

## **DNREC Sediment & Stormwater Listserve Update: August 2009**

### **This months topics:**

- 1. Transfer of Authorization**
- 2. Pre-registration Required: September 9<sup>th</sup> Blue Card Class**
- 3. Pre-registration Required: October 29<sup>th</sup> CCR Recertification Course**
- 4. Special Considerations In Stormwater Pond Maintenance**
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- 6. Volunteers Sought for Fall Storm Drain Marking Project in Seaford**

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### **1. Transfer of Authorization**

Prior to approval of a development project, the owner must submit a Notice of Intent (NOI) to gain NPDES permit coverage. If that development project is sold to a new owner prior to project closeout, the original owner must complete a Transfer of Authorization along with the new owner to transfer NPDES permit coverage to the new owner. The Transfer of Authorization form transfers “authorization to discharge stormwater from a construction activity” from the original owner to the new owner. If a project is sold and the Transfer of Authorization is not completed, the new owner does not have permit coverage to discharge stormwater from the construction activity and could be found to be in violation of the Federal NPDES permit requirements.

In addition to completing the Transfer of Authorization form and submitting it to DNREC, whenever a project is sold, the owners should contact the local Sediment and Stormwater Program approval agency for their requirements for transferring the approved Sediment and Stormwater Plan to the new owner.

For more information regarding Transfer of Authorization as well as all forms related to NPDES permit coverage, please consult the guidance document located on our website at the following link:

<http://www.swc.dnrec.delaware.gov/Drainage/Documents/Sediment%20and%20Stormwater%20Program/NOI%20Forms/Guidance%20Document%20Dec%202007.pdf>

### **2. Pre-registration Required: September 9<sup>th</sup> Blue Card Class**

DNREC will be holding their next Contractor’s Certification course (Blue Card) on September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at the Modern Maturity Center (registration required). The Contractor’s Training course is a ½-day course that gives an overview of the

Sediment and Stormwater Program, its regulations, and required erosion and sediment control measures in the State of Delaware. Please contact Joanne Gedney by e-mail at [Joanne.Gedney@state.de.us](mailto:Joanne.Gedney@state.de.us) or by phone at 302-739-9921 for registration information.

### **3. Pre-registration Required: October 29<sup>th</sup> CCR Recertification Course**

The next one-day Certified Construction Reviewer (CCR) Recertification class is scheduled for Thursday, October 29, 2009, for those CCR's whose certification has expired or will expire in the year 2009. Registration is required. The class will run from 8:30am-4:30pm and you must be present for full duration of course.

Enrollment is "first come, first serve", and you will not be guaranteed a seat until your registration form and the fee are received. The registration fee must be paid in advance until class is full or by October 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Please be advised that if you do not attend the October 29<sup>th</sup> course and your certification is up for renewal, you will be required to attend the next 3½-day CCR course (March 2010) and pass the written exam. To register, contact Joanne Gedney at 302-739-9921 or [Joanne.Gedney@state.de.us](mailto:Joanne.Gedney@state.de.us).

### **4. Special Considerations In Stormwater Pond Maintenance**

In Delaware, August is typically the time of year known for its hot weather, sparse rainfall, and strong afternoon sun. Along with these weather conditions come the season of the algal blooms, a concern of many homeowner's who reside in a development having a stormwater pond. While the overgrowth of aquatic vegetation and algae can be hindered by managing nutrients from the source such as limiting the use of nitrogen and phosphorus-rich fertilizers, this problem may oftentimes require more active management strategies, if certain standards and outcomes are desirable. Some of these strategies may include removing organic debris from the pond, incorporating a buffer around the pond (no mow zone), installing goose exclusion fences around the pond perimeter, installing aeration systems, chemically managing algae and aquatic vegetation through an active spraying program, pond dye, and more.

For property owners, it is important to know that although there is no state requirement specifically addressing a vegetative specification, a facility must be "properly functioning" to comply with the current [Delaware Sediment and Stormwater Regulations](#). In most cases, managing vegetation is required in order to achieve these standards.

"Properly functioning" is currently determined by DNREC's [Delegated Agencies](#) based on jurisdiction. This determination is communicated through the annual inspection report. Proper function really comes down to having proper storage volume, well stabilized banks that do not input sediment into the system, and

proper flow both in and out of all pipes and structures. It also means ensuring the longevity of all structural components within the facility. Local codes or ordinances may exist that additionally address vegetation management for open space and/or stormwater management facilities; therefore, it is always important for any owner of a stormwater pond to consult with their town or municipality and county to obtain this information.

For engineers and contractors, proper design and construction are of utmost important when considering the long-term maintenance of stormwater ponds and other stormwater best management practices. These special considerations include proper liner installation where applicable, good bank stabilization, and adequate water depths as specified in the plans.

For additional information on stormwater pond maintenance, the following website provides basic information pertaining to stormwater facility maintenance. <http://www.swc.dnrec.delaware.gov/Drainage/Pages/Homeowners.aspx>

## **5. Delaware Archives Bioretention Retrofit Completion**

Kent Conservation District has recently completed construction of the retrofit (conversion) from a poorly functioning stormwater pond to a bioretention facility at the Delaware Archives Building, owned and operated by Office of Management and Budget's Facilities Management. This project will dramatically improve stormwater quality entering directly into the Saint Jones River from Delaware Archive's parking area. Native plantings, educational signage, and establishment of native vegetation along the banks will be installed this fall when conditions are more suitable for vegetation establishment.

The Sediment and Stormwater Program (DNREC Division of Soil and Water Conservation) led this initiative, with funding provided by the Environmental Protection Agency (319 Clean Water Act), administered through Nonpoint Source Program (DNREC Division of Soil and Water Conservation). As property owner, Facilities Management has been instrumental in working with DNREC staff to authorize the project, acquire permits, and comment on engineering plans. Through the planning process, the Drainage Program (DNREC Division of Soil and Water Conservation) performed all survey work, and worked closely with the Wetland Section (DNREC Division of Water) and the US Army Corps of Engineers to assist with all wetlands permitting issues. Water Supply's Allocation Branch (DNREC Division of Water) assisted with obtaining permits for water extraction during certain phases of construction. The City of Dover provided a disposal area for the excavated fill dirt, in addition to providing information on the underlying sewer lines on-site. ACF Environmental, a local distributor for erosion control products, also joined in by donating a silt sac (Type II inlet protection) for the project. All aspects of project planning, coordination, and engineering were completed by the Sediment and Stormwater Program, while the Kent Conservation District constructed the project.

Thank you to all agencies involved for your cooperation and dedication. This project exemplifies how numerous, multifaceted agencies can work together to successfully achieve the common goal of improving our environment.

## **6. Volunteers Sought for Fall Storm Drain Marking Project in Seaford**

DNREC's Sediment and Stormwater Program and Watershed Assessment Section are currently seeking volunteers to mark storm drains in the town of Seaford with medallions bearing the reminder, "No Dumping - Drains to Waterway." Seaford storm drains will be marked on Saturday, Sept. 19, 2009.

Funding for the projects in Delaware's Chesapeake Bay communities has been provided by the Chesapeake Bay Implementation grant. Past projects have also been funded, in full, by grants.

If you are interested in volunteering with the Seaford marking event on Sept. 19, please contact Jennifer Volk at 302-739-9939 or [Jennifer.Volk@state.de.us](mailto:Jennifer.Volk@state.de.us).