

2017 Annual Report



http://colorado-stormwater-council.org/

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A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Colorado Stormwater Council Chair: Alan Searcy (City of Lakewood)



December 25th, 2017

Happy New Year and welcome to 2018! Twelve years have passed since the inception and creation of our Colorado Stormwater Council (CSC)! We have seen many changes in this last decade with respect to technology advancement, national leadership, regulations promulgated and a variety of

new and revised NPDES permits issued nationally. Keeping abreast of NPDES regulations, permits, guidance and compliance is critical and a monumental task that the CSC committee structure was perfectly designed for. As expected, 2017 has been a year of professionalism, partnering, mentoring and enthusiastic engagement by the entire Colorado Stormwater Council membership. There were a lot of unprecedented distractions this year that could have slowed us down, but they just didn't. The credit for CSC's "laser focus" on the salient water quality and permitting issues in 2017 belongs to all of you!

It has been my distinct pleasure to witness the 2017 progress made by all of our committees assisting us on the individual issues affecting how we comply with dynamic regulation and MS4 permit requirements. As you all know, our CSC Committees continue to set the standard for professionalism, deliberative analysis, attention to detail and productivity no matter what the political or regulatory environment may be. Our committees routinely use science, regulation, the facts and innovative thinking to solve problems quickly and efficiently. I direct your attention to the accomplishments of ALL the committees in the pages that follow.

Recognizing that all of our members have primary employment within their jurisdictions is important. Please note that all CSC members selflessly volunteer their time, energy and expertise to staff the committees, attend membership and regulatory functions while providing their valuable input and work products back to the Council at large. I am truly grateful for the tireless efforts of the CSC membership and extremely proud to have been your 2017 Chair. As my term comes to an end, I sincerely thank you for your support of the Colorado Stormwater Council since 2006! Working together with all of you, continues to be one of the greatest privileges of my life.

Alan D. Searcy Chair

CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE

Committee Chair: Britni Kahler (SEMSWA)

Committee Purpose

The Construction Committee explores variations of municipal construction site programs and identifies successful components pertaining to inspections, enforcement, documentation and plan review. Additionally, the Committee investigates opportunities to offer statewide training and certifications for inspectors of the local jurisdictions. The Committee fosters communication with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) Water Quality Control Division (Division) specific to the execution of Construction Site Runoff Control programs with the goal of setting clear expectations and improving consistency.

2017 Deliverables

- Provided four free training classes to members for CIP Erosion and Sediment Control.
- Organized a tour of the CSU Hydraulics Laboratory.
- Organized a field trip to visit a site under the Stormwater Excellence Program.

- Continue to offer training for CIP Erosion and Sediment Control to members and their CIP contactors.
- Coordinate field trips to construction sites to observe successful and/or innovative site practices.
- Review the reissued CDPS Construction Stormwater General Permit.
- Continue to update the CSC construction web page with committee minutes, agendas and other relevant information.
- Begin draft development of a standardized erosion control inspectortraining program.

EDUCATION & OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Committee Chair: Joe Chaplin (City of Loveland)

Committee Purpose

The Education and Outreach (E & O) Committee researches, consolidates, and organizes existing educational materials on a statewide level. The Committee evaluates the feasibility of presenting, distributing and collaborating with local and national entities desiring to provide education and outreach within Colorado. The Committee recommends cost effective programs and assists with implementation of these programs for the CSC membership. Efforts may include a proposed budget, a cost-benefit analysis, and strategy for quantifying the success of each program recommended to the CSC.

2017 Deliverables

- Published the 2016 Colorado Stormwater Council Annual Report documenting the accomplishments of the Council and goals for the upcoming year.
- Served as the communication hub for the CSC members by sending out a monthly newsletter entitled "Stormwater News You Can Use".
- Served as the communication hub for the CSC members by sending out "Late Breaking News" alerts when necessary.
- Participated in the design and reconstruction of the CSC website.
- Enlisted the services of 14K Media in order to update/revise the thirty-second PSA that the League of Woman Voters had developed several years ago.
- Participated in and helped fund the Barr Lake and Milton Reservoir Association (BMW)
 2017 Urban Waters Bike Tour event.
- Developed the Bike Tour Template as part of the 2017 Urban Waters Bike Tour event and made it available on the CSC website so the CSC members can use the template to develop a Bike Tour event for their jurisdiction.
- Placed the Nutrient Flyer that the City of Loveland Stormwater Division developed for its program on the CSC website so the CSC members can personalize the flyer accordingly and utilize it to satisfy the requirements outlined in Reg. 85.

2018 Goals

 Continue producing and distributing monthly topics of interest to CSC members via "Stormwater – News You Can Use".

- Continue producing and distributing "Late Breaking News" when necessary to the CSC members.
- Continue developing educational materials for the CSC members to incorporate into their programs, such as:
 - Three thirty-second PSAs
 - An infographic
- Develop a Theme calendar for the CSC membership to share programs within their jurisdictions amongst the CSC membership.
- Work on an advertising campaign to air all of the thirty-second PSAs.
- Continue to collaborate with the Barr Lake and Milton Reservoir Association (BMW) and provide funding for the 2018 Urban Waters Bike Tour.
- Attend the StormCon Conference in August of this year in downtown Denver and help staff the CSC information booth.
- Publish the 2018 CSC Annual Report documenting the accomplishments of the CSC in 2018 and outline its goals for 2019.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Committee Chair: Pam Acre (City of Northglenn)

Committee Purpose:

The Legislative Committee monitors state and federal legislative issues and activities and assesses their impact on the Council members. The Committee prepares advisory or educational statements for transmittal to the appropriate legislative body or agency. The Committee works with the Division on policies derived from regulations, especially those policies which have had little stakeholder input and may impact existing permit requirements. The Committee forms associations with other local and national entities who also track environmental policy and legislative issues.

2017 Deliverables

- Committee members continued tracking the progress of potential impacts to MS4s on the revised definition of Waters of the U.S. (WOTUS) by the U.S. EPA and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.
- During the Colorado General Assembly session, several committee members attended the weekly meetings of the Colorado Water Congress (CWC) State Affairs Committee, the CWC Federal Affairs Committee and the CWC Stormwater Committee staying current on any proposed/amended state water quality-related legislation.
- For the very first time, updated House and Senate bill summaries and 2017 Legislation Status reports are now posted in real time on the CSC website. This resource is available to the CSC membership only.
- Select Committee members attended the Colorado Water Quality Forum (WQF) annual retreat to ensure municipal stormwater remained a high priority for the Forum. Provided a verbal report to the CSC.
- Worked with the National Association of Flood and Stormwater Management Agencies (NAFSMA), National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA), Water Environment Federation (WEF) and other national organizations in preparing technical reviews of the proposed repeal of the WOTUS definition and the proposed rulemaking criteria for defining Waters of the U.S. Prepared and submitted comments on behalf of the CSC to define stormwater facilities and jurisdictional issues within the proposed WOTUS definition rulemaking.

2018 Proposed Activities

The following are proposed/possible activities for the CSC Legislative Committee to undertake in 2018:

- Monitor implications of EPA's repealed WOTUS rulemaking.
- Gather information on recent court decisions that may have impacts on MS4s regarding permit shield protection.
- Attend the Water Policy Fly-In hosted by NACWA, WEF and NAFSMA in Washington, D.C. in April to meet with Colorado Senators, Representatives and National Water Resources Association (NWRA) membership to discuss local water quality issues, and to offer legislators assistance in reviewing bills relative to how they may impact the permit programs of the Colorado Stormwater community.
- Continue work on specific issues identified by the Committee regarding proposed federal/state stormwater regulatory requirements impacting local governments. These issues will be defined appropriately, including potential costs/ benefits, in White Papers that will be available to educate City Councils, County Commissions and Special District Boards of Directors.
- Continue participation in WQCC Regulation 93 and the 303(d) Listing criteria hearings.
- Continue our participation in the WQCC Regulation 85 work group meetings.
- Actively engage in the WQCC Regulation 61 work group meetings in anticipation of rulemaking hearings in October 2018.
- Continue to participate on the WQF MS4 Issues Workgroup.
- Attend the WQF annual retreat and provide a verbal report to the Council.
- Continue to track legislation sponsored by the Interim Water Resources Review Committee of the Colorado General Assembly. These bills from the summer are the first of the 2019 potential legislation and may affect general permits related to Water Quality Control Division programs.
- Continue to track and provide thoughtful, thorough, and rational analysis of proposed state and federal stormwater legislation with an emphasis on practical program implementation and ultimate water quality protection. As necessary, provide technical expertise to CSC membership clarifying how proposed legislation may financially impact MS4 permit holders.
- Continue to actively participate in the CWC as part of the Stormwater Quality Committee, the Federal Affairs Committee and the State Affairs Committee, respectively.

- Track EPA, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and WQCD Memos, Policy and Guidance that might impact CSC members.
- Continue to participate in WEF, NACWA and NAFSMA national meetings.

NON-STANDARD COMMITTEE

Committee Chair: Forrest Dykstra (Highlands Ranch)

Committee Purpose

The Non-Standard Committee coordinates the requirements and needs of Non-Standard MS4s as they relate to compliance with the requirements of the CDPS Phase I and Phase II MS4 Permits. The Non-Standard permit holders include school districts, higher education institutions, and special districts. The Committee identifies and addresses issues and needs unique to the various Non-Standard permittees in Colorado. The Committee interacts with other sub-committees to ensure concerns and needs of Non-Standard permittees are considered when developing programs within the CSC. In order to minimize duplication of efforts, the committee fosters relationships between Non-Standard and Standard permittees and provides advice and expertise to Non-Standard permittees that may not have resources to address all the stormwater issues relative to compliance with the permits.

2017 Deliverables

- Continued to coordinate and address issues that are unique to Non-Standard MS4 permit holders.
- One of the committee members is also on the Legislative Committee, which assists the Non-Standard permit holders in keeping abreast of legislative issues.

- Be proactive with CDPHE in developing the Non-Standard permit when the process is initiated.
- Continue to work on increasing the Non-Standard membership to the CSC to help foster good working relationships among MS4 permit holders.
- The committee has gone to an as-needed basis for meetings.
- Recruit/involve other Non-Standard permit holders in the permit renewal discussion with CDPHE.

PERMIT COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE

Committee Chair: Tracy Pond (City of Golden)

Committee Purpose

The Permit Compliance Committee (PCC) provides expertise on compliance with all MS4 permit programs including implementation of permit requirements and documentation of permit compliance. The PCC continues to act as a conduit for communication with the Division on defining/determining compliance, with activities related to the required programs under the Phase II MS4 Permit. The PCC may create subcommittees concerning particular program elements. The PCC has established mentoring relationships among Council members and has addressed issues relating to program audits, permit renewals, and the impact of other regulatory activities such as other discharge permits and Total Maximum Daily Loads. As Permit Power Users, the PCC is able to provide insight for Permittees into the vast and various implications of "language" in ordinances, permits, and program descriptions.

2017 Deliverables

- **1.** Developed a number of templates and example documents for implementation of new MS4 Phase II permit including:
 - Gap Analysis Tool
 - Program Description Document (PDD) template
 - Recordkeeping template
 - Permit Compliance Timeline and Status template
 - Public Education and Outreach Plan examples
 - IDDE Plan examples
 - Municipal Operations Manual example
 - Municipal Operations Facility Runoff Control Plan examples
 - Municipal Operations Activities SOP templates
 - Municipal Operations Training documentation
 - Construction Inspection Program examples
 - Construction Program template
 - Post-construction Program template
- 2. Developed Program area resources
 - Municipal Operations Training resources (presentations and video)
 - Construction Inspection Requirements summary for Phase IIs
 - Construction Inspection Matrix

- **3.** Developed Compliance Guidance
 - Overlapping Jurisdiction Interpretative Fact sheet
 - Phase II Annual Report Interpretative Fact Sheet
 - Irrigation Ditch Decision Tree

- Continue to develop permit compliance tools such as templates, fact sheets, decision flow charts, plan review checklists, etc. particularly as they pertain to Phase II construction and post-construction program requirements. The tools will serve as guidance for compliance with requirements and implementation of standards to support staff.
- Hold Compliance Assistance workshop sessions for members. The topics will cover general areas of permit compliance, with particular focus on implementation of Phase II MS4 programs.

TECHNICAL REVIEW AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Committee Chair: Jeremiah Unger (CDOT)

Committee Purpose

Evaluates newly developed or emerging technologies for viability in Colorado's environment. Provides recommendations to the Council utilizing the membership knowledge base, locally credible data and good science. Monitors trade magazines and published research papers related to stormwater quality, erosion and sediment control and low impact development strategies. Subscribes as necessary to receive and investigate reports from other states, organizations, and the EPA on pollutant reduction facilities and strategies to improve stormwater quality. Explores published state and federal directives issued on the subject of pollutant identification, characterization, and removal based on numerical limits and/or Maximum Extent Practicable methodologies. Validating existing and new technologies may be conducted and summarized by consultants.

2017 Deliverables

Facilitated GIS data sharing of stormsewer system. In 2017, 14 CSC member communities have shared stormwater GIS data. This includes the majority of the Pikes Peak Region, four of the five Phase-1 MS4 communities and our first community in the Western Slope Region. In late 2017, a survey went out to all the CSC members in the newsletter to get feedback on the effectiveness of this GIS sharing effort.

- Analyze survey results from CSC member communities and obtain 80% participation.
- Obtain all Phase-1 MS4 Stormwater data for GIS sharing.
- Increase Phase-2 and Non-Standard participation with GIS sharing.
- Start the RFP process for secured web mapping for GIS sharing.
- Meet as needed with vendors, review BMPs, and report to the Council new technologies and their effectiveness on reducing and/or removing pollutants from stormwater runoff.
- Review EPA proposed rule changes and identify how technology could assist CSC members in their implementation, (specifically LID, nutrients, E. coli, etc.).
- Evaluate emerging Water Quality Treatment Technologies and alternatives.