

## DNREC Sediment & Stormwater Listserve Update: March 2013

### This month's topics:

1. **2013 Blue Card Class Dates**
2. **Revisions to the Delaware Sediment & Stormwater Regulations: UPDATE**
3. **Filtterra Product Line Endorsement**
4. **Link of the Month: USGS Releases New Long-Term ET Rate Maps**

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#### 1. **2013 Blue Card Class Dates**

The DNREC Contractor's Certification Course dates for 2013 are **May 8<sup>th</sup>**, **September 11<sup>th</sup>** and **December 11<sup>th</sup>**. The Contractor's Certification Course, also known as the "Blue Card 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. Under the Delaware Sediment & Stormwater Regulations, at least one person in responsible charge of a construction site must have successfully completed the Contractor's Certification Course.

**Registration forms are available on the Sediment & Stormwater Program Web site under the "Certification Information" header:**

<http://www.dnrec.delaware.gov/swc/Drainage/Pages/BlueCard.aspx>

#### 2. **Revisions to the Delaware Sediment & Stormwater Regulations: UPDATE**

It has been more than a year since the first Public Hearing on the Revisions to the *Delaware Sediment and Stormwater Regulations*. Since that time, DNREC Sediment and Stormwater Program staff has met with stakeholders including the Regulatory Advisory Committee to address comments received on the proposed revisions to the regulations. Comments received on the proposed Technical Document have been addressed and the Technical Document has been finalized as well.

It is expected that the revised regulations will be posted in the State Register of Regulations on April 1, 2013. A second Public Hearing on the regulation revisions has been scheduled for **April 23, 2013, beginning at 6pm** in the DNREC Auditorium, 89 Kings Highway, Dover, DE 19901. Comments on the revisions to the regulations will be accepted until May 8, 2013.

#### 3. **Filtterra Product Line Endorsement**

The Department has endorsed several Filtterra products as stand-alone practices to meet the 80% TSS reduction requirements of the current Delaware Sediment & Stormwater Regulations. Products include the Standard Filtterra Bioretention System (FTBS), Filtterra Curb Inlet with Internal Bypass (FTCIB), Filtterra Internal Bypass – Pipe (FTIBP), Street Tree Filtterra System (FTST), Bacterra Bioretention System (BBS), Filtterra Boxless (FTBX) and Filtterra BioPave (FTBP). As with other endorsed products that meet the requirements as a stand-alone practice, the company has agreed to review all proposed designs and issue a letter confirming that the design meets the manufacturer's recommendations and water quality management requirements of the Delaware Sediment & Stormwater Regulations. Additional information on the Filtterra product line is available at the company Web site:

<http://www.filterra.com/>

#### **4. Link of the Month: USGS Releases New Long-Term ET Rate Maps**

For the first time, U.S. Geological Survey scientists have mapped long-term average evapotranspiration rates across the continental United States – a crucial tool for water managers and planners because of the huge role evapotranspiration plays in water availability. Evapotranspiration itself is the amount of water lost to the atmosphere from the ground surface. Much of this loss is the result of the "transpiration" of water by plants, which is the plant equivalent of breathing.

In spite of its importance, evapotranspiration has been difficult to measure accurately on a regional or continental scale. To produce these maps, USGS scientists Ward Sanford and David Selnick examined Landsat satellite imagery for climate and land-cover data from 1971 to 2000 and streamflow data for more than 800 watersheds for the same time period. This information allowed them to generate a mathematical equation that can be used to more precisely estimate long-term evapotranspiration at any location in the continental United States.

Having more accurate estimates of evapotranspiration rates will, in turn, result in more accurate quantification of the benefits of various Green Infrastructure stormwater management practices currently gaining popularity throughout the country. The research was published in the February 2013 edition of the Journal of the American Water Resources Association. To read the article and see the maps, click on the following link:

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/jawr.12010/abstract>