



# SWEMA NEWS

SWEMA's Newsletter

Fall 2020

## President's Message

Dear Members,

Fall is fast approaching once again, and despite what has undoubtedly been a very strange and challenging year, stormwater management initiatives march onward (albeit a little slower for the time being). It's amazing to take a step back and look at just how much is going on in the world of stormwater around the country and beyond. Look no further than the agenda from our recent monthly GARC/TCOMM meeting to get a feel for the breadth of topics that command our attention and direct involvement. I can't recall a time when SWEMA had their fingers in so many initiatives concurrently. It is inspiring to see and I sincerely appreciate all of the members that are contributing to our collective efforts as well as all of Laurie Honnigford's role in keeping us all held together as an organization.

This will serve be my last update as President of SWEMA, so I wanted to thank you for trusting me to fill this important role. As I set out to do from the start, I have aimed to keep the organization focused on the issues that benefit the entire industry. I applaud our membership for your commitment to keeping that focus in recent years as well. Like many volunteer efforts, I've found there is always more that could be done than we can expect to get to, but the key is to keep contributing. I hope that our next President will recognize how much important work remains, and will be able to bring new ideas and energy to it. I also hope all of you continue to stay engaged and encourage others from your organizations to do the same. Personally, I don't plan on going anywhere anytime soon and look forward to continuing to work with you all on our collective goals in the years ahead.

Respectfully,

*Derek Berg*  
SWEMA President

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Derek Berg

## 2020 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

October 21, 2020 / 2:00 p.m. EST  
Via Teams online meeting

### SWEMA Membership Meeting

November 5, 2020 / 2:00 p.m. EST  
Via Zoom.us online meeting

### SWEMA Membership Meeting

November 5, 2020 / 2:00 p.m. EST  
Via Zoom.us online meeting

### GARC / TCOM

November 18, 2020 / 2:00 EDT  
Via Teams online meeting

### GARC / TCOM

December 16, 2020 / 2:00 EDT  
via conference call

Please join us for the membership meetings. Contact Laurie Honnigford for agenda and meeting information at [laurie@stormwaterassociation.com](mailto:laurie@stormwaterassociation.com).



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Clean Water is SWEMA's #1 Priority



## Board of Directors 2019 – 2020

A special thank you to those who have served SWEMA for the past two years. 2020 is an election year and if you are willing to serve on the Board, please contact Laurie Honnigford at [laurie@stormwaterassociation.com](mailto:laurie@stormwaterassociation.com)



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# SWEMA Project Updates

SWEMA works on numerous projects throughout the year. Many of these projects cross committee boundaries as the committees may work together on certain parts of a project. Recently, TCOM and GARC have been holding joint meetings. This newsletter will provide an overview of these projects.

The SWEMA Government and Regulatory Affairs Committee (GARC) has been active in 2020, even during the COVID crisis. The committee has commented on important topics including Virginia Legislature House Bill HB882 clarifying the use of manufactured treatment systems in Virginia and the State of Minnesota’s proposed MTD Research Enhanced Filtration Credit. A letter was also written to Virginia’s Governor Ralph Northam encouraging him to sign the HB882 bill – which he ultimately did. These documents are all available for review on the SWEMA website under the “Advocacy” tab.

## 1. California Trash Capture Test Protocol

The Regional Water Quality Control Boards in California have not moved to develop a trash capture test protocol yet, even though SWEMA provided a draft sample trash capture test protocol last year. However, a recently formed ASTM subcommittee is actively developing an official standard for testing trash capture devices. Several GARC committee members are serving on that ASTM subcommittee. Once this standard is in place, SWEMA can go back to the California Water Boards and propose they adopt it as part of their requirements.

## 2. California Mosquito Control

The California State Water Resources Control Board has been working with the Mosquito and Vector





## SWEMA Project Updates (continued)

Control Association of California to ensure stormwater treatment devices can be inspected and treated to control mosquitos. The state is working to recertify proprietary trash capture devices with provisions for mosquito control. However, recertification will not be required until the State provides more guidance including a “typical maintenance practices video” which is intended to inform manufacturers of mosquito control requirements. The COVID crisis has delayed the video and the subsequent recertification program.

### 3. EPA’s MS4 Permit Writers’ Trash Compendium Letter

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is developing a trash compendium document to guide stormwater best management practice for trash control. The compendium could serve to promote a nationwide increase in the required use of manufactured treatment devices to control trash. SWEMA submitted a draft trash capture test protocol to the committee developing the compendium, but development has stalled at the management level within EPA. GARC will continue to track this work and support further development and adoption of the document.

### 4. EPA’s Water Quality Trading Program

As compliance with post-construction stormwater management regulations becomes more challenging and costly for municipalities and the development community, alternate solutions that strike a balance between cost and effectiveness are being sought. One potential solution is Water Quality Credit Trading (WQT), whereby a developer can meet regulatory requirements on one site by buying or trading credits for pollutant reduction at another site that may have lower water pollution control costs. Members of GARC wrote a white paper to communicate SWEMA’s position on WQT. SWEMA supports properly structured WQT programs designed to increase compliance flexibility without sacrificing local water quality or limiting the development and use of innovative treatment solutions. The paper includes recommendations for policymakers considering WQT for their state or local Best Management Practices (BMP) toolbox. The paper is currently in final editing before being sent to the SWEMA Board for approval and distribution.

### 5. STEPP / ASTM

Some aspects of the National Stormwater Testing and Evaluation for Products and Practices (STEPP) program development have been slowed during the summer months because of the COVID crisis. COVID has made it impossible to meet in-person and has led the Water Environment Federation to freeze funding for the program. However, program development is still active with a committed group of active stakeholders working to keep things moving forward. Recent progress includes continued development of ASTM standards from the NJDEP HDS protocols. This

## SWEMA Project Updates (continued)

effort has produced six draft standards and has led to the potential formation of a special ASTM section that would exclusively address stormwater. Several of the draft standards are slated to be finalized before the end of the year.

### 6. Wisconsin Land and Water Proprietary Filtration Device Technical Standards

Broad public review of the new standard was completed, and comments were addressed in June. The Standards Oversight Council Team involved in the development of the standard concluded its participation and the final documents have been moved to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) internal approval process. Publication is anticipated before the end of the calendar year.

### 7. Minnesota MTD Evaluation

The Capital Region Watershed District (CRWD) in St. Paul, Minnesota recently distributed a technical document that lists five proprietary stormwater treatment systems that are currently approved and detailed the requirements to get new systems approved. Now any manufacturer interested in getting a filter approved can now do so.

### 8. Virginia Clearinghouse

The Virginia BMP Clearinghouse last met in August 2019 and no future meetings have been scheduled. GARC is working to get the Virginia DEQ to prioritize BMP Clearinghouse meetings to continue to access the expertise of participating stakeholders to advance statewide water quality initiatives.

### 9. Great Lakes Stormwater Collaborative

The Great Lakes Stormwater Collaborative (GLSC) works to increase awareness of water quality and water quality initiatives in the Great Lakes Region. SWEMA has agreed to help sponsor the GLSC and look for ways to collaborate to improve stormwater quality in the region. SWEMA hopes to work with the GLSC to promote a diverse approach to water quality that includes manufactured treatment systems as well as Green Infrastructure.

**SWEMA's**  
**Board of Directors**  
Needs *you!*

Get involved and make a difference  
in the stormwater industry

*If you are interested in serving,  
elections will be held in November  
2020. Contact Laurie Honnigford at  
[laurie@stormwaterassociation.com](mailto:laurie@stormwaterassociation.com) to  
get your name on the ballot.*





## SWEMA Project Updates (continued)

### **10. New Jersey HDS test protocol revisions and recertification**

Revisions to the NJDEP HDS test protocol that were discussed at a stakeholder meeting last December and incorporated in a new version of the protocol by Dick Magee with NJCAT in January have not yet been formally adopted by NJDEP because of rotating staff furloughs related to the COVID crisis. GARC members expect NJDEP to adopt the revised protocol soon. GARC members also expect NJDEP to give all manufacturers at least 18 months to retest to the revised protocol. Revisions to the filtration protocol are next on the NJCAT/NJDEP agenda.

### **11. Status of Stormwater Technology Testing Center (STTC) startup –**

The STTC in Portland, Oregon is designed to test stormwater treatment systems for performance according to the TAPE test protocol and for longevity and related maintenance requirements. However, the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) has not incorporated necessary revisions to the Site Access and Facilities Use Agreement for the STTC and still trying to finalize their contract with Herrera, the designated consultant and presumed site operator. In the interim, no systems have been installed for testing and no major commitment from manufacturers seeking TAPE approval is evident.

### **12. National Municipal Stormwater Alliance (NMSA) Reference to Green Infrastructure –**

The GARC committee is working on a letter to NMSA asking them to include manufactured treatment systems in their guidance material. The committee will also explore other ways to collaborate with the alliance.

### **13. Washington TAPE Potential Filter Maintenance Requirements –**

Carla Milesi, with the Washington Stormwater Center and TAPE program, noted that TAPE has initiated internal dialog about how to determine whether a filter will yield an acceptable service life. No formal decisions have been made yet, but it is possible that new test standards and design requirements will be added to the TAPE protocol to ensure filters do not become a maintenance burden. GARC is currently collecting ideas from membership to determine how this issue could be addressed in a way that is fair to the manufacturing community. The ideas will be communicated to Carla to advance the conversation.

# Reminders

- ◆ If you want to serve on one of SWEMA's committees, please contact the respective committee chair.
- ◆ Please forward this email 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.

## Contact Us

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### SWEMA's Committee Chairmen



Dan Fajman



Jay Holtz



Dr. Greg Williams

Please note: SWEMA's mailing address has changed. Please update your records:

**8601 West Cross Drive, Suite F5, #220, Littleton, CO 80123, USA**