

STORMWATER UPDATE

In This Issue

- ❖ Here We Go Again
- ❖ When to Stabilize
- ❖ Time to Terminate?
- ❖ BMP Spotlight

EIT / EMT Training Upcoming Dates

Wichita, KS
March 30-31
April 1-2
April 20-21
April 22-23
June 15-16
June 17-18

<http://citksu.com>

WPCMs are required to have completed both the EIT and the EMT courses within the 12 months prior to beginning work on a project or being designated as WPCM for a project.

All completed inspection reports must be submitted to the responsible Area Engineer and the contractor's WPCM within 24 hours of each inspection.

The Area Engineer must sign within 3 calendar days and submit to stormwaterinspection@ksdot.org

Failure to complete and submit inspection reports on time will result in penalties

Here We Go Again

As we begin making preparations for the upcoming construction season, it is important to remember our stormwater responsibilities. One of the most basic responsibilities is to maintain current training certifications. Many of our KDOT staff completed the Environmental Inspector and Environmental Manager training programs during the first offerings in summer of 2013. Those two-year certifications are quickly approaching their expiration date so, for many of our Area / Metro Engineers and inspectors, it is time to renew.

It is absolutely vital for our compliance with the Consent Decree that all inspections on KDOT projects be performed by certified personnel. An inspector with an expired certification is no longer qualified to perform inspections and must be replaced until their certification is renewed. An Area or Metro Engineer with expired certifications is no longer qualified to fulfill their stormwater responsibilities. Those responsibilities must be re-assigned to a currently certified Area Engineer.

Last year we upgraded the field portion of the class with the addition of water. By running water through our "classroom" we create an opportunity to witness actual BMP performance and discuss the pros and cons of each type. As we begin our third "season" of training, we have attempted to freshen up the training materials. You can expect to see new examples, new pictures and some re-balancing of the mandatory classroom curriculum. The fundamentals of the class are the same, but we want to build on our experience and knowledge gained over the last two years.

Registration for the Environmental Inspector and Environmental Manager Training courses is available online at <http://citksu.com>. Additional sessions may be scheduled if the currently scheduled classes fill up and there are enough people on the waiting lists.



When to Stabilize?

The following direction is based on the KDHE general permit requirements and can be found in special provision 07-PS0360-R7, section 901.3a:

Immediately initiate temporary stabilization on areas that have been disturbed after construction activities have permanently ceased on that portion of the project site. Immediately initiate temporary stabilization measures on areas that have been disturbed after construction activities have temporarily ceased on that portion of the project site if construction activities will not resume for a period exceeding 14 calendar days.

Construction activities have permanently ceased once clearing, excavating, grading etc. is complete. Construction activities have temporarily ceased if clearing, excavating, grading etc. is incomplete, but the land will remain idle for a period of time. If the work is complete, or if the idle period is anticipated to be longer than 14 days then installation of stabilization such as mulch, erosion control blankets or geotextiles must begin **immediately**.

Inactive, disturbed areas should be documented on inspection reports if they have not been stabilized. Corrective action is required if the work is complete or if the idle period is expected to be longer than 14 days.

Compliance with this specification and permit requirement requires thinking ahead and scheduling appropriately. This typically requires the WPCM to coordinate with various subcontractors and suppliers to make sure the appropriate personnel, equipment and materials are available on site as the grading work ceases.



Time to Terminate?

As the spring growing season is right around the corner, this is an important time of the year to carefully review your completed projects and evaluate them for permit termination. Final stabilization is achieved when perennial vegetation, pavement, buildings or structures using man-made materials cover all areas which have been disturbed. Vegetation must have a density of at least 70% of the density of undisturbed areas at or near the site. Once all disturbed areas have achieved final stabilization, notify the Stormwater Compliance Engineer immediately to initiate the Notice of Termination.

Once the permit coverage has been terminated, any remaining temporary sediment control devices should no longer be needed and should be removed. All of the SWPPP related documentation should be stored in a safe location where it will be retained for a minimum of three years after termination of the consent decree.

If previously seeded areas have demonstrated minimal to no growth, it may be more effective to till the area according to standard specification 903 and seed the area conventionally. Contact Scott Shields in the Environmental Services Section if you have questions about seed types, seasonal limitations, or suspect poor soil quality.



BMP Spotlight

Having a variety of sediment control devices to choose from is both a blessing and a curse. As inspectors and project managers it is often difficult to decide what is the most appropriate BMP for a particular situation. Over the past few years most of us have learned the limitations of silt fence and transitioned to using more biodegradable logs for ditch checks, slope barriers and inlet protection. Biodegradable logs can perform better than silt fence for many applications, but for high flow areas they are often overwhelmed and require frequent repair and replacement.

Filter socks are the heavy-duty cousin of the biodegradable log and can provide effective sediment control in these higher-flow areas. Filter socks are available from a variety of manufactures in a range of sizes and can be filled with compost, wood chips, aggregate or other materials to fit a specific application. These more rugged devices are less susceptible to accidental damage from construction equipment and can sometimes be relocated as the work progresses.

Choosing the best sediment control strategy on your project is not always easy. All of the available device types require maintenance and include a risk of failure. Sediment control devices should always be used in conjunction with good erosion control practices as part of the project SWPPP.

