

# Meeting Notes

Rensselaer County MS4 Communities Meeting  
Brunswick Town Beach  
May 15, 2018  
10:00 a.m.

The meeting started at 10:10 a.m. Introductions were made

The second item on the agenda was the East Greenbush EPA Audit. Mr. Yagelski stated that there is a process to the audit. The Town received a letter from the EPA Bureau of Water Compliance 45 days prior to the visit requesting upfront materials and a list of active construction sites. The agenda for the 2-day visit was Questions and Answers and a visit to outfalls on the first day with the second day being a visit to the Department of Public Works and visits to construction sites.

Lessons learned included that documentation is critical. Standard operating procedures need to be written and revisited. The Town had written procedures that were over 10 years old from several administrations ago. These should have been updated to reflect changes in personnel as well as the local program. The written standard operating procedures and records of operations provide institutional knowledge longevity. The EPA only looked at 5 years of records. The EPA was also interested in the public outreach on pollutants of concern and maintenance best practices. They did not ask about whether the Town had an asset management plan.

The third item on the agenda was IDDE and Failing Septic System Notification. Mr. Koziol stated that one of his communities had received a notice from the Rensselaer County Health Department that they were requiring a property owner to replace a failing septic system. He questioned whether it was the town's responsibility to go after them for an illicit discharge. Ms. von der Heide stated that the town's responsibility started if the septic system leaked into the town's storm sewer system or MS4. If the septic system failed into a creek it would be the DEC's issue. If the system just failed and was not leaking to a storm sewer, ditch or water body, it is the Health Department's problem, which they seem to be addressing. Additionally, when a community runs into a septic system creating an illicit discharge, the Health Department should be contacted, although it is an illicit discharge as well. A question if misconnected sewer lateral pipe leading to a storm sewer needed to be reported and to who. Ms. Starr stated that illicit discharges from sewer laterals should be reported to the DEC.

The next item on the agenda was Local BMPs. The Village of Castleton is looking for an MS4 person. The pay is very low. This discussion led to the discussion that municipal boards need to be on board with the MS4 program. The communities which don't have their boards knowledgeable are less willing to fund the program.

Mr. Wager ran into an in-ground pool company trying to empty a pool into the storm sewer system. The company was made to release the water slowly onto a lawn area. Ms. Starr stated

that there was pool dewatering guidance that was released a few years ago including dechlorinating techniques.

A comment was made about a septic system failing into a forest without nearby water bodies. This should be referred to the County Health Department.

Mr. Barringer stated that he ran into clear cutting of forest behind the fire house. This was in preparation for a Boy Scout venture where they clear cut an acre and a half 25 feet from the Poesten Kill. He contacted Mary and required them to put up silt fences. They pulled out their equipment before Mary got there. The Poesten Kill is a Title 19 water and they didn't have a SWPP. The Fire District used Tom Sanford from the Rensselaer County Soil and Water Conservation District and Wayne Bonesteel to get their SWPPP. The site is a possible Native American site, which complicated things. The waste wood was supposed to be used for a bonfire – during the spring fire ban.

Mr. Barringer stated that the presentation from the previous meeting on the changes to the Part 360 regulations made him think about the several junkyards in the town. The town licenses the junkyards. He does not think that they have filed the necessary paperwork with DEC. The town needs feedback from DEC as to whether the junkyards are presently legal under state regulations.

Another community had a subdivision of over 5 acres from a while ago which went dormant when housing construction went flat. The developer filed an NOT at the time. Now construction is active again with a disturbance of 1 acre. No new SWPPP has been filed for the present construction. Ms. Starr stated that the builder or developer needs to file a new SWPPP.

Ms. Starr stated that the WQIP grant is out as part of the CFA. New this round – equipment is now allowed as well as mapping.

Household hazardous waste disposal was discussed as part of the audit. There is a DEC grant for hazardous waste. Communities can contract with a private hauler to remove hazardous waste.

The next meeting will be on July 17<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM in the Poestenkill Town Hall. Mr. Gallerie volunteered the East Greenbush Town Park for the September meeting on September 18<sup>th</sup>. The new pavilion will be ready at that time.

**Attendees:**

Mike Wager	Sand Lake	518-674-2016x116	<a href="mailto:MWager@sand-lake.us">MWager@sand-lake.us</a>
Nick Petromale	East Greenbush	518-248-4422	<a href="mailto:NPetromale@eastgreenbush.org">NPetromale@eastgreenbush.org</a>
Philip Koziol	Laberge Group	518-458-7112	<a href="mailto:PKoziol@labergegroup.org">PKoziol@labergegroup.org</a>
Brian Davidson	Schaghticoke	518-753-6915x109	<a href="mailto:Codeenforcement@townofschaghticoke.org">Codeenforcement@townofschaghticoke.org</a>
Martin Daley	CDRPC	518-453-0050	<a href="mailto:MDaley@cdrpc.org">MDaley@cdrpc.org</a>
Nadine Fuda	Schodack	518-477-7938	<a href="mailto:Nadine.Fuda@schodack.org">Nadine.Fuda@schodack.org</a>
Scott Gallerie	East Greenbush	518-477-6103	<a href="mailto:SGallerie@eastgreenbush.org">SGallerie@eastgreenbush.org</a>
Adam Yagelski	East Greenbush	518-694-4011	<a href="mailto:AYagelski@eastgreenbush.org">AYagelski@eastgreenbush.org</a>
Mark Hendricks	Rensselaer	518-465-1893	<a href="mailto:Mark.Hendricks@rensselaer.ny.gov">Mark.Hendricks@rensselaer.ny.gov</a>
Bonnie Starr	NYS DEC R-4	518-357-2377	<a href="mailto:Bonnie.Starr@dec.ny.gov">Bonnie.Starr@dec.ny.gov</a>
Paul Berringer	Poestenkill	518-283-5100x102	<a href="mailto:PBarringer@poestenkillny.com">PBarringer@poestenkillny.com</a>
Bill Bradley	Brunswick	518-209-2466	<a href="mailto:WBradley@townofbrunswick.org">WBradley@townofbrunswick.org</a>
Linda von der Heide	Rensselaer County	518-270-2921	<a href="mailto:Lvonderheide@rensco.com">Lvonderheide@rensco.com</a>