



Erosion and Stormwater Management News

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2013 Construction Permit

In August, the new NPDES construction stormwater permit for Minnesota went into effect. A lot of the text in the permit was revised and updated, but the intent and what you need to do to stay in compliance is about the same as before, with a few notable items. One of the biggest changes is an increase in the water quality volume for permanent treatment when adding new impervious surfaces to sites. Some of the more significant changes are as follows.

Section “III.A.5.j” now requires that the stormwater pollution prevention plans include mitigation plans for soil compaction at site areas that will be vegetated.

Sections “III.A.5.I and IV.C.10” now require that additional guidance be provided in the SWPPP’s for how chemical treatment systems are used (if allowed) on the sites. This may include water testing and sampling procedures to help keep unreacted chemicals from washing off the site.

Section “III.C.3” now requires that temporary basins have an outlet structure that discharges from the surface of the basin. This could be done with a floating head skimmer or floating intake that collects water from the surface of the basin.

Section “III.D” now requires a

water quality volume for Permanent treatment of 1-inch of water volume on the new impervious area. Additionally, this permanent treatment must be done using retention, and only allows for detention or other treatment where retention is not feasible

Section “III.F” now requires that all trained individuals receive a refresher training every 3 years.

Section “IV.B.2” now requires that exposed soil stabilization be initiated immediately, and be completed within 14 days (or 7 days or 24 hours depending on other site conditions). Additionally, a DNR “work in water restriction” will create a 200 foot zone along the public water that must have stabilization complete within 24 hours, whether you are working in the water or not. The “initiated immediately” language sounds a bit worse than it really is, as the MPCA will accept putting the stabilization work into a schedule, or scheduling the sub-contractor to complete the work within 14 days as “immediately initiating” the stabilization.

Section “IV.C.2” now requires that floating silt curtain be used in combination with additional perimeter sediment control placed on the land, and cannot be used as the only sediment control at that location.

Section (IV.C.9) now requires a 50 foot buffer be preserved along natural surface waters. Redundant sediment

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controls must be used if this is not possible.

Section (IV.E.5) on maintenance activities requires repairs to be done by the end of the next business day (instead of within 24 hours as in previous permits). Perimeter controls must be replaced or cleaned out once they reach half (1/2) of their capacity (instead of within 1/3 as in previous permits).

Section (IV.F) expands the types of waste and hazardous materials that must be explicitly addressed on construction sites. Management of pesticides, portable toilets, stucco, paint, form release oils, curing compounds and other liquid wastes must be contained and disposed of properly.

Program Update

The University of Minnesota Erosion and Stormwater Management Certification Program continues to have several ways for people to register for classes. We are accepting registrations by mail (University of Minnesota, 1390 Eckles Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55108) and secure fax line (612-626-6030). Many people are also registering using our online website tools (www.erosion.umn.edu).

We cannot accept registrations by email, since this is not a secure way to handle the payments. If we receive emails that include credit card numbers, we are required to delete them and request the registration be sent by one of the other secure methods.

Industrial Stormwater Permit Training

The Erosion and Stormwater Management Program offers several training opportunities for industrial facilities. A full schedule of classes is posted at www.erosion.umn.edu.

Class Options

Some recertification classes have specialization options to provide a variety of information for individuals who have recertified several times. The specialization topics are now available in several recertification classes.

Look for additional letter codes in the class sections for indications of the specialization topic. More information is available at www.erosion.umn.edu/courses/Specialization.pdf

Customized Classes!

In addition to standardized curriculum we offer training customized to meet your specific needs. Sometimes this may just be using your chosen location, or it may involve developing new curriculum for your specific interests. Whatever your needs may be we are always interested in hearing from you. Please contact us if you have questions or interests in customized classes.

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