



Erosion and Stormwater Management News

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Construction Stormwater Permit to be Reissued; MPCA Seeks Early Feedback

When stormwater drains off a construction site, it carries with it sediment and other pollutants that harm lakes, streams, and wetlands. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency estimates that between 20 to 150 tons of soil per acre are lost every year to stormwater runoff from construction sites. Controlling erosion can significantly reduce the amount of sediment and other pollutants transported by runoff from construction sites. To keep Minnesota's valuable water resources clean, the MPCA issues the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit for Construction Activity to prevent stormwater pollution during and after construction.

Although the current construction permit is not scheduled to expire until August 2018, the MPCA intends on reissuing the permit as soon as fall 2017. The construction permit's expiration date coincides with the expiration of the MS4 Permit and, due to limited staff resources, the MPCA is concerned about having multiple general permits expiring at the same time.

Although no major permit changes are proposed, several minor changes are

needed. The MPCA is seeking early input on some of these changes. This is not the official public comment period and the MPCA will not be providing formal responses to all of the input received. The MPCA will use the information gathered from this early input process when writing the proposed requirements in the draft permit. The MPCA expects to public notice the draft permit and receive formal public comments in late summer or fall of 2017.

The MPCA is encouraging all interested parties to use the following link to review and provide feedback on some of the proposed changes: https://stormwater.pca.state.mn.us/index.php?title=MN_Stormwater_comment_page

The Erosion and Stormwater Management Certification Program classes held after the permit's reissuance will highlight the changes in the 2017 permit as well as review parts of the permit that didn't change.

Check the MPCA website www.pca.state.mn.us/water/construction-stormwater in the fall for a copy of the new permit and the Erosion and Stormwater Program website www.erosion.umn.edu to register for classes.

Program on Social Media

For the most up-to-date news, follow us on Twitter @ErosionProgram or on Facebook at UMNerosion.

www.erosion.umn.edu
www.erosion.umn.edu/privacypolicy

The University of Minnesota Erosion and Sediment Control Certification Program believes in establishing partners to assist in providing education for everyone. The University of Minnesota is committed to the policy that all persons shall have equal access to its programs, facilities, and employment without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, age marital status, disability, public assistance status, veteran status, or sexual orientation.



Summer Classes

We will be offering both the Construction Site Management and Construction Installer Certification classes this July and the Design of SWPPP class in September. If you have a new employee you'd like to have certified, or if you need any of those certifications, register online at www.erosion.umn.edu

Erosion Program Wins Award

The Minnesota Erosion Control Association (MECA) awarded the Erosion and Stormwater Management Certification program's Dr. John Chapman and Dr. Bruce Wilson with the MECA Innovation Award. The award is given to an individual, company, government agency, or organization that has developed new products or ideas that have advanced the field of erosion and sediment control/stormwater management. Congratulations John and Bruce!!

Erosion Program is Growing

The Erosion and Stormwater Management Certification program trains approximately 3,500 people each year. In order to continue to expand the number and type of courses we offer, the program hired Dr. Rebecca Forman as a full-time, academic year instructor. Rebecca's face may be familiar to you – she has been teaching on a part-time, contract basis with the program since 2006. Welcome, Rebecca!

Reminder postcards sent out

Last fall we mailed postcards to everyone who had an expiring certification as a reminder to register for class. This fall we will plan to do the same. Please review your card and look at the expiration date(s). If your card says you have a certification expiring in 2018, then you will want to get into a class before May of 2018 to make sure your certification does not lapse. While we plan to send a reminder card to you, registering early will give you the best selection of classes. Look online in August for the fall schedule. In the example card below, Goldy Gopher will need to get into Installer and Site Management recertification classes by May 2018, but can wait a year before taking the Design of SWPPP Recertification class.



Online Registration

If you are new to online registration and will be registering multiple people, please contact Mary Dieltz at 612-625-9733. She will be happy to walk you through the process.

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