

May/June 2000



# Wastewater News

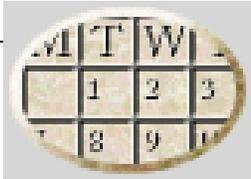


Clean Water ... a better environment  
Office of Wastewater Management

<http://www.epa.gov/owm>

Internet Address:

*Working towards Clean Water*



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### **What's happening in July?**

Go to the OW Calendar of Events site by clicking here

<<http://yosemite.epa.gov/water/news.nsf/owcalendar?OpenView&Grid=4&Date=1999-07-05>>

## UPCOMING TRAINING / WORKSHOPS

### Storm Water Permitting /Management Training

EPA is presenting a series of free training workshops for people interested in and affected by the NPDES Storm Water Program: A 2-day workshop on the complete Storm Water Program, and a 1-day presentation on the new Storm Water Phase II rule. The 2-day workshop will cover the existing Phase I NPDES Storm Water Program and the new Phase II NPDES Storm Water rule. This workshop will provide in-depth training on the permitting requirements for regulated industrial facilities, construction activities, and municipal separate storm water systems (MS4s). It ends with a case study on the interaction of these three components on the Storm Water program. The intended audience for this workshop is storm water staff with less than 1 year of experience in the storm water program area. Class size is limited to 60 participants; pre-registration is required.

The 1-day presentation provides an introduction to the way this new rule affects municipalities, construction operators, industrial facilities, and other interested parties. The presentation covers main features of the new rule, followed by an interactive question/answer session. This presentation is intended for those who are familiar with the Storm Water Program, but who have questions about changes to their programs or permits under Phase II. Presentation is limited to 300; pre-registration is required. Registration is by on-line at [http://www.limno.com/epa\\_reg/regform1.asp](http://www.limno.com/epa_reg/regform1.asp) or fax to Lisa Utz, Limno-Tech (202) 833-9094.:

#### Course Locations:

#### 2-Day Workshop

#### 1-Day Presentation

Seattle, WA  
San Diego, CA  
Denver, CO  
Newport, RI  
Tampa, FL

July 25-26 (FILLED)  
August 15-16 (FILLED)  
September 26-27  
October 24-25  
November 28-29

July 27  
August 17  
September 28  
October 26  
November 30

### NPDES Permit Writers' Training Course

The 5-day NPDES Permit Writers' Training Course provides basic regulatory framework and technical considerations that support the development of wastewater discharge permits as required under the NPDES Program. The course is designed for new permit writers: highlighting the process of developing, issuing, and complying with NPDES permits. The format is a combination of lecture, case examples, and practical exercises geared to acquaint participants with the tools and resources available for writing NPDES permits. States and EPA Regions can partner with OWM to host a delivery of the course. If your State or Region is interested in hosting a course after October 1, please contact Regina Meehan at 864-246-9400, ext. 3. No fee for attendees. Current courses: Nashville, TN (July 10-14), and Helena, MT (September 11-15). For more information, please visit our website: <http://www.epa.gov/owm/npdesup.htm>

### Pretreatment Training Courses

EPA, in cooperation with the Water Environment Federation (WEF), will offer 2-day Pretreatment Training Courses at various locations this year. These courses are designed and recommended for environmental professionals responsible for implementing the Pretreatment Program at the local level, as well as industrial dischargers and consultants. The "Introductory Course" provides the basic regulatory and technical framework that supports the development and implementation of pretreatment programs under the NPDES program and the Clean Water Act (CWA). The next Introductory Course will be held in Cincinnati, OH on August 23-24, 2000.

The Advanced Course: "Industrial Classification and Permitting," provides detailed information related to identifying, classifying, and permitting industrial users. The advanced course uses a combination of lectures and exercises to convey this information. Attendees should bring calculators to complete exercises which require calculation of permit limits. The next Industrial Classification and Permitting Course will be held in Boston, MA on July 25-26, 2000. Registration information and agendas are on our website: <http://www.epa.gov/owm/precour.htm>. The most recent Advanced Pretreatment Course on June 5-6 was held in Seattle. The 55 attendees included State Pretreatment Coordinators, plant operators, inspectors, etc. For more information, contact Jan Pickrel at 202-260-7904.

## REGULATIONS

### National Operations and Maintenance Excellence Awards

The Year 2000 Guidance for EPA's National Operations and Maintenance Excellence Awards, and the Beneficial Use of Biosolids Awards Programs was issued in January. Combined guidance for the Pretreatment Awards, Storm Water Management Awards, and the Combined Sewer Overflow Awards Programs was issued in March. The Guidance includes instructions/forms for national award applicants. Nominations for the national awards were due to EPA by May 19. The program brochure for EPA's National Wastewater Management Excellence Awards (1999 National winners) is currently available at <http://www.epa.gov/owm/muni.htm>. For more information, contact Maria Campbell at 202-260-5815.

## **PROGRAM RELATED**

### **Storm Water Multi-Sector General Permit (MSGP)**

EPA is proposing to reissue the Multi-Sector Storm Water General Permit (MSGP) to control storm water discharges from 29 sectors of industrial activity to protect water quality in rivers, lakes, wetlands, and marine waters. The MSGP was issued under the Clean Water Act's National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES). The MSGP controls storm water discharges in certain States and Territories (EPA Regions 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, and 10) where EPA is the permitting authority. The general permit was issued on September 29, 1995 (60 FR 50804) and expires on September 29, 2000. The MSGP-2000 has been substantially reorganized /rewritten to include both sector-specific and general changes. The new permit should be easier for permittees (many of them are small businesses) to understand and to comply. The proposed MSGP-2000 permit was published in the Federal Register on March 30, 2000. Comments on the proposed permit were received through May 30 and are being addressed in preparation of revising and publishing the final MSGP-2000 in fall 2000. Copies of the proposed permit and additional information on the storm water program are available at <http://www.epa.gov/owm/sw/industry/msgp/index.htm> For more information, contact Bryan Rittenhouse at 202-260-0592.

### **National Drought Policy Commission Report**

The National Drought Policy Commission (NDPC) released its report: "Preparing For Drought In The 21<sup>st</sup> Century" in May. USDA is now in the process of forming an interim national drought council. For more information, contact John Flowers at 202-260-7288 or visit the NDPC website at [www.fsa.usda.gov/drought/](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/drought/)

### **17<sup>th</sup> Annual National Operator Trainers' Conference**

The 17<sup>th</sup> Annual National Operator Trainers' Conference was held June 11-14, 2000 in Salt Lake City, Utah. The agenda for the conference was posted at [www.epa.gov/owm/annoper.htm](http://www.epa.gov/owm/annoper.htm)

The Conference included technical sessions, troubleshooting sessions, field trips, and an awards ceremony. This is the 5th year that awards were given at this conference. The awards ceremony highlighted "The Enthusiasm Award, Spark Plug Award, and the Jack Sampson Most Improved Plant Award" (first and second place). Representatives from the Utah Department of Environmental Quality and the Water Environment Association of Utah coordinated the conference events. For more information access the Program's web-page at [www.epa.gov/owm/tomm.htm](http://www.epa.gov/owm/tomm.htm).

### **National Environmental Training Center for Small Communities (NETCSC)**

NETCSC conducted three training sessions featuring its "Managing a Small Drinking Water System" course for small community local officials in three Louisiana communities: May 9 in Amite, May 10 in Hammond, and May 11 in Baton Rouge. The Louisiana Office of Public Health cosponsored the training. Louisiana mandates that managers of public water systems, including those in communities with fewer than 10,000 people, be trained in proper operation and management of these facilities as well as State and Federal regulations so the systems meet Federal and State compliance standards. Louisiana hopes to extend its present 4-hour management training requirement to a more in-depth training program that would call for continuing education units to assure training continuity. For more information contact Betty B. Ford at 202-260-8510.

### Wastewater Treatment Assistance for Small Communities

On April 13, OWM distributed 3,000+ copies of the brochure: *Wastewater Treatment Programs Serving Small Communities.* The brochure provides an overview of nine EPA-funded programs that offer training, financial and technical assistance, and outreach to small communities to help improve their wastewater facilities. The brochure lists the programs' hotlines, web sites, and contacts. Many small communities still lack adequate sewage facilities. The brochure should help households in these small communities get information to help solve this problem. If not properly treated, this sewage can impact the health of our citizens, our groundwater, and the quality of our surface waters. Copies of the brochure are available from the EPA Office of Water Resources (202) 260-7786. Refer to document number EPA-832-R-00-02. For more information, contact Sylvia Bell at (202) 260-7255.

### CWA 104(g)(1) - Wastewater Treatment Plan Operator On-Site Technical Assistance and Training Activities

EPA Regions I and II held a conference for 104(g) trainers on May 3-5, 2000 at the White Mountain Hotel in Hales Location, NH. The agenda included discussions on various issues affecting the 104(g) program and trainers (biological nutrient removal, lagoon sludge removal, etc.). For more information contact George Neill of the NH Department of Environmental Services at 603-271-3503.

The Maryland Center for Environmental Training completed the national 104(g) program training center report and individual regional reports. The report was sent to the training centers and posted under Reports on the program's web site at [epa.gov/owm/tomm.htm](http://epa.gov/owm/tomm.htm).

A tri-fold (8 ½ x 11) flyer has been created for the 47 training centers to give to potential and current customers. The flyer provides basic information about the program to help these customers understand the 104(g) program. For more information, contact Curt Baranowski at 202-260-5806.

### Small Community Outreach Project

OWM's Municipal Assistance Branch has requested approval of a grant to the Rural Community Assistance Program (RCAP) to develop basic environmental outreach materials for school-aged children and adult residents with limited educational backgrounds. The aim of the outreach project is to reach adults of small, rural, and isolated communities as well as school-aged children through the use of the easy-to-understand materials. The outreach materials are also intended to increase wastewater awareness and assist these small, rural, and isolated communities in finding technical and financial assistance for wastewater disposal needs. For more information, contact Maria Campbell at (202) 260-5815.