



April 2017 Newsletter



Respecting property values of people downstream is considerate and demonstrates American values!



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You're going to like this newsletter, I guarantee it!

The problem with NPDES General Permit compliance is most permittees don't read their permit and consequently unknowingly violate it, but we're going to change that by making it really simple. Not viewing the construction site as a stormwater treatment system is the reason important compliance issues like inspections, monitoring and maintenance of BMPs are not properly performed and reported. I believe the attached [Helpful Guide](#) can help you win the next finger pointing blame game contest you might face when it rains hard on your site.



We all know by now that the NPDES General Permit, when followed, will protect the creeks, lakes and financial health of the Permittee like nothing else can do. The Notice of Intent (NOI) commits the permittee to following the rule book and a "properly filed" Notice of Termination (NOT) ends the required compliance efforts for the project. It's been proven over and over again that by embracing compliance with the NPDES General Permit, watersheds are healthier and Americans are happier.

I've also listed below, a few questions to ask yourself that I believe will help in your permit compliance efforts. Here they are.....

- When your company forks out the money to pay for design, installation and maintenance of BMPs, do your records demonstrate your intent to comply? Have you considered taking pictures to have extra proof of your installation and maintenance efforts?



- Are you adjusting & maintaining best management practices (BMPs) on your stormwater pollution prevention plan (in Georgia known as your ES&PC Plan) as rain events come and go?
- Is your documentation complete with signature and filed on site or in a readily available location to cover you and show your "intent to comply" with the NPDES General Permit?
- Are your daily, weekly & 1/2 inch rain and monthly inspection forms accurate and current?

- Do you have evidence of your BMP deficiencies and your maintenance efforts. Also, is your ES&PC Plan current and onsite?
- When you have violations, do your records show you reported them within 14 days? This is a commonly misunderstood requirement of permit compliance. It's good thing for you to report your violations & the effort you went through to get back in compliance.
- Have you considered communicating with the Home Owners Association or other land owners down stream, so they know you all do your best to prevent a catastrophe on their creek and/or properties. Are you prepared to fix the damage quickly?

Hope this helps you as our country grows economically while protecting our precious water resources!

"Here's to tight lines and good times in clean abundant water!"

*T. Luke Owen, Principal Trainer
NPDES Stormwater Training Institute*

UPCOMING CLASSES

WE ALSO PROVIDE CUSTOMIZED ONSITE TRAINING AT YOUR PLACE



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Level 1A Fundamentals ([Blue Card](#)) [Click Here](#)

- April 25 - Norcross
- April 26 - McDonough
- May 1 - Cartersville

May 5	- Conyers	
May 5	- Lawrenceville	
May 8	- Marietta	RECERTIFICATION - Sediment Basin Installation & Maintenance
May 11	- Cartersville	RECERTIFICATION
May 12	- Marietta	
May 18	- Columbus	
May 19	- Columbus	RECERTIFICATION
May 22	- Augusta	
May 23	- Augusta	RECERTIFICATION
May 23	- Norcross	RECERTIFICATION
May 25	- Norcross	
May 25	- Gainesville	
June 2	- Conyers	

Level 1B Advanced Fundamentals (Red Card) [Click Here](#)

May 8	- Marietta	RECERTIFICATION - Sediment Basin Installation & Maintenance
May 9 & 10	- McDonough	
May 11	- Cartersville	RECERTIFICATION
May 19	- Columbus	RECERTIFICATION
May 22 & 23	- Norcross	
May 23	- Norcross	RECERTIFICATION
May 23	- Augusta	RECERTIFICATION

Level II Introduction to Design (Tan/Gray Card) [Click Here](#)

for Design Pro's (Tan Card) and Plan Reviewers (Gray Card)

April 27 & 28	- Norcross	
April 28	- Norcross	RECERTIFICATION
May 8	- Cartersville	RECERTIFICATION
May 15 & 16	- Marietta	
May 19	- Columbus	RECERTIFICATION
May 23	- Norcross	RECERTIFICATION
May 23	- Augusta	RECERTIFICATION

MS4 Compliance Enforcement Certified Inspector (MS4CECI)

June 5 & 6	Marietta, Georgia	
August 10 & 11	Indianapolis, Indiana	<u>Call Rita at 678-469-5120 for MS4CECI Recertification</u>
September 14 & 15	San Clemente, California	
September 26 & 27	Las Vegas, Nevada	

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2017

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Offer Expires: May 31, 2017

IN THIS ISSUE

[UPCOMING CLASSES](#)

[The NEW GREEN BOOK and FIELD MANUAL](#)

[WHY IS CERTIFICATION IMPORTANT?](#)

[MS4 CECI Course Registration](#)

[AMERICA NEEDS LOCAL ENFORCEMENT](#)

[ONLINE COURSES](#)

[STORMWATER CONFERENCES](#)

Quick Links

[CHECK EXAM RESULTS](#)

[COURSE SCHEDULE](#)

[NEWSLETTER ARCHIVES](#)

BUY THE NEW 2016 FIELD MANUAL

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

Filing the Notice of Termination (NOT) on a construction site in a timely manner is of paramount importance for a project superintendent. However, without understanding the soils, it can be a frustrating process. The following article can help you understand soil in a way to help get that much needed stabilization, so you can file that NOT! t luke owen

IMPROVING THE SOIL (Finding the right amendments for fast revegetation!)

Forester Media - In revegetation, everything begins with the soil—usually poor soil. Soils may become degraded during the construction of buildings, roadside projects, or mining or landfill operations, or because of overgrazing or deforestation. They lose their topsoil, usually the top 2- to 8-inch layer of the soil, where the most important nutrients

lie. In addition to sand, stone, and clay, topsoil contains decayed plant and animal matter, bacteria, fungi, algae, insects, earthworms, and nematodes.

This is where plants generally concentrate their roots, which reach out and stabilize the soil. When the plants and their roots are removed, especially on slopes, the topsoil is the first thing to erode.

Sandy soils contain so much air between the particles that any microbes in the soil consume organic matter very quickly. **Compacted and clay soils**



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contain so little air that they are generally low in both organic matter and microbes. **Acidic and alkaline soils** prevent nutrients such as nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, iron, zinc, copper, and manganese from dissolving in water. As a result, nutrients can't be readily absorbed by plants' roots.

[MORE](#)

Top Five Reasons to Attend the Upcoming MS4 Conference!

"Perfection is not attainable, but if we chase perfection we can catch excellence." -Vince Lombardi

I'm very excited to be the keynote speaker at the [2017 Indiana MS4 Annual Meeting](#) this year. Unfortunately, I won't be able to attend this years MS4 Wet Weather Conference in Charleston, South Carolina, but here's some information to help convince you to attend yourself.

The [2017 Municipal Wet Weather Stormwater Conference](#) is in Charleston, South Carolina May 15-17, 2017. This year's event, hosted by the EPA Region 4 and the Southeast Chapter of the International Erosion Control Association (IECA) will be awesome!

Why You Should Attend:

1. **Network with regional industry peers** and learn about available resources and [MS4 CECI Classroom/Field Training](#) to help you succeed in your job.
2. Help fulfill your continuing education requirements by **earning seven Professional Development Hours** (0.7 CE Credit).
3. Learn how to prepare for current and [future weather extremes](#) in the southeast.
4. Hear updates from the EPA stormwater compliance and the construction general permit
5. Learn compliance strategies to create a sustainable and successful MS4 stormwater program!



Learn more about the [full conference schedule](#).

MS4 CECI COURSE

NOW INCLUDES

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

This course meets the MS4 NPDES Permit requirement for training & Green Infrastructure.

[TEMPE, ARIZONA](#)

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ONLY THE 2016
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SAN CLEMENTE, CALIFORNIA
AUGUST 25th - 26th, 2017

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA
SEPTEMBER 26th - 27th, 2017



**"THE BEST
STORMWATER CLASS
I'VE EVER ATTENDED!"**

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**678-469-5120 for
help registering!**

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Regulatory Enforcement on a Local Level Is Critical to America's Water Quality



Our History with the Clean Water Act has proven over and over again that accountability for compliance with water quality permits is the line in the sand. Today, it appears the Georgia EPD is tremendously under funded as proven by the small number of inspectors they've employed in one of the fastest growing states in the country. America is reliant on knowledgeable **local enforcement efforts** that ensure our streams, rivers and lakes are protected.

Research shows:

5% will violate water quality laws *no matter what,*

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

The
Weather
Channel

75% will comply only with effective local enforcement!

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

Cheryl Wasserman

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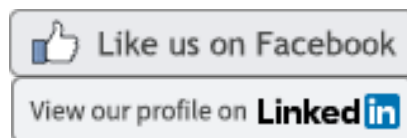
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ONLINE RECERTIFICATION TRAINING

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COMPLIANCE TOOL BOX



NPDES Training Institute
"Training That Helps It All Make Sense!"



Local Government NPDES Enforcement & Plan Review Authority

GREEN BOOK (Manual for E&SC in Georgia - New 2016)

GREEN BOOK Video Presentation

WHO NEEDS TO BE CERTIFIED in GEORGIA - FACT SHEET

March 5, 2012 Memo for Projects Less than 1-Acre

NEW **2014 303d LIST (Georgia) - for use as of July, 2016**

EPD GUIDANCE TO SWCC DISTRICTS FOR PLAN REVIEWS

CITY OF ATLANTA - Forms, Checklists & CAD Sample Plan

BUILDING & RENOVATING A POND in GEORGIA

TMDL IMPLEMENTATION PLANS

STREAMBANK & SHORELINE RESTORATION in GEORGIA

GESA Exemption #8

BUFFER VARIANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR DAMS



**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)

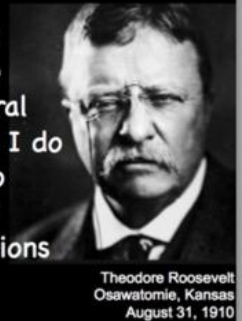


WATER ENVIRONMENT FEDERATION - WATERS WORTH IT! (UPCOMING CONFERENCES)

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 NPDES permit that helps us do that! It's OUR CHILDREN that will be living through decisions we make today. NPDES is an investment into our nations future generations so they can also have an equally great place to live, swim, fish, boat, and hunt tomorrow!

"Conservation means development as much as it does protection. 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."



Theodore Roosevelt
Osawatimie, Kansas
August 31, 1910

Sincerely,
NPDES TRAINING INSTITUTE

T. Luke Owen, PG
President

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