

Meeting Notes

Rensselaer County MS4 Communities Meeting

Poestenkill Town Hall

July 17, 2018

10:00 a.m.

The meeting started at 10:10 am. Introductions were made.

The second item on the agenda was the East Greenbush EPA Audit Report. Ms. von der Heide handed out partial copies of the report due to the length of the document. She will send out the full report via e-mail. The largest issue was that the SWMP was missing. There was a copy of the SWMP that was 10 years old or older and had not been updated. The Annual Report had been sent in late the past three years, which is probably what precipitated the visit from the EPA. Although there were outfalls that were mapped, the map did not include the area annexed into the urbanized area in 2010. There were no written public goals for the education part of the program. It was asked whether there needed to be separately provided goals beyond those in the Annual Report. Ms. Barrie stated that the Annual Report was part of the SWMP, so it shouldn't be necessary. There were no Pollutants of Concern with corresponding land uses in the East Greenbush program. There were no *written* procedures either. Ms. Barrie recommended going to the Town of Colonie MS4 website where procedures are provided and adapting their procedures to fit the local activities.

The EPA had asked about East Greenbush's hazardous waste collection efforts (not required in the permit). A discussion of how the communities deal with hazardous waste ensued. The Eastern Rensselaer County Solid Waste Authority has hazardous waste collection days in their participating communities. The Rensselaer County Environmental Management Council holds an electronic waste day around Earth Day each year. Another community had to refer a property owner to a hazardous waste hauler to have wastes removed. Part 360 has a program where municipalities can be reimbursed for 50% of costs. Interested communities would need to submit an application to DEC.

The conversation then was directed to uncovered salt storage. Rensselaer County communities have salt storage sheds. Some private concerns many not. Salt storage not in a building should be tarped. Another item that was dinged by the EPA was that the cold patch storage was uncovered and an oily sheen was seen from stormwater leaving the storage area. The conversation then continued on to sweeper storage and sweeper spoil storage.

East Greenbush is getting close to updating their outfall mapping. They found a bunch of mapped outfalls which weren't outfalls and a bunch of new outfalls of about the same number. There is a difference in the outfalls depending on whether the development was old or new. New development areas usually have one or two outfalls from their stormwater management facilities. Older developments have sometimes many direct outfalls from streets to streams.

The next item was Local BMPs. One community has 18 detention ponds with a backlog of maintenance for them. They have been looking at what would be the best method of paying for getting the maintenance done. A discussion of Homeowners Associations vs. development districts vs. a GEIS study in which new developers would need to pay their share in required systems.

In one community, there is a development of a failed builder where all the detention ponds are owned by private landowners. The town will be meeting with a landowner on what needs to be done with the pond on his property. The discussion then went to property owner liability. Another development in the same community had several ponds with no maintenance on any of the ponds. One pond was sold to a private landowner without an easement for maintenance without the town's knowledge. This is why there is a requirement in the construction permit for signs for stormwater management facilities. These signs should be on the construction plans, just like the details for other stormwater facilities.

Another community had a property owner placing over one acre of fill on property. Ms. Barrie, who had reviewed the property, stated that the property needs a SWPPP but it was not considered a landfill. The same community had another property owner who was placing fill on the property in federal wetlands next to a trout stream. That owner was told to stop everything. The Army Corps of Engineers would need to examine the property.

Another community had some filling taking place which was under an acre. This may be a landfill depending on what the fill materials are and if the property owner is getting paid to take the fill. Taking money for fill is an issue with Part 360. There are also issues with local regulations which were based on the old Part 360 and now are at variance with it.

A question was raised on a two community development with a SWPPP. Both communities need to sign off on the NOI before the SWPPP becomes valid.

The next meeting will be held on September 18, 2018 at 10 AM in the East Greenbush Town Park (new pavilion).

Attendees:

Mary Barrie	NYS DEC Region 4
Martin Daley	CDRPC
Mike Wager	Sand Lake
Nick Petramale	East Greenbush
Linda von der Heide	Rensselaer County
Bonnie Starr	NYS DEC Region 4
Scott Gallerie	East Greenbush
Adam Yagelski	East Greenbush
Paul Barringer	Poestenkill
Philip Koziol	Laberge Group/Schodack/Sand Lake
Mark Hendricks	Rensselaer
Brian Davidson	Schaghticoke