



SWEMA NEWS

SWEMA's Newsletter

Spring 2022

President's Message

Message from the President for Life

Dear SWEMA members,

Welcome to 2022! So far it is shaping up much better than 2021, other than the whole Cleveland Browns debacle that I do not want to get into.



Greg Williams

SWEMA continues to make good progress as an organization, and we remain focused on providing value for members. Our Strategic Plan was recently updated and changed significantly from previous versions. It now covers strategy only and has delegated tactics to the committee level.

It is still the usual suspects doing the heavy lifting and we are looking for fresh faces. There are currently two positions open. We are looking for a Marketing Committee (MARC) Chair, which could be a good opportunity for someone looking to expand their marketing know-how. We are also looking for someone to be the Recording Secretary for ASTM E64. This position has been reserved for a SWEMA member and it involves membership on the ASTM E64 Executive Committee and, if the candidate chooses, the SWEMA BOD. These are good opportunities for someone interested in getting more involved in committee work and picking up some governance experience. We have an experienced core group in place that will help any newcomers be successful. Anyone interested in either position should contact Laurie Honnigford or me.

You may recall that I have chosen to prioritize value for members during my reign term. We are taking a two-pronged approach to this. First, we are strengthening SWEMA, in order to increase the value of being a member. To this end we are generating content for the website. Coming soon we will have more written content including Stormwater 101 white papers and improved BMP fact sheets. We have been in contact with the EPA and they have agreed to MTD fact sheets to their national Menu of BMPs. (<https://www.epa.gov/npdes/national-menu-best-management-practices-bmps-stormwater-construction>). They will work with SWEMA on developing these fact sheets. Due to budget constraints at EPA, look for these in 2023.

2022 Meeting Schedule

All SWEMA Meetings are held via conference call unless a city/state is listed. Please contact Laurie for conference call log-in and information.

GARC / TCOM*

July 20, 2022 / 2:00 p.m. EDT

Via Teams online meeting

GARC / TCOM*

August 17, 2022 / 2:00 p.m. EDT

Via Teams online meeting

GARC / TCOM*

September 21, 2022 / 2:00 p.m. EDT

Via Teams online meeting

SWEMA Membership Meeting

November 15, 2022 / 12 noon EST

Via Zoom online meeting

**Jay Holtz sends out the invitations to the GARC / TCOM meetings. Send Jay a note if you wish to receive an invitation. Jay.Holtz@oldcastle.com*

Please join us for the membership meetings. Contact Laurie Honnigford for agenda and meeting information at laurie@stormwaterassociation.com.



Clean Water is SWEMA's #1 Priority



We are also adding a series of short videos to the website. These will take the form of interviews with SWEMA members about various stormwater related topics. Taping starts in July so watch for these in the Fall. If you have any ideas for the next TikTok stormwater craze let us know.

The second prong is to provide value directly. To this end we have constructed a section with content for members only. To get there, login as a member and select the Articles Library tab. We will be continually adding news items and content to this page. This material will be more technical and specialized than the material on the main page. We will also be working to keep the events section more current and we encourage members to let us know about shows they are exhibiting or presenting at.

Related to written content creation, I am excited to announce that SWEMA has hired an intern for part of the summer. Audrey Rhodes, soon to start graduate studies at North Dakota State University, will be helping us out with the white papers. Check out the TCOM update for more information.

Not to be left behind, GARC remains very active. I will not steal their thunder, Jay provides an update below.

Speaking of Jay Holtz, by the time you read this our annual meeting, the first live meeting in 3 years, will have come and gone. We will have done our level best to eat all the brisket in Austin, Texas. We also announced the inaugural President's Award for Service to SWEMA. The people that got a PASS this year are: Jay Holtz, Jacob Dorman and Brian Rustia. Thank you for your hard work.

This leads me to my closing poem. This one was written by me, with sincere apologies to Shakespeare Sonnet 18.

*Shall I compare thee to a Franklin's brisket?
Thou art more lovely but less tasty.
Barbeque is thy taste bud's ticket,
Don't let it cool, but be not too hasty.*

Sometimes too long the lineup seems,
Though beer is brought to soothe your breast.
Lo', at the end 'tis the meat of your dreams,
Not just any brisket, verily the best.
No, eternal brisket shall not fade,
Nor lose possession of its smoky flavour,
Nor shall death brag thou wand'rest in his shade,
When a heaping plate, with sides, thou savour.
So long as men can breathe, or eyes can see,
So long lives brisket, and brisket gives life to thee.

Best regards,

Greg Williams

Greg Williams, Ph.D., P.Eng.
SWEMA President

Greg Williams can be contacted at
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SWEMA Report Card

The SWEMA Government and Regulatory Committee (GARC) and Technical Committee (TCOM) have kept busy due to the dedication of a committed group of active members. The report card will provide you a quick summary of the work underway. If the work is completed (COM), then we have assigned a grade.

If the work is in progress (WIP) then we have used an emoji to indicate the following:

 progress is moving in SWEMA's favor. Engagement and outlook is good.

 SWEMA has educated / commented on the work being done and some of SWEMA's ideas may have been incorporated. Engagement and outlook is moderate.

 SWEMA has not been successful in communicating SWEMA's objectives. Engagement and outlook is poor.

Please join GARC or TCOM to learn about and contribute to these initiatives. It is your opportunity to get involved and help shape the future of the stormwater industry. The more people we have involved, the more influence SWEMA can exert on the regulations and standards that affect the stormwater industry.

WIP = Work in progress COM = Completed	Status	Outlook
ASTM Standards	WIP	
EPA's MTD Fact Sheets	WIP	
Florida BMP Trains Program MTD Inclusion	WIP	
Great Lakes Stormwater Collaborative	WIP	
Los Angeles Region MS4 Permit	COM	B
MADEP Stormwater Standards and Handbook	WIP	
New Jersey DEP Test Protocol Clarification	WIP	
Research and White Papers Intern	WIP	
San Francisco Region MS4 Permit	COM	B+
STEPP National Testing Program	WIP	
Stormwater Technology Testing Center (STTC) startup	WIP	
SWEMA Technical Video Chats	WIP	
TCEQ Test Data Antecedent Condition	COM	C
Virginia DEQ 2023 Stormwater Handbook SAG	WIP	A
Virginia House Bill 1224	COM	
Washington TAPE Potential Filter Maintenance Requirements	WIP	



SWEMA Initiative Updates

EPA Fact Sheets

Greg Williams and Derek Berg recently had a conference call with several staffers to discuss the addition of fact sheets for the most common types of MTDs to the EPA website. Currently the site only includes fact sheets for non-proprietary practices and catch basin inserts. We had a very positive call focused on how far the world of MTDs has come, the existence of many different technologies, and most importantly the growing body of credible performance data for these technologies. EPA agreed that the time has come to develop fact sheets for the most common categories of MTDs (HDS, Filter and High Rate Biofilter as a start) and is going to work with us to move this project forward. GARC will soon be assembling reference information and sending it on to USEPA for further refinement and formatting. EPA noted it may take them some time to finalize these documents since the project is not in their current budget, but they were optimistic they will be able to move it to the finish line.

ASTM E64

Committee E64 Stormwater Control Measures is now up and running and can claim its first two standards. ASTM E3319-22 Standard Terminology for Standards Relating to Stormwater Controls Measures and ASTM E3332-22 Standard Test Method for Determining Trash and/or Debris Capture Performance of Stormwater Control Measures have both been approved and will be published shortly. Once the standards are available SWEMA will begin promoting their use.

Meanwhile, there are still five draft standards working their way through E64.01 and one new draft standard in E64.02. Some of these drafts are far enough along that I am confident there will be more lab standards approved this year. The field test standard is targeted for 2023 and activity is ramping up. Anyone interested in participating in any standard should contact Staff Manager for E64, Frank McConnell or the appropriate Subcommittee Chair, Greg Williams for E64.01 and Jamie Houle for E64.02. Their e-mails are fmccconnell@astm.org, gwilliams@stormtrap.com or James.Houle@unh.edu respectively.

Note that all ASTM committees and subcommittees must be balanced between producers and non-producer votes and we do have waiting lists for producers to get votes. If you know end users, regulators or academics that might wish to participate please encourage them to join. The vote you create may be your own.

STEPP

It's Time for the Stormwater Sector to "STEPP" Up to the Plate. A fundamental question in the stormwater sector is, "Do stormwater products and practices work?" This is clearly a rhetorical question but the challenge in answering this question in any consistent and confident manner nonetheless underscore a dilemma in our sector. Unlike our cousins in the drinking and wastewater sectors, whose systems are highly regulated, managed and predictable, understanding performance of our infrastructure is confounded by chaotic



During the summer of 2022 SWEMA is lucky to have the help of Audrey Rhodes as a seasonal intern. Audrey is a graduate from University of Washington where she earned a degree in Environmental Science. Through her previous internships, research projects and her lab assistant role at the *The Center for Urban Waters*, Audrey's past experiences include water sample collection and processing, GIS mapping of particulate matter in air pollution, and statistical analysis of EPA data. Next year, Audrey plans on enrolling in a Masters Degree at North Dakota State University that would allow her to pursue her interested in soil science and its relation to stormwater control. When she isn't studying soil and water, Audrey enjoys camping, horseback riding and building LEGO models.

precipitation inputs that delivers runoff to thousands of dispersed treatment and management facilities across the landscape. And the forces of climate change are making these flows increasingly difficult to predict.

Fortunately, there is an effort underway to try to answer the challenging question on the performance of stormwater infrastructure. Specifically, the Stormwater Testing and Evaluation for Products and Practices (STEPP) program is being led by the National Municipal Stormwater Alliance (NMSA) to fill the void created by the lack of a national stormwater BMP testing and verification program. This initiative draws from experiences in successful state and regional programs to develop a BMP evaluation framework that can be relied on by regulatory agencies around the United States. A diverse group of stakeholders has been involved with the STEPP initiative to support this evolving program including the EPA, the Water Environment Federation, the Interstate Technology Regulatory Council, the American Society of Testing and Materials (ASTM) International, the Association of Clean Water Administrators, the Association of General Contractors, the National Homebuilders Association, the Stormwater Equipment Manufacturers Association, and other organizations.

STEPP is currently focused on the ongoing development of performance testing standards for stormwater infrastructure – both proprietary products and public domain practices – based upon existing lab- and field-based protocols, specifically the Washington Technology Assessment Protocol for Ecology (TAPE) and the New Jersey Corporation for Advanced Technology (NJCAT) and the NJ Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP). This work is occurring within the recently established ASTM Committee E64 on Stormwater Control Measures. With a number of standards nearing finalization, including a trash-capture standard based upon work led by Caltrans, the STEPP program is gaining momentum and preparing to launch



SWEMA Initiative Updates (continued)

within a 12- to 24-month window. The timing of this launch is in coincidence with the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) and the anticipated investment in stormwater infrastructure, including the establishment of multiple Centers of Excellence focused on the stormwater sector.

Specific current and upcoming activities for STEPP include:

- Continuing to develop and finalize lab-based testing standards within ASTM and to initiate field-testing standards as well.
- Broadening engagement with states and jurisdictions on STEPP to gain recognition and support as well as information on the value of a national testing and verification program for stormwater infrastructure.
- Continuing to engage with EPA headquarters and key EPA regional staff members on STEPP to provide information and gain recognition and support.
- The STEPP Leadership Group has worked diligently over the last 9 months to develop policies and governance that will underpin the architecture of the program. Efforts to assemble and synthesize this information will continue and be finalized in coming months.
- The STEPP website is being redesigned and will be launched in the coming months.

In baseball vernacular, the phrase, “ducks on the pond” means that there are runners in scoring position ready to be driven home with a solid hit from a strong batter. The stormwater sector is now a better “batter” in the metaphorical game of stormwater sector baseball than it was a few decades ago as the sector has grown in size and scale, tools and models have become more sophisticated, and issues like climate change and resiliency are driving the sector along with chronic water quality issues. So one can state that we are in a better position to drive in some runs with a solid hit. Now we just need to perform. And this is what the STEPP program is all about.

For more information on the STEPP program or to inquire on joining the STEPP program, please visit <http://nationalstormwateralliance.org/stepp/> and/or contact Seth Brown at seth.brown@nationalstormwateralliance.org.

A graphic with a green background and a white border. The text is centered and reads: "SWEMA's Committees Need you!". Below this, it says "Get involved and make a difference in the stormwater industry" and "If you are interested in serving, please contact the Chairman of the committee you wish to serve on." At the bottom of the graphic is an illustration of several hands of different colors (purple, red, orange, yellow, green, blue) raised in a gesture of participation or support.

SWEMA's
Committees
Need *you!*

Get involved and make a difference
in the stormwater industry

*If you are interested in serving, please
contact the Chairman of the
committee you wish to serve on.*

Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VADEQ) BMP Clearinghouse

House Bill 1224 was approved by Virginia's Governor, Glenn Youngkin, on April 1, 2022. The Bill amended Virginia's Stormwater Management rules regarding the certification of manufactured treatments devices (MTDs). The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) now can provide for the certification and use of an MTD only if "*another state, regional, or national program has verified its nutrient or sediment removal effectiveness and all of such program's established test protocol requirements or met or exceeded.*" A regulation to implement the standard will be brought to the State Water Control Board for consideration at their June 22, 2022 meeting. DEQ will provide new guidance to comport with this standard in the future.

New Jersey HDS Test Protocol Revisions and Recertification

Protocol revisions are now complete, so we no longer plan to actively track this initiative within GARC. If NJDEP announces plans for any further modifications to the protocol, we will certainly reengage on the topic. Note that the sunset period for existing certifications conducted under the 2013 HDS protocol has begun and all new certifications must be conducted in full accordance with the updated protocol available on the NJDEP website moving forward.

Washington TAPE Potential Filter Maintenance Requirements / Stormwater Technology Testing Center (STTC) startup

In Washington State, the topic of maintenance longevity continues to be problematic for systems undergoing monitoring through the TAPE approval process. This is especially consistent for participants utilizing the dedicated test facilities at the Ship Canal site in Seattle, which has often underrepresented the expected maintenance longevity of MTDs during their evaluation period. In 2021, Ecology outlined a number of options for addressing the issue, including a possible requirement that TAPE-approved systems conduct secondary hydraulic testing at a "representative" site to confirm the expected system lifespan.

In March 2022, Carla Milesi joined the SWEMA GARC/TCOM call to further expand on the supplemental testing option, indicating that this seems to be the direction that Ecology is heading. Carla presented slides outlining proposed requirements, noting that any final decisions would be fleshed out within the Stakeholder Advisory Group and the Board of External Reviewers and then brought back before SWEMA for additional comment prior to formal adoption. These proposals included:

- 3rd-party testing and oversight of a monitoring plan to be pre-approved by Ecology

- Testing at 3-5 field installations, with at least one within the Pacific Northwest

- Demonstration of TAPE-compliant influent TSS concentrations and PSD

- Quarterly water truck testing at design flow

Testing would be required for at least one year's worth of flow, or until the system can no longer treat the design flow without bypass. It is still unclear how Ecology would use the resulting information to enforce a system-specific maintenance requirement. SWEMA will continue to stay engaged with the discussion to minimize the cost and effort that this proposal would add to the already expensive TAPE process. Carla has since distributed a comment form for input on the topic, due July 15th.

Ecology appears to be stepping back from requiring supplemental testing at the STTC in Portland, the ODOT



SWEMA Initiative Updates (continued)

facility that was designed and built with maintenance lifespan analysis in mind. Much like the Ship Canal site, the STTC is strategically located to receive drainage from a large catchment basin including areas of highway. In April, Dylan Ahearn of Herrera Environmental Consultants joined the GARC/TCOM call to provide an update on pilot phase testing at the site.

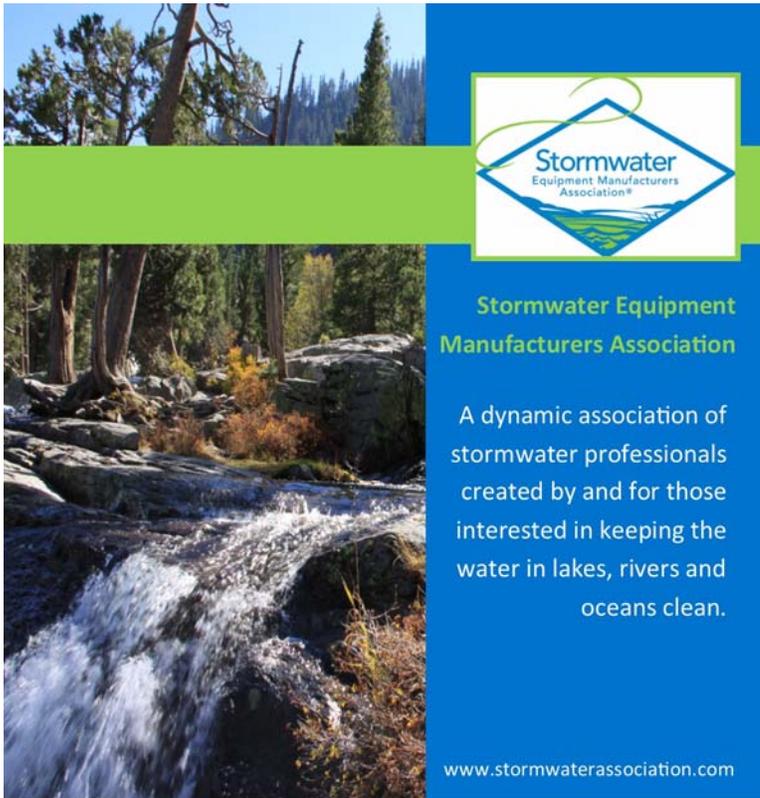
Unsurprisingly, the influent sediment characterization somewhat resembles the Ship Canal site and has been trending toward fine PSD, causing unrepresentative performance in a pilot test system. These results were likely due to sediment accumulation upstream of the location from which influent test water is pumped. Herrera subsequently oversaw maintenance of the system, and they will continue to update SWEMA on the influent characterization at the facility.

In May, Herrera and ODOT led a tour of the STTC, and the visit was well-attended by a mixed group representing manufacturers, local agencies, and consultants. It is clear that manufacturer participation is critical to the continued operation of the facility, and SWEMA continues to advocate for the testing of a

conventional system to provide baseline data for comparison as well as to highlight the discrepancy between MTD and conventional BMP maintenance expectations.

Massachusetts Department Environmental Protection (MADEP)

No recent contact has taken place with MADEP on this topic, but MADEP did speak at a recent series of webinars around BMP crediting for TMDL compliance and was asked several times by attendees about their plans to credit MTDs. DEP did acknowledge that there is a need to update guidance and their policies around MTD use and crediting but noted that they intend to move carefully and slowly with no commitment to tackle this issue anytime soon. EPA Region 1 expressed similar sentiment and noted that eventually they know they need to assign pollutant removal credit to MTDs. No specific dates were provided on the release of the updated stormwater standards and handbook, but it was stated they hope this will

A promotional graphic for the Stormwater Equipment Manufacturers Association. It features a blue background with a green horizontal band at the top and bottom. On the left, there is a photograph of a waterfall cascading over rocks in a forest. In the center, the SWEMA logo is displayed within a white-bordered diamond. Below the logo, the text "Stormwater Equipment Manufacturers Association" is written in white. Underneath that, a paragraph describes the association as a dynamic group of professionals dedicated to keeping water bodies clean. At the bottom, the website address "www.stormwaterassociation.com" is provided in white.

Stormwater Equipment Manufacturers Association

A dynamic association of stormwater professionals created by and for those interested in keeping the water in lakes, rivers and oceans clean.

www.stormwaterassociation.com

WORKING TO KEEP OUR WATERSHEDS CLEAN

happen in the next few months. Members should keep an eye out to ensure they get a chance to review and comment!

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)

TCEQ is requiring a 72 hour antecedent time. SWEMA asked TCEQ to consider scientific data for the industry standard of 6 hour antecedent time. At the time of publication we are uncertain of TCEQs position. GARC will continue to monitor the work being done in Texas on this topic.

Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FLDEP)

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection has continued with Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Meetings throughout 2021. This is no longer an active initiative within GARC.

SWEMA Board of Directors 2021—2022



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SWEMA Initiative Updates (continued)

Marketing Committee

During the June 23rd, 2022 the group discussed numerous initiatives.

Jeremy Fink will begin scheduling times to conduct interviews with our members on a variety of stormwater topics. There are couple of things to keep in mind as you prepare for the interview. The interviews are informal, fun opportunities to highlight stormwater BMPs – particularly MTDs. The finished video will be 3 – 5 minutes in length.

Preparation / Set Up

- You will be provided questions in advance. If you think of other questions that would better illustrate your point(s), please suggest them.
- Please conduct your interview in an area with an uncluttered background.
- Wear solid colored or a subtle print clothing. Darker colors tend to photograph best.
- We suggest you use a separate microphone rather than the built-in computer microphone. You can use an inexpensive set of earbuds.

During Taping

- Make clear at the beginning of the video what the video is about and what will be discussed during the video.
- If you wish to restate something, we can edit the video. Please pause 4 -5 seconds before speaking to give the editor space to make the edit. If you start talking right away it is difficult / impossible to make the edit.
- Have fun and engage with the interviewer.

We are in need of a new leader to head up the Marketing Committee. Please contact Greg Williams at GWilliams@stormtrap.com or +1 (548) 788-2019 to volunteer yourself or someone else within your organization.

Please join us on LinkedIn and Facebook. We are preparing a regular schedule of posts for our social media accounts.

[LinkedIn](#)

[Facebook](#)



Postscript

Dear SWEMA Members,

Just a couple of things that are coming up that you may wish to consider.

First, the entire Board is up for election this fall. We allow one person per company to serve on the Board. If you are interested in serving, please let me know and I can include you on the ballot.

Please sign up for our social media. We need the interaction in order to get noticed on these platforms.

We will begin promoting our manufacturer members on social media. Manufacturers, please send me your company logo and any tagline you want included in the post.

Sincerely,

Laurie L. Honnigford

Contact Us

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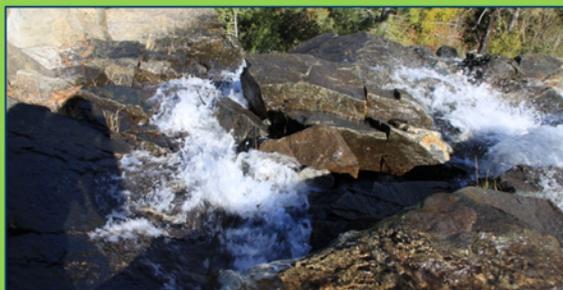
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Reminders

- ◆ If you want to serve on one of SWEMA's committees, please contact the respective committee chairman.
- ◆ Please forward this newsletter to other people within your company. If you want a colleague to receive a copy of the newsletter, please send Laurie Honnigford their contact information.

Stormwater Equipment Manufacturers Association Members
Industry Professionals Dedicated to Clean Water



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