



Possible integration of Act 167 Stormwater Plans and NPDES Phase II compliance measures

Delaware County is currently negotiating with the Department of Environmental Protection to integrate some of the NPDES Phase II MS4 permit requirements into the Act 167 Stormwater Management Plans in the Crum and Darby watersheds. Municipalities designated as an MS4 or Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System under the new National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) requirements set by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) must complete six minimum controls.

They are:

- 1. Public education and outreach
- 2. Public participation and involvement
- 3. Illicit discharge detection and elimination
- 4. Construction stormwater management
- 5. Post-construction stormwater management
- 6. Pollution prevention and good housekeeping for municipal operations

These mandatory measures are required to be completed by the municipality without funding from either the state or federal government. Municipalities might be able to receive funding for some of the measures if they are successfully integrated in the ongoing Act 167 Stormwater Management plans currently being developed in the Crum and Darby Creek Watersheds by Delaware County. Municipalities are eligible for reimbursement for various activities under the state's Act 167 program for work mandated by the 167 Plan. Several tasks required by the MS4 permits are similar to those required by the Act 167 plan, such as education and inventory of environmental practices. Storm sewers also have to be studied and mapped for both the 167 plan and MS4 permits. Several required meetings will also be integrated to address both topics. Additionally, municipalities might be able to get reimbursed for staff and legal time spent to develop ordinances or meet additional requirements. The county hopes that cooperation with the state on this issue will be both beneficial to the municipalities and the programs they have to comply with.

*Ed Magargee
Delaware County CD*

Annual Winter Workshops

The conservation districts of Southeast Pennsylvania (SEPA) Bucks, Chester, Delaware, and Montgomery, will be conducting their annual Winter Workshop for engineers and consultants on Erosion & Sediment Control and NPDES Permits. The location is the Montgomery County 4H Center on Route 113 in Creamery, on February 6, 2004. The session will begin at 9:00 AM and conclude at 3:15PM.

The districts are also interested in conducting a half-day workshop for contractors and earthmovers at the same location on February 20, 2004. The session will begin early with coffee and donuts. Tentative topics include: NPDES Phase II Permit requirements, PPC Plan, self inspection and record keeping, and plan sequence.

As the agendas become finalized we will post the information on the districts' web sites.

- www.bucksconservation.org
- www.chesco.org
- www.delcocd.org
- www.montgomeryconservation.org

Conservation Districts work with Coastal Zone Management

The Water Planning Office coordinates and implements the Department's (PA DEP) Coastal Zone Management Program (CZM). These functions include implementing a federally approved management program for Pennsylvania's two coastal areas, the Delaware Estuary and Lake Erie, pursuant to the Federal Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, P.L. 92-583, as amended.

Through annual federal grants, CZM provides technical and financial assistance to local governments and state agencies to control development in coastal hazard areas, improve public access, protect natural resources, expand strategies to improve local economies, and promote proper planning. The program also provides technical assistance in conserving coastal resources. It insures that federal and state agencies act consistently with program goals as individual projects and permits are pursued.

(continued on page 2)

Conservation Districts work with Coastal Zone Management

(continued from front page)

CZM provides technical assistance to property owners with bluff recession problems and promotes an extra focus on wetland resources in both coastal zones. It also has a federally approved program for controlling coastal nonpoint source pollution. Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

(Coastal Zone Management Program. 4 November 2003
<http://www.dep.state.pa.us/river/czmp.html>.)

Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Program (CNPP)

All states with federally approved coastal management programs are required to develop a Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Program. The Department of Environmental Protection received federal approval from NOAA and EPA for its Program in June 2000, completing a major undertaking that began in 1992.

Through cooperative staff efforts in the Office for River Basin Cooperation and the Bureau of Watershed Management, a realistic coastal nonpoint pollution program is being implemented. Under the CNPP, Pennsylvania's priority management measures are being implemented to protect coastal waters from nonpoint source pollution resulting from urban runoff, agriculture, marinas and recreational boating, and hydromodification.

These management measures are being accomplished through existing programs that address these kinds of nonpoint source pollution, and through projects funded by Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Program and Coastal Zone Management Program grants. In addition, the program is to protect wetlands and riparian areas, and encourage use of vegetated treatment systems.

These measures are to be implemented within federally approved Management Areas, which in Pennsylvania include watersheds draining to Lake Erie and the Delaware Estuary. Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

As a result of the implementation of these programs, 3 county conservation districts within the Southeast Region (SER) have hired a Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Specialists (CNPPS). The new position is funded through grants from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Grants were awarded in October of 2002, and have been renewed annually.

Kevin Boyle has accepted the role of CNPPS for Delaware County Conservation District. Originally hired as a technician, Kevin later took over the duties of the CNPPS. Kevin sees his priorities as being the reduction of nonpoint source pollution and the proper management of stormwater runoff from activities such as agriculture, construction, waste disposal, residential/commercial development and so on. With NPDES phase II in full swing, Kevin is finding it easier to track more developments as they arise.

Mike Pypiak is Bucks County Conservation District's second CNPPS. Mike began working with the district in November 2003. A Delaware Valley College graduate with a B.S. in Agronomy and Environmental Science, he is eager to see if he enjoys working with water quality issues as much as he enjoys working with soils. Mike has GIS Arc View experience, and has worked previously with the Soil Conservation District in Freehold, NJ.

So far, Nathan Walker has been completing the tasks of CNPPS for Montgomery County Conservation District. We all know Nathan as our MCCD Watershed Specialist, and now he will be able to focus some of his energy specifically on the Coastal Zone.

The CNPPS position requires each county to perform many different tasks. One of the tasks of the program is to collect data on NPDES sites with violations and complaints and enter the sites into an Arc View GIS program that was designed by Penn State. The program, entitled Arc View Nonpoint Source Tool (AVNPS tool), will allow the CNPPS to record/report information from the conservation districts to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on E & S violations and enforcement cases, NPDES violations, riparian buffer zones, Act 167, C.A.F.O's and Chapter 105. In addition, marinas will be surveyed to determine which best management practices are already in use, and which would be priority to install.

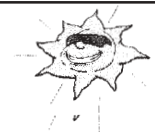
Another of the CNPPS's duties is to educate. Delaware Co. presented a conservation program to the Boy Scouts at the Newlin Grist Mill campground in July. The focus of their discussion was soil erosion, how it happens, and what can be done to prevent it.

One of the final duties is to attend meetings regarding the coastal zone. Kevin Boyle recently attended a coastal zone task force meeting at Marcus Hook Twp. Building. The town of Marcus Hook sits next to a highly industrialized area. Although, they still have a vibrant waterfront park equipped with a fishing pier, pavilions and park benches, Marcus Hook hopes to revitalize the waterfront area and also create a greenway from the entrance of the town down to the waterfront.

More updates will continue as the Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Specialist program develops. You will be hearing more about these programs to help protect Pennsylvania's coastal areas.



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Problems with Inlet Protection

Recently there have been many problems with the installation of inlet protection in Delaware County and throughout SE Pa. In the field, contractors utilize mesh fabric or just stone and nothing else. The correct way to install inlet protection is as follows: wire mesh, 11 gage or equivalent 1/4" max opening, AASHTO #57 stone and finally a 15" overflow PVC pipe. Inlet protection, however, is not required for inlets that drain directly to basins. Inlet protection needs to be used when inlets drain to storm sewers and also to waters of the commonwealth. Earthen berms for inlets need to be maintained until roadway is stoned. Subbase berms should stay in place until road is paved.



An example of improper installation. Overflow pipe is not adequate.

E&S Workshop for Chester / Delaware H.B.A.

The Education Committee of the Chester / Delaware Home Builders Association recently invited Dan Greig and Ed Magargee to present the topic of Erosion and Sediment Control. Thirty-five builders registered for the workshop. The workshop was held at an excellent facility owned by the Chester County Chamber of Business & Industry.

The topics of concern to the builders were impacts of NPDES Phase II on development projects, voluntary & induced compliance procedures, and common problems found in the field. The session was held in the afternoon and ran for approximately two hours. Chairman of the HBA Education Committee, Jeffrey Nagorny, Vollmer Associates, coordinated the event and organized the agenda. It was also a good opportunity to meet with the new executive director of the Chester/Delaware H.B.A., Jeff Vermeulen.

If your company or organization would like us to conduct in house information programs similar to this, please feel free to contact Ed Magargee at (610)892-9484.

*Ed Magargee
Delaware County C.D.*

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Group serves the Armentrout Preserve

Wissahickon Valley Watershed Association recently held its first annual "Serve The Preserve" day. Volunteers from the watershed community converged on WVWA's Armentrout Preserve in Whitpain Township to help remove invasives, plant over 100 native trees and shrubs, and spread woodchips on a new walking path, under the direction of WVWA's property manager, Bob Adams. The project also included the installation of several new interpretive signs that were paid for by a grant from Visteon, Inc. in Lansdale. The organization plans to duplicate the event on April 3, 2004 at a new preserve at Willow Lake Farm on Butler Pike in Broad Axe. Anyone who wants to join in the fun should call Bob Adams at (215) 646-8866 Ext 14.

Donna Middleton, Wissahickon Valley Watershed Association

Betty and John Shober of Whitpain pitch in to help Serve the Preserve



Stormwater Management Symposium focuses on planning

The 2003 Pennsylvania Stormwater Management Symposium was held at Villanova University on October 16-17. This Symposium follows the *Commonwealth 1998 and 2001 Symposium*, each held at Villanova. In 1998 the Symposium focused on the successes, failures, and future prospects of stormwater management, while 2001 the symposium focused on re-thinking stormwater management, integrating quality, volume and peak controls. This year, with NPDES Phase II in force for the first time, the focus turned to the integration of planning, regulation, design, and operations.

The Symposium started with a workshop entitled *Removing Obstacles to Stormwater Management* that was broadcast live over the Internet. Developed by the Steering Committee, the half-day workshop was directed toward elected and appointed municipal officials and other individuals involved in the land development process outside of the engineering design elements. The workshop focused on the perspectives of different parties in the development process with regard to stormwater management. The goal was to center on the perceived obstacles and sought to generate discussion on how to overcome them.

To lead off the conference, Robert Traver, Director of the Villanova Urban Stormwater Partnership, shared his view of the challenges that we are to face over the next several years. Next Durla Lathia, Chief of Stormwater Planning and Management, PaDEP, updated the group on the Commonwealth's efforts under the Comprehensive Stormwater Management Plan.


The remainder of the first day consisted of multiple breakout sessions and several tours focusing on stormwater issues, approaches, case studies, and technologies. Over forty papers were presented during the two days, and the tours included Villanova's BMP Research and Demonstration Park, an Urban Stormwater Retrofit Site, a River Restoration Site, and the Philadelphia Water Department's Fairmount Park Water Works Interpretive Center.

The second day featured panel discussions. The first focused on the relationship of stormwater and TMDL's, titled *Wissahickon Creek Watershed TMDL for Nutrients and Sediment, Beyond The Model Stormwater Ordinance*. This panel was organized and led by Joe Piotrowski of EPA Region III. The closing panel was entitled *Sustaining Effective Stormwater Management - Legal, Financial, Utility and Changes*. The panel included Doug Brennan, PaDEP; John Wilmer, Esq.; Fronefield Crawford, Crawford, Wilson, Ryan & Agulnick; and Maya Brennan of the Delaware Riverkeeper. Robert Traver closed the symposium, with a few final comments.

The Steering Committee for the Symposium included:

- Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering
- Villanova Urban Stormwater Partnership
- Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
- Southeast Regional Office
- Bureau of Watershed Management
- Pennsylvania Environmental Council
- Borton-Lawson Engineering
- Chester County Conservation District
- Chester County Water Resources Authority
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- Villanova University
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Ed Magargee, Delaware County CD



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Jessie Laurel Benjamin

1st Annual Upper Perkiomen Conference

The Upper Perkiomen Watershed Alliance presented the 1st Annual Upper Perkiomen Watershed Conference on November 15 in Pennsburg entitled *Land Use Planning – the Key to Protecting Your Waters Resources*. The Upper Perkiomen Watershed sits at the cross roads of development. Growth can be managed to protect the unspoiled resources of the watershed. This conference was a great opportunity to learn about projects and organizations that are protecting and restoring water resources.

The keynote speaker was Carol Collier, Executive Director of the Delaware River Basin Commission. Ms. Collier spoke about the current state of the Delaware watershed and answered questions about how the Upper Perkiomen watershed fits into this larger picture. Other speakers included local representatives from local high schools, municipalities, and conservation organizations including Trout Unlimited, Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy, and Delaware Riverkeeper Network.

This conference, developed by the Pennsylvania Environmental Council, was the result of the recent completion of the Upper Perkiomen Rivers Conservation Plan. This plan provides recommendations to local organizations and municipalities about how to protect and enhance the natural, historical, and cultural resources of the valley.

To read the plan online, go to www.upwcwatershed.org.

*Nathan Walker, Watershed Specialist,
Montgomery County CD*

Stormwater Steering Committee meets

The PADEP Stormwater Management Manual Steering Committee held its first meeting on October 10, 2003 at the Rachel Carson State Office Building in Harrisburg. The steering committee is made up of approximately 35 people who will give guidance and input to the contractor who is developing the Stormwater Manual. Cahill Associates of West Chester was awarded the contract to develop the manual.

In the first meeting of the steering committee, it was decided to make this manual the best stormwater manual in the country so that other states will come to Pennsylvania for examples and guidance on how to best handle stormwater.

Southeastern Pennsylvania is well represented on the steering committee. Members include Maya Van Rossum of the Delaware Riverkeeper; Paul White, a hydrogeologist from Sautterswaite Inc. in West Chester; David Staddulis, an Environmental Engineer for Realen Homes; and Dan Greig of Chester County Conservation District.

It is expected to take 18 months to complete the manual. If you have any comments or suggestions as to what should be included in the manual, please contact me at dgreig@chesco.org.

*Dan Greig
Chester County CD*

New watershed group explores Jarrett Creek

On October 26, eight members of Park Creek Watershed Association explored a tributary to the Park Creek. The purpose of walking the unofficially named Jarrett Creek was to better understand some of the upstream factors that affect our downstream, ecosystem, flows, and water quality. The tour included a walk through part of the Jarrett Nature Center near Hatboro-Horsham High School. It features a small pond that is within easy walking distance of the school and should be a valuable resource for the science classes. There is a considerable diversity of trees, shrubs, and herbs that can be catalogued by students. The usual invasives are present, which student and scout projects could address.

From the Nature Center, the group walked upstream towards Horsham's Hearne open space. Several stormwater basins were observed along the way and the group contrasted the management methods of each. The basin at the Keith Valley Industrial Park was naturalized and well suited to treat runoff.

A problem was found at an old farm pond off Jarrett Road. Sediment from a nearby road filled in part of the pond, affectively re-routing the stream into the upland woods. This new stream channel is creating four foot-banks through an otherwise stable forest. On this small tributary alone, the walkers found several potential projects for their newly formed group.

The Park Creek Watershed Association recently received a DEP Growing Greener grant to enable them to organize themselves as a functioning non-profit organization serving Montgomery, Horsham, Lower Gwynedd, Upper Dublin, and Warrington townships. The Park Creek drains to the Little Neshaminy Creek.

*Stuart Hughes, Park Creek Watershed Assoc. &
Nathan Walker, Montgomery County CD*

Conservation projects wanted

The Delaware County Conservation District is looking for projects to be funded by the District's Mini Grant Program. Awards up to \$500 are available for projects relating to natural resource conservation and/or water quality. The next deadline for applications is **April 1, 2004**. Previous projects have included riparian buffer restorations, stormwater workshops, stormdrain stenciling, outdoor classrooms, etc. The program is intended to serve as seed money for larger projects. Most environmental organizations and civic associations are eligible. The District's goal is to promote conservation projects with little administrative hassle. These grants are perfect for groups who need stepping stone funds for small projects. For details on projects, eligibility and to receive an application visit the district's website, www.delcoed.org, or call Bill Gothier, District Watershed Specialist at 610-892-9484.

*Bill Gothier
Delaware County CD*

Check your permit application

When completing the General NPDES permit application please use the checklist to insure all items are addressed.

Some of the common omissions include:


1. Notice of Intent

- The information provided on the NOI Form is not consistent with the information on the district application form, i.e. total and disturbed acreage.
 - The address of the applicant, and/or the site address are incomplete, or not provided. A street address should be provided, not a PO Box number.
 - The applicant should sign section "H" of the application, with notary seal affixed. One original, and one copy.
2. The completed Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) Supplement #1 Form, including the USGS 7.5 minute series quad of the location of the project.
 3. Act 14 Municipal Notices, (information on Act 67 & 68 is included in the instructions for completing the NOI), and proof of receipt.
 4. Notice of Intent filing fee in the amount of \$250.00 payable to the appropriate conservation district "Clean Water Fund."

If revisions to the plan are requested, you should include the NPDES number in the cover letter with the revised plans.


Please form individual packages consisting of administrative paperwork, drawings and narrative.

*Karen Thompson, Secretary
Montgomery County CD*



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Failing Infrastructure

A recent article in the Philadelphia Inquirer pointed to the problem of failing infrastructure in Pennsylvania. It's something that the development community, designers, and municipal planners should take in to consideration in the review and approval process of any type of a project. We are not talking only about the obvious infrastructures like roads. Everyone thinks of roads: i.e. if you build them, they will come. However there are other major structural issues to consider.


- 46% of the roads are in poor or mediocre condition.
- 42% of bridges are structurally deficient or functionally obsolete.
- 21% of the urban freeways are congested.
- Driving on roads in need of repair costs motorists 1.9 billion a year in vehicle repairs and operating costs, or \$219 per motorist.
- Only one third of municipal solid waste is recycled.
- 42% of schools have at least one inadequate building feature.
- 57% of schools have at least one unsatisfactory environmental condition.
- Drinking-water infrastructure needs are \$5.26 billion over 20 years.
- Over the next 20 years, \$6.3 billion is needed to upgrade existing sewage treatment plants and lines, including \$4 billion to remedy combined sewer overflows.
- There are 757 high hazard dams whose failures would likely cause loss of human life. Cost estimated at \$646.2 million.

These are very expensive projects, and it appears that municipalities are not including these in their budgeting process. One of these days, when a bridge collapses, it will become a priority. Let's not wait for the tragedy.

(Source: American Society of Civil Engineers)

*Dan Greig
Chester CountyCD*

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New Employees

Delaware County Conservation District

Kevin Boyle, a resident of Springfield and 2002 graduate of East Stroudsburg University, has been hired as a district technician for the Delaware County Conservation District.



Kevin has a bachelor of the arts degree in Environmental Science from East Stroudsburg. At Stroudsburg, Kevin tutored in environmental chemistry and English.

In the summer of 2002 Kevin interned with the Delaware County Conservation District. In March of 2003 Kevin was hired by the district under the coastal zone non-point source pollution grant.

Bridget Thompson, a resident of Springfield and a 2003 graduate of Elizabethtown College, has been hired as a conservation technician for the Delaware County Conservation District.



Having won a scholarship at Elizabethtown, Bridget studied environmental science, with a concentration in natural resource management. While at Elizabethtown, she interned with the TriCounty Conewago Creek Association, using ARCVIEW GIS software to build a database of landowners and land use in the watershed.

Prior to employment with Delaware County, Bridget worked for the Boy Scouts of America as the nature director for the summer camp program at Musser Scout Reservation, Green Lane.



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Stormwater Management video being created

The Bucks County Conservation District has teamed up with Greenworks.tv (previously Watershed Weekly) to create a stormwater management video for all of PA with specific site examples from Bucks County. The video will focus on southern Bucks Co. due to the area's high urbanization and persistent flooding problems.

Kelly Meinhart, executive producer for Greenworks.tv, is directing and filming the 20-minute video. This project is entirely funded through Greenworks.tv, a PA DEP sponsored program, and will be available for all to view on the Greenworks.tv website.

Greenworks created "Watersheds. TV", an innovative multi-media program that brings the watershed community and the hundreds of volunteers involved in the Growing Greener program right to your home.

Produced by Kelly Meinhart, the program takes a fresh look at the volunteers who are knee-deep in abandoned mine drainage, redesigning stream channels, restoring buffers, creating wetland habitats, and teaching the importance of watersheds to children. (Greenworks.tv, [About Us](#))

When filming the video we will visit various sites throughout southern Bucks County. Some sites are beneficial, like the wetland area around Silver Lake Nature Center, and some are sites where stormwater management is causing public safety issues. We will also be looking at sites where new projects will be taking place, such as infiltration trenches in Croyden. Along with various site visits, the video will also have interviews with residents, educators, and experts. Dr. Robert Traver of Villanova University has agreed to take part, as well as Lynn Bush of Bucks County Planning Commission.

Greenworks hopes to market this video statewide to help planning in areas where developmental pressures are just beginning, as well as using this video to help those who live in flood prone areas understand what's happening in their area and why.

For more information, please call Gretchen Schatschneider, Watershed Specialist for Bucks County.

– Gretchen Schatschneider
Bucks County CD





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