

MfSMA 15th Annual Conference, April 7-9, 2010

Missouri Phase I Permits – Today and Tomorrow – A Springfield Perspective

Abstract

It's been a long and meandering path from the 1972 Clean Water Act to stormwater management in 2010. Are we on course or have we just muddied the waters? This presentation will take a peek through the goggles of a Phase I MS4 Permit to assess where we are today in relation to the lofty goals of the CWA. And perhaps more importantly, we will pull out the binoculars and try to see what's ahead. But a word of warning, there's fog rising from the waters and a bit of uncertainty in the air.

When the City of Springfield applied for their Phase I MS4 permit in 1992, it seemed the regulations were fairly straight forward - black and white. Even several years later, at the time of final drafting of the permit, while we weren't sure it always made the best sense, we knew if we met the letter of the federal law, we were in compliance.

Introduce the improved six-point Phase II rules, impaired waters, TMDL implementation, anti-degradation, EPA audits and intervention, state funding shortage, local funding shortage, climate change and now the waters have again been churned up. And if you're new to LID, MEP, BMP, TMDL, TSS and SWPPP you may begin to feel DOA.

This presentation will seek to somehow intertwine Springfield's Storm Water Management Plan implementation with the requirements of rules, lawsuits, goals, plans and trends of the industry and open a discussion about thoughts and concerns about the future.