

Seacoast Stormwater Coalition Meeting Minutes

Zoom meeting

Wednesday, March 16, 2022, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Present:

Gretchen Young, Dover- Chair

April Talon, Durham

*Annie Tucker, Environmental Partners Inc./
Durham*

Nils Larson, Exeter

*Cameron Twombly, FB Environmental/ N.
Hampton*

Matt Scruton, Greenland

Heidi Marshall, Hoyle-Tanner

Michael Trinqué, Hoyle-Tanner/ SWA/Chester

Lisa Perreault, Kingston

Bill Meserve, Newfields

Sean Greig, Newmarket

Andrea Bejtlich, NHDES

Deb Loiselle, NHDES

Tom Swenson, NHDES

Katie Zink, NHDES

Jamie McCarty, Portsmouth

Daniel Okuniewicz, Portsmouth

Abigail Lyon, PREP

Jason Rucker, Rye

Amber Hall, Somersworth

Autumn Scott, SRPC

Matt Perry, TEC/Seabrook

David Bowley, UNH

Will Powers, UNH

Bill Arcieri, VHB

Megan Dalton, Verdantas/Kingston

Britt Eckstrom, Wright-Pierce

Christine Rinehart, Wright-Pierce

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- 1. Introductions:** All in attendance are listed above.
 - 2. Meeting minutes:** Meeting minutes will be approved when we meet in person, they will remain on the MS4 Blog in draft form until then.
 - 3. Construction General Permit (CGP) Resources and Feedback:**
 - Deb Loiselle presented on the new [CGP](#).
 - This is currently under MCM #1 under Developers Resources.
 - This will move when the new website is live.
 - This is not part of the MS4 permit requirements but there is a lot of overlap in information and requirements.
 - NHDES is not the permitting authority for the CGP, but we are here to help. The EPA contact is Michelle Vuto her email is Vuto.Michelle@epa.gov.
 - There is a link to the permit on the MS4 Blog that brings you to the EPA site. There is a lot of information on this site.
 - The [CGP FAQ document](#) is well organized with a lot of good information. Key things of interest include:
 - This is for land disturbance of one acre or greater- this does not include maintenance.
 - NOI coverage is on pages 12/13.
 - Turbidity monitoring guidance is on page 28.
 - Reporting relative to monitoring is on page 29.
 - Certification process for qualified inspectors is new. Inspectors have a year to get certified. If you are working under an existing NOI you need to follow those requirements, for that you need to be qualified but not certified.
 - There will be a free training for certification coming this summer. It will be an online course with an exam.
 - You will need to get an 80% on the exam to pass but can take the exam more than once.

- Another option is through non-EPA trainings that are listed in the FAQ document. These can be costly, \$500-\$600. These options are vetted by EPA but they don't recommend one over another.
- You do not need to be certified for the MS4 permit requirement.
- Reach out to Tom, Deb, Gretchen, or EPA with questions.
- Poll Question- Did anyone have trouble getting into the recent webinar?
 - One person could not get into the webinar.
- Did anyone attend?
 - A couple did attend and found it beneficial.
- We will post the recording on the MS4 Blog when it is available.
- Q- Was it geared toward contractors?
 - A- No, it was for anyone, they clarified a lot of information. The Q&A session at the end was more geared towards contractors.
- Q- Should we focus a coalition meeting on what's needed in an NOI?
 - Several people think its worthy of discussion and clarification.

4. Funding Opportunities:

- Deb Loiselle presented.
- 2022 Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Loan Program
 - NHDES "Virtual" Water Infrastructure Workshop Webinar Series
April 11th-13th & April 15th
[Details and Registration](#) register for each session individually.
[Agenda](#)
 - Anticipated Dates & Critical Deadlines
 1. End of March/Early April: Pre-applications available
 2. June 1st: Pre-applications due
 3. July: Project ranking based on criteria
 4. August: NHDES publishes Intended Use Plan (IUP) & Project Priority List (PPL)
 5. August: IUP and PPL out for public review and comment
 6. September/October: Entities notified of authorized projects
 - Critical Flood Risk Infrastructure Grant (CFRING)
 1. 4.5 million in grants (no match required)
 2. Coastal communities only
 3. For Planning and Assessment and Implementation projects. Projects that span both categories will also be considered (i.e., an implementation project with a planning and/or assessment component).
 4. [Critical Flood Risk Infrastructure Grant Program – NHDES Infrastructure Funding \(state.nh.us\)](#)
 - Culvert Flood Risk Assistance
 1. \$1.2 Million in grants (no match required)
 2. Statewide
 3. Goal: Support the replacement of outdated, undersized, perched and/or degraded culverts highly susceptible to flooding.
 4. NHDES Website: https://www4.des.state.nh.us/infrastructure-funding/?page_id=144
 5. Solicitation announcement anticipated Spring 2022
 1. Q-Are CFRING and Culvert Flood Risk Assistance two different grants or the same?

A- They are different. Feel free to reach out to Ben Sweeney at Benjamin.R.Sweeney1@des.nh.gov with questions.

2. Q- Are there different deadlines for all the applications?

A- Yes there are.

- Restore America's Estuaries (RAE) Funding Opportunity
 1. 2022 NEP Coastal Watersheds Grant Request for Proposals
[Requests for Proposals](#)
Letters of Intent Due: Friday, May 27, 2022 by 5:00 pm
Informational Webinars on [March 24](#) and [March 30](#)
[Learn More](#)

- The MS4 Blog has a [funding opportunities page](#), which is new.

5. Year 4 Requirements:

- Tom Swenson presented.
- Year 4 does not have a large number of requirements compared to Year 3.
- The [Year 4 requirements table](#) is under resources on the NH Resources page.
- Last month we went through the MCM 1-3 requirements.
- We will go through the Appendix F & H requirements next month.
- System Vulnerability Factors- Gretchen, Jamie, and others will write up a blurb to go along with the spreadsheet.
- This spreadsheet will be posted on the MS4 Blog soon.
- This requirements table might look long, but some of the requirements just involve tracking.
- Track site reviews and inspections for your annual report.
- Assess street design and parking lot guidelines and other requirements in terms of creation of impervious cover. Next month we will have a document to help with this requirement.
- Assess regulations on zoning and construction codes to make certain green infrastructure practices are allowable. Next month we will have a document to help with this requirement.
- Inventory and priority ranking of permittee owned property for retrofit.
- Report total number of catch basins, number inspected, cleaned, etc. on your annual report.
- Report metrics for street sweeping on your annual report.
- Training for employees for SW/SWPPP activities.
- Report findings for municipal site inspections that are exposed to SW.
- Record BMP modifications on your annual report.
- Document water quality monitoring results.
- Document any studies conducted during the reporting period.
- Q- Are these studies done during the permit or because of the permit?
 - A- Tom will investigate this.
- Q- Do we have to report all BMPs?
 - A-No, just the BMPs you installed because of the permit.
- Please let Deb, Tom, and/or Gretchen know if you need assistance or just to check in.

6. MCM #1 Pet Waste Outreach Resources:

- Tom Swenson presented.
- Now is a good time to do pet waste outreach since dog license renewals are due soon.
- Remember that there are customizable post cards, brochures, etc. on the MS4 Blog.

7. Additional Resources and Topics:

- Gretchen presented.

- Q-What would people like more information or help with?
 - A-Some potential ideas are dams, Construction General Permit, septic systems, SOAK Up the Rain Program, Green Snow Pro Program.
- Q- Are the winter maintenance trainings on the agenda for municipal staff only?
 - A- Some of them are but some aren't. Tom will send April a link to the T2 trainings for contractors so she can share with them.

8. New and Improved NH MS4 Blog- coming soon:

- Tom Swenson presented.
- We are in the process of migrating the MS4 Blog to a new server.
- The new MS4 Blog will use the same platform as the NHDES website but will be a totally separate website.
- The current blog platform no longer meets the security requirements of NHDES.
- The current platform is outdated and has been crashing a lot.
- Hopefully the new MS4 Blog will be up in late spring or early summer.

9. Winter Maintenance:

- Tom Swenson presented.
- NHDES is still working on the rules and regulations for the Municipal Green SnowPro Program.
- UNH T2 is offering several winter maintenance trainings which are geared towards municipalities.
- Go to the [calendar](#) on the MS4 blog or look in the Updates and Other Business section of this agenda for more information.

10. Updates and Other Business:

- [UNH T2 Trainings Calendar](#)
March 16th, 8:00-9:30 am
[Stormwater Green Infrastructure Maintenance](#)
Virtual, Free
- September 8th & September 15th & September 21st & September 29th
October 13th & November 16th & November 17th
Time TBD
- *Snowfighters Seminar*
Registration Coming Soon
\$60.00 for municipal staff
September 20th & October 4th Time TBD
- *Data-Driven Winter Maintenance*
Registration Coming Soon
- **NHDES Water Infrastructure Funding Workshop**
April 11th – April 13th and April 15th
[Details and Registration](#)
[Agenda](#)
- **2022 Annual Asset Management Conference for Water Infrastructure**
November 3, 2022

All day event (in-person)
Pembroke Army National Guard Readiness Center
Pembroke, NH
Details and Registration Coming Soon

- **NHDES Infrastructure Funding Webpage**

NHDES weblink: <https://www4.des.state.nh.us/infrastructure-funding/>

Information on any available funding will be posted on this website

Sign up for email alerts from NHDES pertaining to CWSRF/ARPA/Infrastructure funding opportunities at: https://www4.des.state.nh.us/infrastructure-funding/?page_id=26

Upcoming events and funding deadlines (currently known):

https://www4.des.state.nh.us/infrastructure-funding/?page_id=73

11. Upcoming Meeting Dates and Agenda Focus for 2022 – *Mark your calendars!*

Meetings will occur on the 3rd Wednesday of each month.

April 20th: Year 4 subcommittee materials

May 18th:

June 15th:

July 20th: Prepare for Year 4 Annual Report

August 17th: Prepare for Year 4 Annual Report

September 21st:

October 19th:

November 16th:

December 21st:

Please email potential agenda items and/or presentations to Gretchen Young at G.Young@dover.nh.gov or Deb Loiselle at deborah.loiselle@des.nh.gov. These will be considered for upcoming meetings and very helpful in the development of the monthly agendas.