

Meeting Notes

Rensselaer County MS4 Communities Meeting
Brunswick Town Hall
May 16, 2017
10:00 a.m.

The meeting started at 10:10. After introductions, Ms. von der Heide reminded communities that the Annual Report is due to the DEC Headquarters on or before June 1st or it is considered a permit violation.

The next item on the agenda was the Contractor Training. Contractor training was held on March 29th at the Schodack Town Hall. Over 70 attendees were trained. The trainers loved the audience, which asked questions and was generally paying attention. There is training on line which is more expensive. Ms. von der Heide stated that she was thinking of having a training that would be mainly government folks to which it would be free. The trainers only charge \$1,200, which would mean that there would only need to be 20 paying attendees to pay for the training. It was discussed that most communities would probably send about 5 to 6 folks. Reaching out to DOT Rensselaer County was discussed. The best time for the training would be late October or early November before hunting season.

The next item was the Draft Permit. There is no word about the draft permit except that another new draft will be released due to the large number of comments. Additionally, the large differences between MS4 communities makes it hard to make the permit fit all.

Ms. von der Heide had handed out the Blue Book Lite which had been handed out during the contractor training. There were two comments about the booklet. On page 2.25 under polymers, Material Safety Data Sheets were mentioned. These are no longer called that, but are called Safety Data Sheets. Additionally, concrete washout areas are not included, but are one of the hottest issues presently. A discussion of what to do with the hardened concrete ensued. At this time Warren Fane will take it.

The discussion went into what to do with the funding we have. A request for new mail able education materials was had. Additionally, the printing of new door hangers for illicit discharges can occur. In one community, an issue with people still dumping everything from grass clippings, leaves and chemicals is still occurring. A discussion of whether any communities have been targeting businesses such as restaurants for grease. Albany County has good educational materials for restaurants. Trash and illegal dumping were other topics as well as something for kids.

The Albany Pool has just received permission from DEC to release the Green Infrastructure Local Code Audit which allows local municipalities to see how green infrastructure friendly their local codes are. An addendum to the DEC Green Infrastructure Guidebook shows the volume of

detention for each type of green infrastructure. Community projects are moving forward. The Tributaries Studies are moving ahead. Last year showed a slight increase in water quality in the Hudson River. Of course, projects are just coming on line, so a large increase in water quality should not be expected at this time. There were higher than normal bacteria counts during the dry weather last year. A question on whether there was a lot of private green infrastructure occurring around the area was met with the response that the private green infrastructure is not generally reported and that it appeared that green infrastructure was installed mainly by the public entities. A discussion on sewer leaks in the Mohawk River watershed ensued.

Another community reported that they had run into clear cutting and de-stumping lands in preparation of a subdivision which did not have a stormwater permit or any stormwater controls.

A discussion of a subdivision with inherited stormwater problems where there was a change in contractors ensued. The subdivision is now getting to the point where 5 acres of site disturbance is occurring. The developer will need a 5 acre waiver. The old SWPPP and NOI from the previous developer are still in effect until the new owner signs and files a new NOI. Once a new NOI is in effect, the old owner can send in a NOT.

A question as to whether other communities have noticed a reduction in organic matter removed last year. Ms. von der Heide stated that the drought last year would have reduced the amount of leaves on trees and such. At present, there is no place to put such hard data. The new permit will require more data. What data needed for the annual report will be known once the new draft permit comes out.

The next MS4 meeting will be held at the Schodack Island State Park on July 10, 2017 at 10 AM. There is free parking and the pavilions are first come first served during mid-week.

Attendees:

Jean Carlson	Schaghticoke	753-6915x104/ supervisor@townofschaghticoke.org
Philip Koziol	Schodack/Schaghticoke	458-7112/ pkoziol@labergegroup.com
Michael Wager	Sand Lake	674-2026x16/ mwager@sand-lake.us
Bonnie Starr	NYS DEC R-4	357-2377/ bonnie.star@dec.ny.gov
Scott Gallerie	East Greenbush	477-6103/ sgallerie@eastgreenbush.org
Tony Manfredi	East Greenbush	694-4011/ amanfredi@eastgreenbush.org
Martin Daley	CDRPC	453-0850/ mdaley@cdrpc.org
Chris Wheland	Troy	369-3259/ chris.wheland@troyny.gov
Linda von der Heide	Rensselaer County	270-2921/ lvonderheide@rensko.com
Nadine Fuda	Schodack	477-7938/ Nadine.fuda@schodack.org
Paul Barringer	Poestenkill	283-5100/ cepoest@nycap.rr.com
Mark Kestner	Sand Lake	365-4193/ mark@kestnerengineering.com
Mary Barrie	NYS DEC R-4	357-2044/ mary.berrie@dec.ny.gov
Norman Wiley	Castleton	469-1595/ nwiley@nycap.rr.com
Wayne Bonesteel	Rensselaer County	283-0973/ wbonesteel@rensko.com