Whenever we have the opportunity to talk about the fight for water quality to our friends, neighbors, family, and any peers who are in what I call our "inner circle of influence," we have the opportunity to educate and empower another person to take their own steps to safeguard our local waterways. Every gesture counts! From cleaning up after a pet to recycling motor oil correctly, using lawn fertilizer properly or vegetating bare areas in their yard, the people we have a connection to in our neighborhood and community have opportunities every day to make a difference when it comes to protecting their local watershed, and you are in a unique position to be able to share the knowledge you have

with them in order to enable them to do so. Don't discount that fact, or feel hesitant to speak about what you know – the quality and future of the water we all share depends on it.

In the name of sharing, the below article contains a number of suggestions that can be easily implemented by any home, car or pet owner to prevent stormwater runoff pollution on their own property. Pass these on to the people in your life; the fight for clean water needs them!

www.uaex.edu/environment-nature/water/stormwater/nwastormwater/10_things.aspx

And to help individuals understand how stormwater affects them and why it should be a topic worthy of talking about at the dinner table, here's a bonus article entitled "Why Should I Care About Stormwater?"

<https://extension.psu.edu/why-should-i-care-about-stormwater>

Don't hesitate to contact us at 678-469-5120, visit our website at www.npdestraining.com/ or shoot us an email at Rita@npdestraining.com to learn more about how we can help you keep our watersheds clean.

Sincerely, T. Luke Owen, PG MS4CECI MS4GIT



A few questions.....

- 1) What **3 Types of Erosion** do you see happening during this rain event?
- 2) How can the permittee best prevent all three?
- 3) Given that a 1" rain produces 27,154 gallons of

stormwater hitting an open construction site with an equivalent force of 113 tons of energy; what are the 3 considerations a responsible Design Professional/Plan Reviewer need to consider when placing BMPs on the design?

Answers can be sent to tlowen@npdestraining.com. We will discuss in the next Newsletter!

Quick Links



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Is your project prepared like this one to keep the dirt out of our urban creeks, rivers & lakes?

August 1 - August 10, 2018		
Wed	68° / 73°	80% Chance of Storms
Thu	73° / 68°	80% Chance of Storms
Fri	78° / 69°	60% Chance of Storms
Sat	83° / 69°	50% Chance of Storms
Sun	84° / 70°	40% Chance of Storms
Mon	85° / 70°	40% Chance of Storms
Tue	87° / 70°	40% Chance of Storms

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.

Question:

"How can I make sure I'm preventing sediment run-off from my construction site during thunderstorm events?"

Answer:

The short answer is....Do your best to design, install and maintain your BMPs! Our "Updated Guidance for NPDES Permit Construction Compliance" guide (link below) is a great resource to help NPDES construction sites stay out of hot water while keeping the dirt out of our creeks. A proper design and installation and maintenance of BMPs is the key!

Remember, it's up to you as the owner and/or operator of a stormwater treatment system to always have documentation on hand that verifies your NPDES inspection and maintenance efforts to comply with your Permit. We hope this helps!

<https://npdestraining.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/GUIDE-for-NPDES-PERMIT-COMPLIANCE-2-15-19.pdf>



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For More Information or to Schedule a Class

678-469-5120

or

Rita@npdestraining.com



USES



**CLICK TO START
A FREE TRIAL**



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 to that demonstration by relaying daily rainfall data without the superintendent having to worry about recording it himself. 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](#)



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 Course 4-Hour Online

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

This course will give you the confidence you need to properly perform a facility inspection. Believe it or not, 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

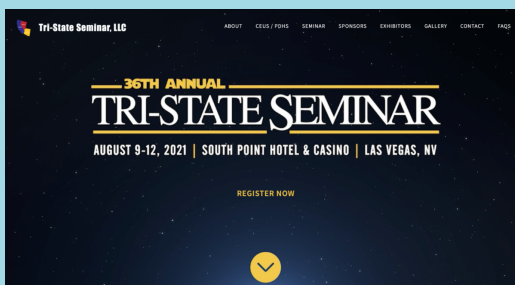
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Luke Owen with the NPDES Stormwater Training Institute has provided a customized MS4 Compliance and Code Enforcement Inspector training at this popular EPA Region 9 seminar for years. Click the Tri-State Seminar photo

on the left to learn more about this powerful seminar for Arizona, California and Nevada water quality professionals. August 9, 2021

Luke Owen with the NPDES Stormwater Training Institute is also proud to provide the 2-day MS4 Compliance and Enforcement Certified Inspector training as well as speaking services at this excellent regionally based seminar.

Click the Indiana MS4 Partnership photo to learn more about this powerful stormwater-focused seminar for Indiana MS4s and consulting companies. October 26, 2021



We Must Demand that American Cities Comply with Their Own NPDES Permits!



How can a city government hold a general contractor or industrial operator accountable for NPDES compliance when they themselves are in major violation of their own permit requirements?

The message [Los Angeles](#)

(see above) is sending their residents when they blow off common sense water quality do's and don'ts is inexcusable in America and part of the reason people are leaving Los Angeles. The City (with obvious tolerance from the State) is willingly violating its MS4 Permit by pressure washing human excrement, syringes and other pollutants directly down their storm drains. Los Angeles, Portland, Seattle and others are just another reminder of how important it is that we Americans demand their 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 the our NPDES permitting program that makes it all possible IF polluters are made to comply. 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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