

SWPPP Steering Committee
Meeting Notes from 6-5-03

Present: Candice Richards, Erik Larson, Tim Bates, Tim Holst, Tom Beery, Cheryl Anderson, John Rashid, Mahjoub Labyad, David Schimpf, John Weiske, Marnie Lonsdale, Richard Axler, and Jesse Schaumberg.
Absent: Bev Ecklund and Cindy Hagley.

Individuals introduced themselves and briefly talked about their storm water interests and concerns.

Candice Richards, (FM) gave an overview of the process and relationship with the regional group.

Erik Larson (FM) discussed the six measures of the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan, and UMD's relationship with UMTC.

Marnie Lonsdale, City of Duluth, discussed UMD's relationship with the City of Duluth.

Erik Larson distributed and reviewed copies of the UMD SWPPP, permit application and timelines.

Candice Richards led a discussion of the three sub-committees which were formed to cover the six measures: 1. Education/Outreach, 2. Illicit Discharge / Construction / Post-Construction, 3: Pollution Control / Housekeeping.

Sub-committees will be the primary work units of this steering committee, and will include additional members from the campus community. Cindy Hagley,(1) Erik Larson (2) and Candice Richards (3) will coordinate the sub-committees.

Important ideas derived from discussion:

Document any coursework, presentations or research related to storm water and report to Candice or Erik as plan support. (Please note- we are working on a standard form that may be posted on the web site.) In addition, capture events with photos while they are happening whenever storm water is involved. Call the press if applicable.

The City of Superior is not directly covered by MPCA regulations but we may be eligible for federal funding if we partnered with groups raising Stormwater awareness in Wisconsin.

Campus visitors are not currently included in the SWPPP definition of "campus community" but perhaps should be.

City receives complaints from UMD neighbors regarding the temperature, velocity, volume and sediment content of runoff.

UMD has great educational outreach and should be putting up informational signage identifying specific projects and the intended goal or benefit of each. Signs should describe project in a manner where people could learn from the process/progress. Classes on campus could use the projects and signage as educational tools to support classroom work.

New buildings on campus should follow a more "Stormwater-friendly" design (which is a plan requirement for all campus buildings designed after the Swenson Science Bldg).

There are at least 3 levels of public education:

What is wrong with current situation and why improvement/education is necessary. (Awareness)

What is being done community-wide to correct situation.

What individuals can do at home to make an impact.

The group gave the following responses to the regional storm water education group question:
“What are the most important educational messages you would like to convey to the community?”

*The first regional educational messages should be simple and broad.

*Stormwater, as well as snowmelt runoff, is the major impact on the environmental health of Duluth's streams.

*Both the amount of runoff and its quality are important to manage.

*Conservation of our surface waters from storm water is tied to individual citizen behavior, as well as business behavior. Non-industrial sources of pollution are the greatest threats to our waters.

*We all live in a watershed. We all live upstream. Water flows down stream. (There were several versions of this.)

*It's about quantity (flow and velocity) and quality.

*Quality is about things you see (particulates, sediments, pollutants) and things you don't see (soluble nutrients, bacteria, toxins, temperature, salt).

*Our behavior and knowledge matters- we vote!

*Everything we do on the land affects water quality- we have a cumulative impact.

The next meeting of the Steering Committee to be scheduled mid July or later by email.