

UMD SWPPP Steering Committee

December 8, 2009 Chester Park 126 2 PM – 3:30 PM

Attending: Rich Axler, Tim Bates, Peggy Dahlberg, Mindy Granley, Cindy Hagley, Andrew Kimball, Mahjoub Labyad, Erik Larson, Candice Richards, David Schimpf, Jesse Schomberg, Judy Trolander and recorder, Darren Nelson.

John Bilotta from the UMN- T.C. SW committee attended as a guest.

Introductions were made.

Agenda was reviewed

Approved meeting minutes:

March 3, 2009 - Approved

April 15, 2009 (Annual Mtg) - Approved

Annual Report was submitted in June 2009 and copies were distributed by email to the Steering Committee. There were no questions.

Education / Outreach activities report (Candice)

Annual Meeting was held April 15, 2009. Scheduling conflicts arose with student employee luncheon. The luncheon will be held on Tuesday, April 13th · 2010. Preferred future date will be 3rd Weds in April.

April 21, 2010 was approved as best date for next annual meeting. Library Rotunda was approved for a meeting location, if available.

UMD classroom / campus activities report – (Facilities Management)

- Classroom raingarden tours on College St. – 25 to 30 students from Science and Technology Education class. Repeated 3 times / year.
- Home raingarden programs were presented to University for Seniors, St. Louis City Master Gardeners and three garden clubs.
- Candice shared three laminated raingarden posters which are available for use by others. The posters will Velcro to standard tri-fold display.
- Labovitz raingarden shown on Sustainability tours.
- St. Scholastica students used College Street raingarden in research.
- St. Louis County is making an educational video on raingardens, including footage at UMD and several home raingardens.
- Candice commented on the increased interest in home raingardens.

Other UMD Activities

LakeSuperiorStreams.org (Rich)

Coastal program has been funding the maintenance of the website. Projects on the website will be reviewed and updated as needed. Development of the database for the area is the major project at this time. Low impact develop data is being sought out. There is currently

funding for video, and Rich is open to suggestions. City of Duluth does have a database of storm water practices for certain watersheds. The University of Minnesota has developed some data that could be looked at as well. There has been talked of an initiative grant for this research.

MN Sea Grant (Jesse)

Topic of sustainability brought in 400 participants to the "View From the Lake" program. A game focusing on impacts of stormwater on invertebrates was developed for this.

Stormwater runoff BMPs for (paired) neighborhoods (Mindy / Erik/Jesse)

Streets have been monitored on a small homeowner scale. Five raingardens were added, as well as 20 rain barrels. 300 or more trees were planted along with perennial plants. Ditch check dams and swales were built. Runoff results will be available after next summer. Mindy has noticed less ice on Idlewild St. UMD undergraduate intern helped a lot on the work being done. Another UMD intern helped with storm water as well.

Watershed Game – (Jesse / Cindy)

Fun simulation of a watershed environment that teaches implementation strategies. This game has been updated to incorporate more. Water quality goal is given and teamed groups need to implement best management practices in order to meet that goal as part of the game. Target groups include adult audiences of planning coordinators and officials. Different groups, including student groups, could be invited to make use of the game as well. Training for game to be held in Feb; SWPPP Committee will be invited.

Sustainability Office (Mindy)

<http://www.d.umn.edu/sustain/>

Has been updated, but the site pages are not being changed. Construction BMP section is now on the site. Other updates made. Mary Hennessy of FM is doing the site updates. Site is now set up for a place for RSPT functions. A separate field or code could be put in for people outside of the university to put in data, but there could be complications with it. The site will need to be finished before this can be looked into further. Rich has offered help with graphs and data.

Other University of Minnesota Activities

Spring cleanup initiatives by students have been taking place.

Lake Superior Youth Symposium

- Article about paver testing areas discussed storm water at UMD and was also re-printed in a couple of other magazines.

RSPT Report- RSPT has been undergoing a visioning process and has re-defined officer roles and organizational goals. Annual Watershed Festival took place June 6th at the Miller Hill K-Mart parking lot.

Illicit Discharge (Erik)

1) One Illicit discharge reported in Summer 2009. Sanitary line by School of Medicine was completely plugged and leaking through the pipe joints to an adjacent storm sewer line. Line was cleared and prioritized for this year's lining project. Erik showed a map of sewer lines that were videotaped and the condition of each. The worst pipes are old clay tile pipes with joints every 3 or 4 feet. This project has taken a large amount of time and has pushed back the development of other Storm Water BMPs, such as the Street Sweeping BMP. 1,300 feet of pipe have been lined this far.

2. Above Fire Hall Pond there is an iron algae issue due to natural causes. A pamphlet is being prepared for those who ask questions, and will eventually go onto the illicit discharge section of the website.
 - a. UMD Construction / Post-Construction Report (Erik)
 1. Erik has finished his certification for storm water review. Andy Kimball (EHS) is working on his certification also.
 2. Fire Hall Pond has an algae issue due to a discharge. A pamphlet has been prepared for those who ask questions, and the information is being worked on getting onto the website once the illicit discharge section is up. No data-log testing has been done this year, though NRRI has looked at it.
3. UMD Maintenance / Pollution Prevention Report (Erik/Peggy/Mindy)
 1. All inspections have been completed. About 15 areas are recommended for repair. We have nothing that the city would consider significant, but area should still be repaired. North LSBE raingarden repairs should be made next summer. We did not do any significant maintenance this past summer due to lack of funding.
 2. Best Management Practices have been updated by Peggy. Dumpster inspections have been done for three consecutive years. General maintenance of raingardens has been completed, including some major work. Raingardens and ponds have been monitored for invasive species. Salt/sand and snow storage policies have been reviewed.
 3. Mindy noted that St. Scholastica has come to us regarding our stormwater practices. Joint student groups do meet about sustainability efforts, and stormwater does come up. A couple of CSS professors have been attending meetings and the school is gaining increasing interest in getting a sustainability coordinator. We can invite CSS to attend our annual Stormwater meeting.

Discussion:

Internship opportunities have been provided by FM for several projects, including storm water. Geography department requires undergraduate projects that apply to this. Students should be recommended to apply for these opportunities. Best connections in the past have come through individual faculty. Student groups and Urban Studies majors could also be contacted. Being specific about what the opportunity involves is important. We have done this in the past with paid internships. Student help could be used for making publications. Steering Committee make-up - Civil Engineering has been hiring several new people, and they could be a great resource for stormwater initiatives and /or student representatives.

A proposal to incorporate public engagement into curriculums was submitted and may be relevant to SWPPP needs.

- a. Announcements - next meeting (February or March – talk about finalizing this calendar year's activities and prepare for annual meeting) We need to put something on the calendar to send email beginning of spring semester to set up a date.
- b. Stormwater game was demonstrated by Cindy Hagley and Jesse Schomberg.
- c. Adjourn