

Stormwater Consortium of Rockland County Meeting Notes

November 16, 2006 at 2:00 pm at Cornell Cooperative Extension

Present: Jeff Geller & Paul Trader (CCE), Doris Ulman (Pomona), Joseph Caruso (Haverstraw), Jackie Bubenko and Tom Purvis (Stony Point), Lance Millman (Montebello), Frank Fleischer and Keith Armstrong (RC Drainage Agency), Jim Dean and Ron Delo (Orangetown), Ted Dzurinko (Ramapo), Mary Hegarty (SWCD)

1. Jeff called the meeting to order at 2:10 pm.
2. Consortium Updates:
 - A. Members were asked to review the contact list for accuracy.
 - B. Jeff distributed a list of MS4s and the Intermunicipal Agreements, MOUs Letter of Intent Round 8 and Round 9 that have been received to date. Jeff explained that CCE and the SWCD had met with the DEC in regard to the Round 8 grant. Members may be added or removed when submitting for the Round 8 work plan at a later date.
 - C. Jim Dean suggested that Marie Lorenzini (Village of Nyack) be invited to participate in the Consortium.
 - D. A committee will be established to develop the Round 8 work plan. The SWCD received a letter (9/29/6) indicating that the Consortium was awarded the grant. Once the forms and instructions are received from the DEC, the Consortium has 90 days to complete and submit the work plan. The SWCD will not decide which MS4s do or do not comply; they will self-select by submitting the appropriate paperwork. If some MS4s do not complete the paperwork or participate, the remaining funds cannot be divided by the participating members. The work plan committee members will be Ron Delo, Doris Ulman, Ted Dzurinko, Jeff Geller, Luke Kalarickal, Mary Hegarty and Jackie Bubenko. Jeff will contact members to set a meeting date/time.
 - E. Round 9 Grant – was submitted on time. The DEC has not announced any timeframes or deadlines on this grant.
3. Erosion & Sediment Control Law – Drafting of this ordinance was put on hold while the Consortium was applying for the Round 9 Grant. The rough draft was sent to the DEC for comments; we have received their comments and the subcommittee will meet on December 6 at 2:00 pm at Cooperative Extension to address those comments.
4. Public Outreach and Education:
 - A. Website Content – Jeff drafted information to be posted on the Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) website. Once it is up and running, the MS4s will be invited to link their municipal websites to CCE's stormwater website. Doris expressed a concern that there is a tremendous lack of information available to the public on the value and maintenance of wetlands; she suggested that it be included on the Stormwater website.

The Consortium members agreed on the need for and setup of this website. Tom Purvis suggested posting information from one of the EPA pamphlets, since they are useful and well-designed. It should also contain seasonal tips. For MS4 members, it should also include copies of MOUs, Intermunicipal Agreements, etc. MS4 annual reports should be posted on their own websites. Jim Dean noted that he has worked with Keep Rockland Beautiful, Inc. to develop a logo for their clean streets program which could give some ideas.

B. Planned Trainings/Workshops

- A workshop on *Green Building* will be offered on December 5 at 7:00 pm at Orangetown Town Hall; sponsored by the Rockland County Municipal Planning Federation and CCE. Speakers include Professor Jack Elliot from Cornell University, and Edward Clerico, P.E., President of Alliance Environmental, LLC. This workshop is open to the public and municipal employees; it was publicized in the Planning Federation's newsletter. The event will be promoted through local media and CCE website (<http://www.rocklandcce.org/>).
- A workshop (dinner meeting) on *Stormwater Regulations Update and Better Site Design* will be held on February 15, 2007 from 7:00 – 9:00 pm, most likely at LaTerrazza in New City. The main speaker will be Barbara Kendall and a possible second speaker to discuss the importance and proper installation of Raingardens. It will be sponsored by the Rockland County Builders & Remodelers Association, the Professional Landscape Association of Rockland County, CCE and NYSDEC.

C. Municipal employees – Jeff and Mary explained a Municipal Stormwater Pollution Prevention Education packet and video, which was provided by the Hudson Valley Regional Council and funded by the DEC. Jeff asked if it would be helpful in training MS4 employees. The group recommended that a group presentation or seminar be offered for MS4 employees, which includes case studies. Copies should also be available for loan to MS4s. The Consortium reviewed the video and felt that it would be useful to educating their municipal employees. It was also suggested that the video be made available to the general public, Buildings and Grounds departments at public schools, temples, churches and other sites which need to be aware of best management practices for stormwater.

D. Construction Site Inspections – Jeff proposed the idea of training volunteers to serve as construction site inspectors after storm events. After viewing his presentation, the Consortium showed support for the training, but expressed concern with the liability of volunteers actually setting foot on active construction sites. Jeff will have follow-up discussions with the DEC and consortium members on the development of this training. The training could be offered to civic associations and other volunteer organizations.

5. New items:

A. Jim Dean mentioned that the Soil and Water Conservation District is working with the Hudson Basin River Watch to assess the quality of water in 20 locations along local

streams, using DEC protocol. He distributed a summary of the project; the final project summary will be presented to the Soil and Water Conservation District in March 2007. It is helping Orangetown identify problem areas and establish baseline data on the health of streams in Orangetown. He suggested that the Consortium consider conducting a similar type of study of other streams in the county in the future.

6. Next Consortium meeting will be set after the December 6 meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 pm.