

Stormwater Management Program Annual Report

In Accordance With G.S. 143-214.7(e)
2009

The Environmental Management Commission (EMC), through the N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources and the N.C. Division of Water Quality (Division), implements state and federal programs to control the water quality impacts of stormwater runoff from development activities and urban and developing areas. These programs include the federal National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program for stormwater discharges that requires permits for point source discharges of stormwater from industrial activities and from certain municipal areas in urbanizing and developing areas. In addition the EMC and DWQ implement state stormwater permitting programs that are designed to control stormwater runoff from new development and redevelopment activities occurring near sensitive areas (Water Supply Watersheds, High Quality and Outstanding Resource Waters, Nutrient Sensitive Waters, Coastal Waters, Post-Construction adjacent to regulated municipal NPDES areas).

In the 2008 annual report the Division noted the process with the development and implementation of updated Coastal Stormwater Management Program Requirements over the previous year. Changes to this program were finalized under Session Law 2008-211. The Division began implementation of these revisions on October 1, 2008. As noted in last years report the Division held a number of training workshops on the revised requirements in September 2008. More information can be found at <http://h2o.enr.state.nc.us/su/coastal.htm>. Overall, it appears that the new program requirements have been implemented effectively through our two coastal regional offices. The Division will continue to work on any implementation issues to assure efficient implementation of the program. The Division has also noticed and finalized technical guidance updates in our Stormwater Best Management Practices (BMP) Manual and our application forms for the State Stormwater Programs. A number of these changes are related to updates that are part of SL 2008-211. The BMP manual and related information can be accessed at http://h2o.enr.state.nc.us/su/bmp_forms.htm.

Previous reports have outlined ongoing activities associated with implementation of the federal phase II municipal (MS4) NPDES stormwater program. This program is implemented under S.L. 2006-246 and continues to be a major emphasis. Permits under this program currently regulate 108 entities across the state. The majority of these entities are local governments with a few state and federal entities covered as well. Local government programs require the development and implementation of local ordinances to set certain local requirements for post-construction control. In accordance with S.L. 2006-246 the Division and Commission continue to review other potential entities for designation into this program. A number of other entities have received waivers or been exempted in accordance with SL 2006-246. Over the next year a majority of these permitted MS4's will be required to renew their permits (which were first issued in 2005). The Division will place a significant amount of effort into these permit renewals. The Division is working at this time to provide outreach and information to these entities on the renewal process and what changes may be expected in the renewed permits. The Division has an ongoing audit program to assess portions of the permitted communities each year. Along with the MS4 program, the state implements the post-construction stormwater management program outlined in S.L. 2006-246 in areas adjacent to MS4 regulated entities. Information on the implementation of this program can be found at: http://h2o.enr.state.nc.us/su/msi_post-construction.htm.

In the industrial NPDES permitting program the Division has reissued four general stormwater permits covering more than over 400 facilities statewide for industries that include asphalt plants, textile mill products, furniture, and marinas. The renewals made several procedural changes in an effort to promote stormwater pollution prevention and the development of more effective tools to help the permit holders and the Division in compliance with regulations. These changes are consistent with general permit changes previously made for other industries and for a large number of individual permit renewals that

have been processed over the last year. These permits and technical guidance information can be found at http://h2o.enr.state.nc.us/su/Forms_Documents.htm. In response to HB 1100, passed earlier this year, the Division is working with the Compost Industry in a stakeholder process to evaluate the appropriate permitting procedures for stormwater and wastewater that may be generated from their facilities. Currently the stakeholder participant list is being finalized for this group. Regular reports will be provided on the status of this group's efforts.

The Division continues to work to provide technical assistance and outreach in our various stormwater management program areas. A few major areas of technical assistance/outreach are noted here:

- ♦ As noted above the Division has updated our Stormwater BMP Manual and provided related technical and application updates. http://h2o.enr.state.nc.us/su/bmp_forms.htm
- ♦ Division staff have provided outreach and education through visits to schools, meetings with various councils of government, exhibits at festivals and fairs, workshops for the regulated community and our outreach and education Listserv. Some of these efforts have been impacted by budget constraints over the past year. Division outreach efforts have continued at events such as Earth Day and BugFest in downtown Raleigh and the Division will once again have a prominent display in the State Fair's Green NC exhibit that will include demonstrations of innovative stormwater management practices such as permeable pavement and rainwater harvesting. These events allow the Division to reach a large number of people and groups. Learn more about the division's stormwater awareness outreach and education efforts by visiting <http://www.ncstormwater.org>.
- ♦ The Division continues to partner with N.C. University to offer Stormwater BMP Reviewer Certification workshops. The workshop includes training on stormwater management, regulatory issues and review of BMP design, implementation, maintenance and inspection. Upon successful completion of the course, municipal representatives received certification that will allow for increased local input and control in the stormwater management plan approval process and help to eliminate duplicative review at the state level. Due to limited resources, only one workshop has been held so far this year with one additional planned for December. For more information: http://www.bae.ncsu.edu/workshops/bmp_review/index.php.
- ♦ The Division has partnered in a new effort with The Water Resources Research Institute (WRI) to offer regular stormwater training activities for engineers, consultants, local governments and other interested parties. Our initial efforts have been well received in this outreach area and the Division plans for this to be a regular effort at various locations across the state. More information can be found at <http://www.ncsu.edu/wri/events/dwg/>.
- ♦ The Division has also scheduled workshops in October to provide training on recently finalized Jordan Lake Nutrient Management Requirements. Continued outreach is planned in this area over the next few years.