

DNREC Sediment & Stormwater Listserve Update: December 2009

This month's topics:

- 1. 2010 Blue Card Schedule Now Available**
- 2. Spring Certified Construction Reviewer (CCR) Course Scheduled for March 3, 10, 17 and 24 (required field ½ day), 2010**
- 3. EPA's Chesapeake Bay Public Forums on Draft Strategies to Presidential Obama's Executive Order Issued in May 2009**
- 4. EPA's TMDL Public Workshops**
- 5. Link of the Month: EPA Issues Rule to Reduce Water Pollution from Construction Sites**

1. Contractors Training Course (Blue Card) 2010 Schedule Now Available

The Contractor's Training course (Blue Card) 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.

Courses in 2010 are scheduled for February 3, May 5, September 15, and December 1 at the Modern Maturity Center. Pre-registration is required. Please contact Joanne Gedney by e-mail at Joanne.Gedney@state.de.us or by phone at 302-739-9921 for registration information.

For up-to-date information on future Blue Card Courses being offered, please visit: <http://www.swc.dnrec.delaware.gov/Drainage/Pages/BlueCard.aspx>

2. Spring Certified Construction Reviewer (CCR) Course Scheduled for March 3, 10, 17 and 24 (required field ½ day), 2010

A Certified Construction Reviewer (CCR) is a private inspector of sediment and stormwater controls who is hired by a developer when required by the review agency. This 3½-day course offers detailed information on sediment control and stormwater management practices, and is provided as training to individuals who wish to qualify as Certified Construction Reviewers as specified in the Delaware Sediment and Stormwater Regulations. In addition, the course will benefit anyone in the government, engineering, consulting, contracting, or land development professions that work in the field of sediment and stormwater management.

The CCR course is currently offered once a year and the Certification is valid for five years. This 3½-day course will be held Wednesdays March 3, 10, 17 and 24 (mandatory ½-day field trip), 2010. The course fee is \$225, which includes continental breakfast and lunch for each day and course materials. Participants must attend all 3½-days in order to obtain certification, in addition to passing a written exam. Please contact Joanne Gedney by e-mail at Joanne.Gedney@state.de.us or by phone at 302-739-9921 for registration information.

3. EPA's Chesapeake Bay Public Forums on Draft Strategies to Presidential Obama's Executive Order Issued in May 2009

A series of public forums will be held throughout December on the recently released draft strategy for restoring the Chesapeake Bay, a document required by a Presidential Executive Order issued in May 2009. The public forums will feature officials from multiple federal agencies including the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Department of the Interior and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Public feedback is important and valuable to the federal agencies. Comments may be submitted online at <http://executiveorder.chesapeakebay.net> by clicking on "provide comments." The public comment period runs through January 8, 2010. The draft strategy, also available on the website, will evolve through public comments, state consultations and agency revisions before the final strategy is published in May 2010.

The public can also submit questions about the draft strategy by recording a 30-second or less video and uploading it to YouTube with a tag of "chesapeakebayeo." A selection of these video questions will be used at the public forums and for an online question-and-answer session with federal officials in January. People can also join conversations about the draft strategy on Facebook by visiting the Chesapeake Bay Executive Order page and clicking on discussions. Additionally, updates on Executive Order news are available through Twitter by following @chesapeakebayeo.

Public Forum Schedule:

District of Columbia: Tuesday, December 1 - 7:00-8:30 pm Penn Quarter Conference Center, 701 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. 20004
Watch a live webcast at <http://executiveorder.chesapeakebay.net>

Maryland: Wednesday, December 2 – 7:00-8:30 pm National Aquarium in Baltimore (Auditorium), 501 E. Pratt Street, Baltimore, MD 21202

Delmarva Peninsula: Thursday, December 3 - 7:00-8:30 pm Wicomico County Civic Center (Midway Room), 500 Glen Avenue, Salisbury, MD 21804

West Virginia: Tuesday, December 8 – 7:00-8:30 pm Holiday Inn Martinsburg, 301 Foxcroft Avenue, Martinsburg, WV 25401

New York: Thursday, December 10 – 7:00-8:30 pm Holiday Inn Binghamton-Downtown Hotel, 2-8 Hawley Street, Binghamton, NY 13901

Pennsylvania: Tuesday, December 15 – 7:00-8:30 pm Farm Show Complex & Event Center (Banquet Hall), 2301 North Cameron Street, Harrisburg, PA 17110

Virginia: Thursday, December 17 – 7:00-8:30 pm Nauticus National Maritime Center (Auditorium), One Waterside Drive, Norfolk, VA 23510

4. EPA's TMDL Public Workshops

The EPA is working with its state partners and the District of Columbia (D.C.) to set restrictions on nutrient and sediment pollution through a Total Maximum Daily Load, or TMDL, a regulatory tool of the federal Clean Water Act that specifies the maximum amount of pollution that a waterbody can receive and still meet water quality standards. The Bay TMDL – a combination of 92 smaller TMDLs for individual Chesapeake Bay tidal segments – will include limits on nutrients and sediment sufficient to achieve state and D.C. clean water standards.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, along with the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, will hold a public meeting Thursday, Dec. 10 to discuss water pollution reduction measures and implementation plans for the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. The meeting will be held from 5 until 7 p.m. at the auditorium of the Laurel Senior High School, 1131 S. Central Avenue in Laurel.

The Laurel meeting is one of 14 public meetings being held November through mid-December in six states and the District of Columbia that address the actions necessary to meet the clean water standards of the Chesapeake Bay and its network of local rivers, streams and creeks. Other meeting locations and times can be found at:

http://www.epa.gov/reg3wapd/tmdl/ChesapeakeBay/CalendarOfEvents_2009.html?tab2=5

5. Link of the Month: EPA Issues Rule to Reduce Water Pollution from Construction Sites

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently issued a final rule to help reduce water pollution from construction sites. The agency believes this rule, which takes effect in February 2010 and will be phased in over four years, will significantly improve the quality of water nationwide.

The final rule requires construction site owners and operators that disturb one or more acres to use best management practices to ensure that soil disturbed during construction activity does not pollute nearby water bodies. In addition, owners and operators of sites that impact 10 or more acres of land at one time will be required to monitor discharges and ensure they comply with specific limits on discharges to minimize the impact on nearby water bodies. This is the first time that EPA has imposed national monitoring requirements and enforceable numeric limitations on construction site stormwater discharges. For more information, please visit: <http://www.epa.gov/waterscience/guide/construction>