

**MINUTES -  
NH Lower Merrimack Valley Stormwater Coalition Meeting  
Call-in**

**Thursday, April 9, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.**

<b>Present:</b>		<i>Scott McPhee</i>	<i>Nashua</i>
<i>Jeremy Bouvier, Chair</i>	<i>Manchester</i>	<i>Amy Pouty-Gill</i>	<i>Nashua</i>
<i>Dawn Tuomala, Chair</i>	<i>Merrimack</i>	<i>Sara Siskavich</i>	<i>NashuaRPC</i>
<i>David Cressman</i>	<i>Atkinson</i>	<i>Deb Loiselle</i>	<i>NHDES</i>
<i>Eric Hahn</i>	<i>Amherst</i>	<i>Barbara McMillan</i>	<i>NHDES</i>
<i>Jeanne Walker</i>	<i>Bedford</i>	<i>Tom Swenson</i>	<i>NHDES</i>
<i>Brandon Boisvert</i>	<i>Bedford</i>	<i>Katie Zink</i>	<i>NHDES</i>
<i>Craig Durrett</i>	<i>Derry</i>	<i>Jeff Gowan</i>	<i>Pelham</i>
<i>Suzanne Warner</i>	<i>EPA</i>	<i>Dee Voss</i>	<i>Plaistow</i>
<i>Sarah Whearty</i>	<i>Goffstown</i>	<i>Lyndsay Butler</i>	<i>Salem</i>
<i>Lori Mather</i>	<i>GeoInsight</i>	<i>Mike Leach</i>	<i>Stantec</i>
<i>Joan Cudworth</i>	<i>Hollis</i>	<i>Zach Swick</i>	<i>SNHRPC</i>
<i>Thomas Bartula</i>	<i>Hooksett</i>	<i>Sylvia VonAulock</i>	<i>SNHRPC</i>
<i>Earl Labonte</i>	<i>Hooksett</i>	<i>Julia Peterson</i>	<i>UNH ext./ Sea Grant</i>
<i>Heidi Marshall</i>	<i>Hoyle-Tanner</i>	<i>Jamie Houle</i>	<i>UNH SC</i>
<i>Ashley Ruprecht</i>	<i>Laconia</i>	<i>Amanda Furtado</i>	<i>VA Medical Center</i>
<i>Kellie Shamel</i>	<i>Milford</i>	<i>Michele Decouteau</i>	<i>Wilton</i>
<i>Lincoln Daily</i>	<i>Milford</i>	<i>Dick Gregory</i>	<i>Windham</i>
<i>Deb Chisholm</i>	<i>Nashua</i>		

**April 9, 2020 Meeting Presentations**

- 1. Introductions:** Those in attendance are listed above.
- 2. Meeting Minutes:**
  - February minutes were postponed.
  - March minutes were approved.
- 3. MCM #1 Year 2 Requirements:**
  - Tom and Barb gave an update.
  - Construction requirements document.
  - This requirement is to be sent out twice within the 5 year permit term.
  - This can be part of MCM #4 Construction Site Runoff.
  - This is tracking to make sure you're getting message out.
  - There are checklists from NH municipalities that are in the SOP and on the MS4 Blog.
  - Suzanne Warner (EPA) provided a [EPA Fact Sheet](#), that is older, but still relevant.
  - This should not have much cost associated with it.

- Please provide feedback on these, contact Barb or Tom.
- Tom went over the [Dover pre-construction checklist](#).
- [Derry's document](#) has more information; the checklist is on page 6. On page 8 you will see each item broken down with additional information.
- [Alabama Fact Sheet](#)
  - Has useful information
  - The factsheet covers information on pre and post construction.
  - In the Alabama fact sheet- if people like it we will reach out to them and see if we can recreate it with NH updates.
- The EPA Fact Sheet focuses on low impact development. It gives background information and info on LID cost, etc.
- These are just a few examples you can use. There is more information available.
- Please reach out to Barb or Tom if you need help customizing any of these.
- Year 2 information is online with UNH T2. Barb will work on putting together SOPs.
- Slide 17 has a PSA for non-flushable items. These are Covid-19 opportunities for NH MS4 municipalities to consider.
- There were missed opportunities as the Landscaper Training for Water Quality is being postponed to March 2021.
- Q- Has anyone done anything or thought about this?
  - A-Craig (Derry): People are on social media far more often. I have seen a lot of posts about non-flushables. They are trying to look into how to react such as if pumps are heating up, etc.
  - A- People are out walking their dogs more. It might be a good time to remind people to pick up their dog waste.
- PREP is no longer supporting EveryDrop but they are committed to keep up with the pet waste online pledges. Be sure to put that into your annual report. We will provide numbers a week or so before your annual report.
- If you were able to use the products, please let PREP know.
- You need to message for pet waste yearly.
- Q- Craig (Derry): Has the contact for this changed?
  - A- No, it is still Trevor Mattera [Trevor.Mattera@unh.edu](mailto:Trevor.Mattera@unh.edu).
- Julia Peterson (UNH Cooperative Extension) presented on Fertilizer.
- Materials can be found at <https://seagrant.unh.edu/WQ-and-lawns-outreach>. It is also on the MS4 Blog under "NH Resources/MCM #1 / Fertilizer".
- These are based on science and social science.
- There is flexibility so that MS4s could customize this information.

- The Green Grass Clear Water materials are aimed at a lay audience, but the technical information is available as well. That way you can create your own materials if you would like to.
- The kits to help adopt better behavior are available. The [Green Grass and Clean Water SOP](#) is on the MS4 Blog.
  - Tape measure, clip, and rain gage. There is also an information card with a QR code that leads to a survey. She will share information from the survey with the coalition.
- Working on SOP for Yard Waste Management.
- Landscaping Workshop will be rescheduled to March 2021. It will still be held in Derry.

#### 4. EPA Updates:

- Suzanne Warner (EPA Region 1) presented.
- MS4 Modifications- There were no significant comments on the settlement agreement so that is moving forward.
- Changes include Water Quality based requirements, development/ redevelopment ordinances, and the construction section was rearranged.
- The 45-day public comment period has not opened but they anticipate this will be soon.
- They are hoping to approve modifications before June 30<sup>th</sup>.
- MS4 Annual Reports- EPA plans to use the check box format again.
- They had interns helping with entering information from annual reports into their database. Suzanne QC'd the data based on the permit requirements.
- This is where Suzanne's job ends and the data is passed to the EPA Enforcement Section. If there are issues with the Annual Report, it will be the EPA Enforcement Section that will contact the municipality to get more information or set up an audit or inspection.
- This is unlike the NOI submittal where you get notification. You will **not** be receiving a letter from EPA with specific feedback on the annual reports.
- EPA is working on a draft template for the Year 2 Annual Report. They would like to have them out by June 30<sup>th</sup>.
- They would like to see increased use of the EPA template. They are working to make it more user friendly. They will still use the check boxes and are planning on using the PDF format but would like to reach out to communities for feedback on usability and feedback. Suzanne will coordinate this effort through Deb Loiselle to obtain NH MS4 municipality feedback.
- There is a link to a [memo from EPA regarding Covid-19](#). The important takeaway is that you should do your best, but if you can't make sample requirements, make note of that in your SWMP and Annual Report. There will be understanding and discretion in regards to enforcement actions.
- There will be no changes to the permit. The flexibility will be on the enforcement side.
- Good documentation is important at this time.

- Q- Does non-compliance get reported to ECHO?
  - A- That's a good point, that is something the enforcement office is working on. They are looking into a special reporting code. However it does not at this time.
  - Jeremy confirmed that Manchester received those codes last week.
- The [Multi Sector General Permit \(MSGP\) draft](#) is available for public comment.
- There is a fact sheet. There is a webinar happening right now that may be posted on the website.
- EPA is taking comments until May 1, 2020. They are considering extending the deadline due to COVID. *Update: The deadline has been extended to May 31, 2020.*
- Comments can be submitted online.
- NAS NRC study found:
  - Suggest benchmark monitoring improvements.
  - Study numeric SW retention requirements.
  - Evaluate sector specific information and highest priority industries for additional monitoring.
- Changes to the MSGP include:
  - Coal Tar sealant exclusion.
  - Universal benchmark monitoring for pH, TSS, COD of SW discharges.
  - New benchmarks for sectors I, P and R.
  - Tiered corrective action type actions.
  - Impaired waters monitoring for all pollutants associated with industrial activity at the site.

**5. Dry Weather Outfall and Interconnection Screening and Sampling Procedure:**

- Jamie Houle Presented.
- This summer is the best time to sample to get dry weather flows for Year 3.
- UNH will develop videos with information on sampling and a list of equipment.
- The dry weather flow kit and procedures will be for ammonia, chlorine, conductivity, salinity, E. coli or Enterococci, surfactants, temperature, phosphorus and nitrogen.
- If you already know about illicit discharges you should have reported them. This is to find ones that you don't know about.
- Cost estimates and instructional video will be available.
- The YSI ProPlus is being recommended. It is expensive but it does a lot.
- It does not do chlorine, but those can be done with a test strip.
- It also doesn't do phosphorus or nitrogen.
- The hardest part is bacteria if you don't have a WWTF in your municipality that is willing to run your samples.
- UNH is working on EDNA processes to look into ribosomal DNA which will show the genetics of the sample.
- This looks at ratios of bacteria in the sample to discern if there is human impact.

- This method is relatively cheap (about \$20 per sample).
- This might be out next year for everybody- this year they are working with a town on the seacoast.
- The surfactants kits have toxic waste. There are advanced procedures for handling and disposal. You can send this to an EPA certified lab. Keep in mind holding times, preservation etc.
- UNH will use the Chemetics to work out a curve with absorbent material and a black light.
- Chlorine will be sampled with test strips.
- Phosphate can be sampled with a product from Hach using a color wheel.
- Nitrate- The YSI ProPlus can measure Nitrate and Ammonium. UNH may have to develop regressions as Nitrate is a portion of total nitrogen.
- Total cost for equipment is \$11,531.02 They haven't worked out what the recommendations are but hope to have conclusions by the end of May.
- Q- Scott (Nashua) What is the benefit of this over a consultant?
  - A- If you can buy this kit and train staff you can do the sampling on your own.

#### 6. **MCM #4 Construction Site Runoff Control and MCM #5 Post Construction Stormwater Management:**

- Jeanne Walker (Bedford) presented.
- She put comments in with her changes to the document.
- This was started by Gordon Leedy (formerly Amherst) last year and she did additional updates.
- This was based on SWA document and Year 2 requirements were added.
- Development and redevelopment language was added.
- Legal review was done in Bedford and she incorporated that as well.
- This because Bedford's SW and Land disturbance regulations which go hand in hand with the ordinance that Dawn had created.
- This needs to be tailored to each community.
- There are comments and highlights throughout the document which call out where changes need to be made.
- There is a form from Norton Massachusetts that had been modified for Bedford.
- Deb- This is a homework item for next month. Questions, comments and discussion will continue next month.

#### 7. **Updates and Other Business:**

- Long Island Sound Futures Fund 2020 RFP  
Proposals due June 2, 2020  
Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York and Vermont grants available for: *Water quality – projects whose primary purpose is to prevent or reduce nitrogen loading such as enhancing riparian forested buffer/channel, in-stream restoration, reducing agricultural runoff, low- cost retrofits at wastewater treatment facilities etc.*

#### **Check-out the RFP!**

**Register for a Webinar! RFP Updates & Enhancements – April 8, 10:00-11:30!**

MA, NH, VT Applicants: [Register Here](#)

- 2020 Water Infrastructure Funding Workshop **CANCELLED**  
April 10, 2020  
NHDES Offices  
29 Hazen Drive, Concord NH  
Register Online: <https://2020-nhdes-water-infrastructure-workshop.eventbrite.com>
- 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Nonpoint Source Pollution Conference **POSTPONED to April 2021**  
April 23 & 24, 2020  
Woodstock Inn and Resort  
Woodstock, VT  
Agenda and Registration: <https://neiwppc.org/our-programs/nps/annual-nps-conference/>
- 2020 New Hampshire Salt Symposium  
September 15, 2020 **SAVE THE DATE**  
Pats Peak Ski Area  
Henniker, NH  
More information coming in the next few months
- 2020 Asset Management Workshop for Water Infrastructure  
November 5, 2020 **SAVE THE DATE**
- 2020 Soak up the Rain NH has updated the NH Homeowners Guide to Stormwater Management.
- Margarita Chatterton is looking for information on spraying public places with a cleaning agent as an attempt to control the Covid-19 virus. Contact her at [Margarita.Chatterton@DEM.RI.GOV](mailto:Margarita.Chatterton@DEM.RI.GOV)
- Jamie Houle was contacted by Seth Brown (National SW) he offered a year membership that would get us access to additional templates. UNH will be the applicant. He didn't see a downside to this but if you do, let him know. He has a short survey that he would like to have filled out. Would it be ok to ask folks to fill that out.
  - Manchester already got that.
  - Deb will distribute this to the group.
- Sarah brought up Lidar data that is newly available. NRPC is downloading the data now. It is available by watershed. IT can be used for flow monitoring, etc.

#### 8. Upcoming meeting dates for 2019 – Mark your calendars!

Please email potential agenda items and/or presentations to Deb Loiselle at [deborah.loiselle@des.nh.gov](mailto:deborah.loiselle@des.nh.gov). These will be considered for upcoming meetings and very helpful in the development of the monthly agendas.

- **May 14<sup>th</sup>**: Update the SWMP (or various documents for inclusion into the SWMP), Public Participation and Involvement (MCM #2), and Annual Report Year 2.
- **June 11<sup>th</sup>**: Annual Report Year 2

- **July 16<sup>th</sup>: Please note that this is not the regularly scheduled Thursday meeting date**
- **August 13<sup>th</sup>:**
- **September 10<sup>th</sup>:**
- **October 8<sup>th</sup>:**
- **November 12<sup>th</sup>:**
- **December 10<sup>th</sup>:**