



Stormwater SMART

healthy water for a healthy future

AGENDA

August 18, 2011

PTRC Conference Room

2pm - 4pm

Meeting Attendees: Joy Fields, PTRC; Stacy Tolbert: Rockingham County; DJ Seneres, Archdale; Montrena W. Hadley, Mebane; Brandon Parker, Gibsonville; Aaron Holland, Graham; Justin Gray, High Point; Patricia Rissler, High Point; Michael Layne, Burlington; Cy Stober, PTRC; Donna Setliff, Reidsville; Morgan Huffman, Thomasville; Elizabeth Jernigan, PTRC; Kyle Smith, AWCK

Welcome to PTRC

Annual Reports-Members living in a communities with reporting requirements should have received a copy of the annual report with a community profile attached. If you live in a non-reporting community and want a profile for your community, please let me know.

Newsletter – The Fall edition of the Stormwater Steward was distributed. Thanks to Joy for a great job. This newsletter reflects the new “Piedmont Triad Regional Council” (PTRC).

We are in the process of updating all our materials, the website, etc. with the new PTRC information. Emails will be forwarded to our new email addresses, but please update your address books with our new addresses that at the same but end in xxxx@ptrc.org. The merger went fairly smoothly and we look forward to expanding our programs into new territory.

Program Update

Since our April meeting most schools were out for the summer. We did work with an environmental club in Randolph County. We were able to incorporate the soil to seed program which we were trained on earlier this year.

We attended the following public events since the last board meeting:

- Mebane Dogwood Festival
- Lexington Multi-cultural Festival
- Thomasville Spring Daze
- Summerfield Founders Day
- Oak Ridge Fest (materials)
- Burlington

We are always available to provide materials if we are unavailable to attend a local event. For example, Pet Sense in Reidsville asked us to attend an event in October. We are unable to attend due to other Stormwater SMART scheduled events, but will be providing dog bones with attached stormwater information. We can also provide brochures and other outreach materials.

Joy served as a judge at the NC Envirothon, many of which were from the triad. The theme was “stormwater”. It was a great event to be involved with.

Civic Groups and Clubs

- Lexington and Reidsville Rotary

- Lexington Kiwanis
- Abbotts Creek Watershed Outreach Meeting (Davidson County)

Outreach to Pet Stores and Nurseries. Working with managers to provide trainings to employees and participate in special events. A pet store in Burlington pet store was the first event we attended.

Fall fairs and festivals are listed on the back of newsletter. We are BOOKED! Many days all three of us are booked at Stormwater SMART Events.

Question from Michael Layne – Will there be participation from new communities in the expanded region?

Stormwater SMART

- A.) Do you want us to conduct outreach to new communities
- B.) How much time do you want us to spend in these new communities

Regulatory Update

Phase II is currently on halt, but there is a natural stormwater rule coming down the pipeline. We don't know what it's going to be but there will likely be numeric standards for nutrients and heavy metals. That will require more education to elected officials. If you don't feel comfortable doing that, that's something we can do. We're in five new counties. Some are served through the Water Quality Partnership (outreach and education but not public involvement). Winston-Salem, Lewisville and Clemmons are the only Phase I & II Communities. Had Phase II progressed, Mount Airy would have been tipped in as would Mocksville and possibly Yadkinville. We've also gotten some interest from Salisbury which is unique since they are not a member of the COG but they don't have a partner in the High Rock Lake TMDL and could benefit from Stormwater SMART. Mount Airy will not be served by WQP because broadcasting does not reach that far. No outreach outside Forsyth County despite the fact they have the next Lake TMDL. Revenue would be increased and improve our bottom line.

Yadkin TMDL was issued for all waters of the Yadkin River that are impaired for Turbidity. They have to reduce total suspended solids (TSS) by met with WS, Lewisville and Clemmons. It treats DOT as a Phase I community. Only effects permitted dischargers. The burdens of reduction are very heavy. Lewisville has a reduction level of 59% of TSS and bears the burden of most of the other communities on the Yadkin Community. These communities are enjoying working with PTRC so far and we hope these efforts

High Point and Thomasville should be aware of the TMDL. They are not identified in the initial TMDL but DOT will likely comment since Abbotts/RFC are impaired for turbidity. This may be a good opportunity to begin building up the potential for a partnership with the Authority. We are asking the board for guidance on this issue.

We are also getting requests from citizens/groups/schools in Alamance County and we need to convince the County to join the program, especially Soil and Water and Cooperative Extension. It may be in the program's best interest for other communities in Alamance County to approach the County regarding membership.

Regarding program expansion – multiple ways to think about expansion without stretching out our time. We may be able to work with students at local universities on the other side of the jurisdiction. There is also an advantage to working with these communities including some of the best restoration work in the state.

Stormwater Association Update (Michael Layne)

Last meeting was July 22nd. Seventy-nine people attended, approx 52 were from the public sector. Mike Randall spoke about the new stormwater rule (EPA). He has a lot of questions

about it. The meeting went well. Several conversations with the Association regarding how we want it structured (SESWQ, League). The Association will be participating in the APWA conference in a roundtable discussion. Excited and encouraged by the attendance. As of now no formal organization has been established but quarterly meetings will continue.

Rules and TMDLs

- a. Jordan Lake Rules Update (Liz)
 - i. Stage 1 Annual Reports – August 13th
- b. Nutrient Accounting Tool is accessible on www.jordanlake.org and is a tool to assess what your nutrient load reduction would be for new development. Another tool is in development for existing development.

Grants

- 1.) Lower Abbotts Creek Watershed Plan (CWMTF)
- 2.) Eden Area Watershed Plan (CWMTF)
- 3.) Dan River Basin Watershed Prioritization Atlas (205j)
- 4.) Jordan Lake Rules Handbook (205j) – The Handbook is now going to be the “Piedmont Nutrient Reduction Sourcebook” and will be applicable to jurisdictions across North Carolina’s Piedmont region. The broader document will be more useful to more people and will address all the rule making processes going on in the Piedmont. The new website will be www.piedmontnutrientsourcebook.org. We will send out information as it becomes available.
- 5.) Davidson County Citizens for Improving Stream Health (DC FISH) (205j) – Joy received a grant to serve as a pilot project for getting streamwatch groups on the ground. This is a follow-up to the other projects we’ve been working on (Abbotts Creek, Rich Fork Creek). Ten groups will monitor streams, pick up streams, and taught how to be advocates for our waters. We have a lot of momentum going on down there and we will be experimenting with partnering with private organizations including High Rock Lake. We hope to find more private businesses to help serve this need in other communities.
- 6.) Construction Grants and Loans Section Deadline, Sept 1 (Letter of Intent)
- 7.) **People’s Choice Grant** – This grant provides us with the opportunity to put a rain garden in every stormwater SMART community. **Unfortunately, we were unable to submit this grant due to some technical issues but will continue to look for similar opportunities, or submit it next year.**

Strategic Plan – We hope to have a more concrete plan to focus on throughout the year. This came out of reviewing the material from the annual reports, the survey data, and some general programmatic needs. We are using the strategic plan to set goals for ourselves. The first phase is to assess each of our communities. We also don’t want to overlap services with other government/nonprofit in the area. Our goal is to identify those programs and focus on other areas which do need our attention.

Partnership Opportunities

Non-profits

Soil and Water

Parks and Recreation

Adjourn: Next Meeting Date: 11/17/2011