

Stormwater Consortium of Rockland County

Meeting Minutes

Date/time: April 12, 2005, 9:00 - 11:00 am at Clarkstown Town Hall, New City, NY

Present: Jim Anderson, Victor Overton (Upper Nyack); Jose Simoes, K. Luke Kalarickal, Wayne Ballard, Dennis Letson (Clarkstown); James Johnson (South Nyack); Michael Sadowski, Ted Dzurinko (Ramapo); Joseph Caruso, George Tooma Jr. (Town of Haverstraw); Honorable Bud Wassmer (Village of Haverstraw); Larry Brissing (Stony Point); Jim Dean, Ronald Delo (Orangetown); P.J. Corless (Villages of Haverstraw, W. Haverstraw, Pomona); Doris Ulman (Chestnut Ridge); Carl Rossi (Suffern); Honorable Ellen Jaffee (Rockland County Legislature), Mary Hegarty, Paul Trader (Cornell Cooperative Extension)

1. **Welcome/introductions:**

- A. Welcome to four new participating villages -- Upper Nyack, Nyack, South Nyack and Montebello.
- B. Paul Trader explained that Mary Hegarty has accepted an environmental position with the Rockland County Division of Environmental Resources and will begin there around May 2. CCE is in the process of hiring an environmental educator who will probably assume Stormwater Education responsibilities, along with other duties. The program will continue through Cooperative Extension and Paul will be the contact until the new educator arrives.

2. **Annual Reports:**

- A. The group asked Mary to provide them with an accounting of the number of people from each municipality that attend the residential classes -- for their quarterly and annual reports. They also asked for copies of flyers/brochures that are used to publicize those classes.
- B. Orangetown and Clarkstown have already received written comments from Barbara Kendall at the NYSDEC regarding documents such as annual reports and NOIs; most were minor details.

3. **NYS-DEC Grant Application:** Due April 29, 2005; the Soil & Water Conservation District will be eligible to apply for such grants. The DEC does not yet know the focus of next year's grants/RFPs.

- A. Ramapo is writing a grant for a project with a public/private developer to install a retention basin in the town; applied through the non-point source category. There is no limit on the amount of funding that may be requested but it requires a 50% match from the municipality.
- B. Orangetown is exploring a grant to conduct a feasibility study to create a drainage district, develop model ordinances and comply with six points of their NOI. A second grant will help them capture salt brine from trucks unloading roadsalt and remix with other materials for re-use.

4. **Education/Outreach Report:**

- A. PSAs: Mary taped a public service announcement (PSA) aimed at educating the general public about storm drains. It will air about 100 times in May on Cablevision stations. Another video will be aired in autumn. Additional PSAs will be aired on radio stations this summer. Mike Sadowski ask CCE to see if the video can be put in digital format for linking/posting on municipal/CCE stormwater websites. Paul Trader will check on this.
- B. FACT SHEETS: Mary distributed fact sheets on stormwater. CCE will eventually post them on their website. She distributes these fact sheets at all classes and through town/village halls.
- C. LEAPE (*Locally-led Education and Action for Protecting the Environment*) is offering a "train-the-trainer" class in Rockland on June 15-16 at CCE in Stony Point. It is for people who would be willing to serve as community educators in this subject. Training at a later date will introduce LEAPE to municipal and department officials.
- D. CLASSES:
- 1) MUNICIPAL: Mary is considering offering a class on low impact development for developers and contractors. The group suggested that she first offer it to planning boards, town/village boards, municipal officials, DPWs, highway departments. Later, offer training for developers, property owners/managers, realtors and county residents. MS4s will be able to claim credit for this in their reports.
 - Mary noted that the CWP in Westchester offers such training (Dennis L. attended). Perhaps they could be invited to offer the training in Rockland; to cover the costs of this workshop, consider applying for an O&R grant.
 - Consider obtaining continuing education credits for professionals, when possible. Contact the Society of Professional Engineers for credits.
 - Barbara Kendall (DEC) will offer a workshop in late summer in Rockland on *Minimum Construction Measures #4 and #5*, probably for code enforcers.
 - Best time for classes for highway/DPW crews are late winter to early spring, or mid September - early November; 8-11 am; repeat from 12-3 pm.
 - 2) BUSINESSES: Consider offering training for landscapers in proper disposal of yard wastes (chemicals too), in cooperation with the Professional Landscape Association of Rockland County.
 - 3) RESIDENTS: CCE will continue to offer stormwater education classes for county residents.
5. **Stormwater Consortium:** Jim Dean proposed forming a Stormwater Consortium from this group, possibly through the Rockland County Soil & Water Conservation District. This could serve as a sponsoring group for grants and would increase the likelihood of obtaining grants by demonstrating countywide collaboration. In Orange County, 35 MS4s created such a consortium. Mary will explore this with Allan Beers.
6. **Visit with County Legislator Ellen Jaffee** - In a discussion with Ellen Jaffee, the group asked for her help in:

- A. **ILLCIT DISCHARGE ORDINANCE:** Exploring and adopting a countywide ordinance on illicit discharge, to be replicated at the town/village level. Current "nuisance" laws are not strong enough. (Barbara Kendall of the DEC has a model ordinance for the town/village level but has not yet issued such a law for county-level). A subcommittee of our group was formed to recommend a model ordinance to Legislator Jaffee (including Luke Kalarickal, Jim Dean, Ron Delo, Doris Ulman, Carl Rossi). County departments such as Highway, Environmental Resources, Environmental Health and Drainage should be invited to participate in this effort. Paul will arrange a meeting.

Jim Dean noted that recently *Keep Rockland Beautiful* held a meeting of 50+ people (code enforcers, judges, police, highway and DPW staff, etc.), encouraging everyone to take part responsibility in enforcement of this issue. In Fairlawn, NJ letters are sent to people who are spotted (by volunteers) littering/dumping.

Mary noted that the DEC is encouraging MS4s to adopt construction/post-construction ordinances; most would prefer to adopt/adapt a model version promulgated by the DEC.

- B. **REGISTRATION OF LANDSCAPE BUSINESSES:** Promoting a registration (not licensing) for landscape businesses on a countywide basis, which will allow municipalities to contact those businesses when needed. Some of this information may already be available through the RC Consumer Protection Office and the Pesticide Notification Registry. The Town of Haverstraw has adopted a similar registry and has staffs that monitor compliance. The town issues a permit, window decal, and informs the businesses as to how to dispose of landscape waste. Mayor Wassmer recommended that such businesses also be required to take a 2-4 hour training/class on stormwater and waste management. Jim Dean noted that Orangetown had proposed registration of landscapers but this idea was not adopted.

7. Resources:

- A. Pat Ferracane - NYS-DEC - in Tarrytown - 914-332-1835 ext. 359
- B. *Field Evaluation of Permeable Pavements for Stormwater Management*, (#EPA-841-B-00-005B), October 2000, US-EPA, Center for Urban Water Resources Management, Box 352700, Roberts Annex 100, Washington DC 20460; Derek Booth, Director - dbooth@u.washington.edu; 206-543-7923.
- C. *Model Ordinances to Progest Local Resources, Illicit Discharges*, US-EPA - available at website: <http://www.epa.gov/owow/nps/ordinance/discharges.htm>
- D. Stormwater Magazine, The Journal for Surface Water Quality Professionals; order through Stormwater, PO Box 47, Caledonia, MI 9316-0047. Check subscription rates at www.stormh2o.com.
- E. The following booklets may be ordered through DEC's website at <http://www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dow/mainpage.htm>
- *Roadway and Right-of-Way Maintenance Management Practices Catalog for Non-point Source Pollution Prevention and Water Quality Protection in New York State*, June 1994,

NYS-DEC, Division of Water, Bureau of Water Quality Management; also available from Pat Ferracane (see 4A above).

- *Stormwater Management Guidance Manual for Local Officials: Construction and Post-Construction Stormwater Runoff Management 2004*, by the NYS-DEC, Division of Water, 625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233
- *Urban/Stormwater Runoff Management Practices Catalogue for Nonpoint Source Pollution Prevention in New York State*, February 2002, NYS-DEC, Division of Water; also available from Pat Ferracane (see 4A above)
- *Construction Management Practices Catalogue for Nonpoint Source Pollution Prevention in New York State*, June 200, NYS-DEC, Division of Water

Next meeting: Tuesday, September 20, 2005 from 9:00 - 11:00 am in Orangetown Town Hall.