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Urban Stormwater Workgroup Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, July 20, 2021

10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Meeting Materials: [Link](#)

Summary of Actions and Decisions

Action: Invite Matt Robinson to a future USWG meeting devoted to plastic pollution and trash in urban areas.

Meeting Minutes

10:00 Welcome and Review of April and March Meeting Minutes.

Norm Goulet, Chair. Attach A.

10:05 Announcements and Updates

- WQGIT approved minor edits to the [Governance Protocols](#)
- American Rescue Act Funds for Stormwater
 - National Association of Counties hosted a [webinar](#) on the new legislation's impacts
- BMP Verification Committee Update
- Projected IDF Curves Final Tool Released -- <https://midatlantic-idf.rcc-acis.org/>
 - *August 12th: Webinar on the IDF curves and recording will be posted to CSN*
- STAC Temperature Workshop Synthesis
 - *STAC workshop will be held in first quarter of 2022. Currently working on a synthesis doc on what BMPs heat or cool the landscape. Now on second draft of comments.*
- GIT Funded Proposal - Maintaining Forests in the Stream Corridor
 - *CSN won the contract for this proposal.*
- Land Use Update
- Others
 - *Norm Goulet:* As of right now, no meeting scheduled for August.

10:15 CAST21 Update. Olivia Devereux, Devereux Consulting, Inc.

Olivia will present on the updates states can make to data for the upcoming progress year assessment. These updates would also go into CAST-21.

Discussion:

Martin Hurd: Is there going to be anything in the future about propriety BMPs?

Olivia Devereux: I believed that because they are propriety, we can't get that information to input them into CAST.

Norm Goulet: we tried to incorporate them, but it didn't work out. There is a national effort to try to get more information, but we haven't heard anything from them in a while. There's a lot of concerns related to this topic and has been an outstanding issue for around 10-15 years.

Martin Hurd: VA has approved several BMPs with documented efficiencies for MS4s permitting and it creates a dichotomy where more of these will be used but it won't show up in the Bay Program.

Norm Goulet: In essence you have two accounting books: the MS4 reporting book (which can't be submitted to NEIEN) and your Bay Program reporting book.

Allen Brockenbrough: will projects under contract be submitted to CAST or do they have to be completed?

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David Wood: I will be presenting a couple different options to the WTWG for their approval in September on this and how some projects will be under contract but should still be counted.

10:30 Restoration Recovery Wheel. Meghan Fellows, Fairfax County

Meghan will present a framework for conveying stream restoration as a holistic and progressive process by visualizing costs and benefits and areas where functional improvement can be made as a result of restoration. The goal is a more comprehensive way to view all the site level monitoring that is conducted at stream restoration sites.

Discussion:

Norm Goulet: I'd like to think most of the problems are twofold: 1. There were stream restoration projects that shouldn't have been put in the ground, and 2. Communicating stream restoration has been tricky. I think we need to change this; have pre-meetings with community members and we have to be more forthright on why we are doing these restoration projects. This really helps to visualize those aspects.

Meghan Fellows: I agree, the history of bad projects is long lasting and so many times I was told to only give high level information, but the details are where we win community members over.

Cecilia Lane: Jason from Arlington supports moving from "restoration" to resiliency" regarding messaging and I think that's a great idea. We will never "restore" these projects back to their original state (unless we get rid of development) but we are making them more resilient for their current and future climate.

Mark Hoffman: there is a lot of controversy/ concern out there around stream restoration and it's on the CBC's radar screen.

Norm Goulet: We've learned a lot from the science in the last several years. One thing I've noticed with the activism is that they only focus on one aspect, which can make it hard to communicate, but I think most projects are looking at these issues more holistically.

11:00 Plastic Pollution Action Team. Matt Robinson, DOEE, and Bob Murphy, Tetra Tech

The Plastic Pollution Action Team (PPAT) has completed the *Microplastic Monitoring & Science Strategy for the Chesapeake Bay* assigned to them by the Management Board in 2019. Matt and Bob will review some of the highlights from the strategy, and discuss some possible implications for the stormwater sector. [Here](#) is a link to the document.

Discussion:

Norm Goulet: is there one plastic that is considered the worst?

Matt Robinson: Do you mean which one is the most prolific or has the most effects?

Norm Goulet: Both

Matt Robinson: microplastics are both smaller pieces of microplastics and plastic beads. Macro plastic breakdown is the largest contribution to microplastics. Most of these are fibers in the Anacostia (fleece, etc.) and breakdown of plastic bags. In terms of impact, I don't think I can speak to that at this point (not enough information). The other thing to note is that microplastics can be vectors for other things (like a virus that hitches a ride on a piece of microplastic).

Norm Goulet: we may try to do a meeting solely devoted to this subject because more places are focusing on trash and how to mitigate this.

Matt Robinson: I would be happy to come back to talk on this and the other part of my life is focused on trash clean up in DC.

Karl Berger: We see this issue with toxic contaminants across the board, PFAS, BDE, you can put it in TMDLs and treat for it at wastewater treatment effects. Ultimately, source control might be easier than just collecting trash.

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Matt Robinson: In DC with our plastic bag ban etc. our compliance has been pretty good. There is source control there, it is difficult to see in environmental data if this is making a difference because we only share 15% of the Anacostia.

Norm Goulet: I think metrics are really important here. We don't want to go the TMDL route.

Matt Robinson: Actually, DC has this in its TMDL. It's a backwards TMDL.

Action: Invite Matt Robinson to a future USWG meeting devoted to plastic pollution and trash in urban areas.

11:40 Adjourn

Call Participants

Hilary Swartwood, CRC

Norm Goulet, NRVA

Allan Brockenbrough, VA DEQ

David Wood, CSN

Cecilia Lane, DOEE

Christina Lyerly, MDE

Doug Austin, SEE EPA

Jamie Eberl, PA DEP

Jeff Sweeney, EPA

Jessica Rodriguez, DoD

Jordan Gochenaour, Alliance

KC Filippino, HRPDC

Ken Bawer, West Montgomery County Citizens Assn.

Mark Hoffman, CBC

Martin Hurd, Fairfax County DPWES

Olivia Devereux, Devereux Consulting

Scott Crafton, VDOT

Shannon McKenrick, MDE

Tom Schueler, CSN

Audra Lew M-NCPPC Montgomery Parks

Alana Hartman, WV DEP

Elaine Webb, DNREC

Ginger Ellis, MDNR

James Dunbar, DOEE

Jesse Maines, City of Alexandria

Kate Bennett, Montgomery County

Mark Symborski, MDE

Randell Greer, DNREC

Brenda Morgan, Ann Arundel County

Fernando Pasquel, Arcadis

Ginny Snead, AMT

Jamie Alberti, Alliance for the Chesapeake

Alex Foraste, VDOT

Ted Brown, Bio Habitats

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Matt Robinson, DOEE

Bob Murphy, Tetra Tech

Meghan Fellows, Fairfax County

Karl Berger, MWCOG

Liz Ottinger, EPA

Lena Easton- Calabria, RAND

Derick Winn, VA DEQ

Maria Mutuc, VDOT