



NOVEMBER 2021 NPDES Newsletter

NPDES – America's most effective water conservation program!



www.npdestraining.com
678-469-5120



[Visit our website](#)

[View All Courses](#)

Greetings!

This month I hope everyone receiving this newsletter is **THANKFUL** for our rivers, lakes and coastal bays! Viewing a construction site as a water treatment system and not a stormwater management system is one way to express your gratitude for the amazing quality of life the construction industry gives us as well as our water quality. Viewing a construction site as a



stormwater treatment system is critical if the project is to have any chance at reducing the massive load of sediment from entering the downstream water body. Understanding the definitions of erosion and sedimentation is an important first step. Erosion is the process of water, wind or other natural agents gradually wearing down soil, rock or land. Sedimentation is the process of the settlement or deposition of the eroded particles (i.e. sediment).

The National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permitting program regulates the discharge of pollutants into streams, rivers, lakes or coastal areas from recognized pollutant sources. Earlier in America's history of reclaiming our watersheds, the importance of regulating pollutant dischargers became obvious. Many state and city governments, as well as industrial manufacturing companies ignored or willingly violated water quality standards established in the Clean Water Act. It wasn't until enforcement of

NPDES Permit requirements that we saw a dramatic improvement of our nation's waterways. Today, sewage and industrial pollutant sources in America are largely under control. Now, it's polluted stormwater from industrial, municipal and construction sites that pose a huge threat to our sustainability. When rainfall comes in contact with the ground surface, petroleum hydrocarbons, heavy metals fertilizers, insecticides from landscaped areas, bacteria from pet waste, soil from land disturbed areas and a myriad of other pollution concerns are all a part of our problem with maintaining healthy watersheds (i.e. good water quality).



The Erosion, Sedimentation and Pollution Control Plan (ES&PC Plan, otherwise known as the SWPPP) details a list of practices used to prevent erosion and control sedimentation within the site boundaries. This dual-focused approach is important if the project is to be successful at reducing sediment pollution in our watersheds. Coupling erosion prevention techniques with sediment controls is critical. Erosion-preventing

practices intercept raindrops before they impact the ground and dislodge the soil particles. Poorly-timed installation of erosion controls leaves them susceptible to the erosive forces found in wind and rain. For example, an intense rain event can exceed the capabilities of properly installed erosion prevention devices, whereby structural controls to encourage onsite sedimentation are necessary. In other words, the second line of defense becomes the sediment controls. Sediment controls capture, block and/or filter sediment, thereby reducing or eliminating the load from leaving the site. The filtering nature of certain sediment controls (i.e. silt fences, check dams, baffles, etc.) means that even the best installations will still allow the transmission of some of the smallest soil particles. That said, damaged or poorly maintained sediment control practices, otherwise known as best management practices (BMPs), can allow muddy runoff to completely bypass its designed flow path.

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

Sincerely, T. Luke Owen, PG MS4CECI MS4GIT



A Few Questions About NPDES Stormwater Permits.....

Copy and paste the questions below with your answers and send them to tlowen@npdestraining.com. A winner will be drawn from the pool of people with the most correct answers. The winner will receive a **FREE 1/2 day Guided Fishing Trip on Lake Lanier**. Guided fishing will be with Clay Cunningham who owns and operates "Catching Not Fishing"; one of the top guides on the lake!

- 1) What does the acronym MS4 mean?
- 2) What does the acronym MSGP mean?
- 3) Are NPDES permits required for "point sources"? Y/N
- 4) What is the name of the application for NPDES Permit coverage?
- 5) Write down two examples of non-point sources? Are non-point sources required to file a NOI for NPDES Permit coverage?
 - 1) _____
 - 2) _____

GOOD LUCK!

Quick Links

[CHECK EXAM RESULTS](#)

[COURSE SCHEDULE](#)

[NEWSLETTER ARCHIVES](#)



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.

Sediment Trap or Sediment Basin, What's the Difference?

Sediment traps and basins are settling ponds formed by excavation and/or an **embankment** that intercept and retain sediment-laden runoff from a construction site for a sufficient period of time to allow the majority of sediment to settle out prior to being released from the site. They may be constructed as smaller sediment traps – serving disturbed areas of less than five acres – or as larger sediment basins, handling mass grading runoff from subdivisions, commercial/institutional sites, or roadway projects. Proper use of these structures can greatly reduce sediment transport off-site; if properly designed, installed, and maintained, sediment removal efficiency of 80 percent or greater can be achieved, depending on **soil particle size**. Sediment traps are often temporary and usually decommissioned after the disturbed area is stabilized (i.e., with vegetation or other cover). Temporary sediment basins can be converted to **permanent stormwater management** basins after construction is complete. Sediment traps and basins are very useful on construction sites with moderate to **steep slopes**. The selection of traps versus basins primarily depends on the size of the **contributing drainage area** and plans for post-construction stormwater management, as discussed below.

[Read More](#)

Minnesota Stormwater Manual



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!**



YES!!! We Can Travel To Where You Work!

Call Us So We Can Help Make Your Job Easier!

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 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

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

We're Here to Serve You!

**10% Off any
course**

Claim Now

For the Hunter & Fisherman,
EVERY DAY is EARTH DAY!



"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!

Sincerely,

T. Luke Owen, PG MS4CECI MS4GIT

www.npdestraining.com

tlowen@npdestraining.com



