

A newsletter for people concerned with water management issues



LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Mustafa Emir

I am honored to be elected as WAFSCM chair for 2005. Together with Vice-Chair Frank Haseley, Secretary/Past-Chair Dave Fowler, and Treasurer Jennifer Wright, we are committed to serve WAFSCM and promote its healthy growth during this very important year where we will be hosting the 2005 ASFPM National Conference in Madison. Because of the National Conference, we will not be holding our traditional November annual conference this year.

In the coming months, I will focus on expanding our Association towards local officials who are at the frontlines of stormwater and floodplain ordinance administration. To this end, I am planning to reach out to the hundreds of local administrators across the state to increase awareness of our organization as a resource to those individuals and communities. My goal is to encourage mutual support between agency staff, the consulting community, and local engineering, zoning, and planning officials to fulfill the purpose of our Association, which are listed in our constitution as follows:

1. To promote public awareness of proper floodplain, stormwater, and coastal management;
2. To promote the professional status of individuals involved in floodplain stormwater, and coastal management and secure all benefits resulting therefrom;
3. To promote a liaison between individuals concerned with proper floodplain, stormwater, and coastal management and to encourage the exchange of ideas;
4. To keep individuals concerned with proper floodplain, stormwater, and coastal management well informed through educational and professional seminars and to provide a method for dissemination of information, both general and technical;
5. To inform concerned individuals of pending floodplain, stormwater, and coastal management legislation and other related floodplain, stormwater, and coastal management matters; and
6. To study and support legislation pertinent and necessary to the effective implementation of floodplain, stormwater, and coastal management matters.

WOW! Now that I see it on paper, I realize how big of a challenge this actually is... But at the same time, I also hope that seeing this list reminds us of why we joined WAFSCM in the first place and renews our enthusiasm to contribute to our profession and to the quality of life in the communities we work or live in.

WAFSCM MEMBERSHIP

If this organization is one that you feel is worthy of support, we welcome your membership and help. Annual membership is \$20 and a membership application/renewal form has been included with this newsletter. **NOTE: If you attended the 2004 WAFSCM Conference in LaCrosse, the 2005 membership was included in the registration.**

If you have received this newsletter and are not interested in receiving future mailings, please let us know so we can remove you from our mailing list.

If you are not the correct contact person, please forward to the individual and provide us with the correct contact information. If you are interested in receiving future newsletters and other information electronically, provide your e-mail address.

Please forward the above information and your e-mail address to Gary Heinrichs, WT/2, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707-7921 or e-mail at Gary.Heinrichs@dnr.state.wi.us.

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2004 WAFSCM CONFERENCE

Now that we have three conferences under our belt, it's interesting to observe the WAFSCM transition from organizing to performing.

Where at the beginning we listened to and examined operations of other State chapters plus the National association, the Wisconsin section is now developing a personality of its own. For those who were unable to attend, following are an attendee's comments regarding portions of the 2004 conference.

- LaCrosse Mayor **John Medinger** made it clear he understood what is needed to run a city on the banks of the "Mighty Mississippi".
- Zoning Director **Ray Nees** brought humor to an "efficient" way of administering flood plain mitigation in Rock Island, Illinois.
- **Todd Weik** presented a success story about reducing flooding along Mt. Pleasant's Pike River while improving the biological communities and creating a recreation area.
- **Stu Dobberpuhl** presented the results of the Corps of Engineers recent sophisticated computer study of statistical floods on the Mississippi and how it confirmed that the historical pre-computer studies were actually pretty good.
- **Christopher Boldt** presented a City of Ashland success story on the design, construction and maintenance of a bio-retention stormwater pond. Northland College students shepherded the public involvement efforts for installation of native plantings.
- **Brett Emmons** presented a regional approach to guide development in a flat Minnesota watershed previously modified by ditching for agricultural practices.

- **Sean Hancock** showed the construction challenges involved in building a stormwater facility in the "really fat" red clays of Superior.
- **Al Lulloff** and **Mark Hoskins** announced the FEMA mapping update program is actually off and running in Ozaukee County.

Mike Weibel did an awesome job finding a conference center with the best cinnamon buns in the west half of Wisconsin. Some attendees report Mike's recommendations for off site evening activities were excellent.

PREMIERE FLOODPLAIN MANAGERS CONFERENCE

The Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) will conduct their annual conference June 12-17, 2005, at the Frank Lloyd Wright-designed Monona Terrace Convention Center in Madison. The theme, "No Adverse Impact: Partnering for Sustainable Floodplain Management", will focus the sessions on flood mitigation, watershed management and other community goals. This international, week-long event will showcase the state-of-the-art in techniques, programs, resources, materials, equipment, accessories and services to accomplish flood mitigation and other community goals. You'll hear and see genuine success stories that demonstrate flood loss reduction and land and water management practice improvements. Government, business, non-profit and academic sectors will share how they successfully integrate engineering, planning, open space and environmental protection all over the nation and the world to prepare for a better, sustainable future.

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OPPORTUNITIES FOR OUR CORPORATE PARTNERS

The WASFSCM Board has worked with ASFPM to develop sponsorship opportunities for our local corporate partners at the National Conference. By reserving the sponsorship of certain events at the ASFPM Conference for our local corporate partners, WAFSCM is able to provide those partners with an opportunity to place their name and products/services before a much larger audience than is possible at the annual WAFSCM conference. Funds raised through these sponsorships go to support future WAFSCM events, as well as the ASFPM conference and foundation.

There are two opportunities for our local corporate partners to support WAFSCM and the National Conference:

The Sunday Night Welcome Fest is an opportunity for conference attendees to meet and network while enjoying desserts and cordials. Sponsors of this event will be recognized with a sign that includes the company name and logo. Exclusive sponsorship costs \$300, co-sponsorship is also available at \$150. If you are interested in sponsoring the Sunday Night Welcome Fest, please contact Dave Fowler at 414-277-63668 or dfowler@mmsd.com.

The second opportunity is the annual ASFPM Golf Tournament to be held at Bridges Golf Course on Sunday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sponsorships are available for either individual holes or specific prize events. An individual hole sponsorship will include a sign at a hole tee-box and a sign in the club house with the sponsoring company's name and logo. A prize sponsorship will include sign on the prize table with the sponsoring company's name and logo. A golf tournament sponsorship is \$250 per hole or prize. If you are interested in a sponsorship for the annual ASFPM Golf Tournament,

contact Mike Klitzke at 608-695-0922 or mike92249@aol.com.

Another opportunity to have a visible role in the conference is by donating an item to the Silent Auction Fundraiser conducted by the ASFPM Foundation. The ASFPM Foundation supports research and education that promotes wise floodplain and land use management. Each donor's name and item are listed in the auction brochure and on the bid sheet.

The above activities are truly a fun way to get your name in front of 1,000 people. WAFSCM wants to thank our corporate partners for their continued interest and support. Their generous support greatly enhances our capabilities to continue to protect the natural and beneficial functions of floodplains and mitigate the losses, costs and human suffering caused by flooding.

WAFSCM MEMBERS AND SUPPORTERS

WE NEED YOUR HELP. As the major floodplain management conference in the country, this annual event attracts a broad audience including local, state and federal government officials, engineers, consultants, planners, related non-profit organizations, researchers, educators, and involved citizens. It is anticipated that conference registration will exceed 1,000.

The Wisconsin Association for Floodplain, Stormwater, and Coastal Management (WAFSCM) usually has an annual conference in the November. However, as the local host for the 2005 ASFPM National Conference WAFSCM will not have an annual conference in 2005. Instead, we are encouraging our members to attend the ASFPM conference.

Having the Conference in Madison provides our state chapter members to interact with

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colleagues from across the nation. It also requires many volunteers to assist in a conference of this size. Please take the time to look over the list of volunteer opportunities and consider what you could do to help. We need your help to make this a memorable event.

If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, please contact Dave Fowler at 414 277-6368 or e-mail dfowler@mmsd.com.

Volunteer Job Description and Responsibilities:

Welcome Fest: Sunday, June 12, 2005, 7:15 p.m. to 9 p.m.

The volunteers will need to be available at least 30 minutes before the event opening. The volunteers will need to be familiar with the hotel and be available to answer questions in reference to the conference events, which occur on Monday May 13. After the Welcome Fest kicks off and the volunteer feels comfortable that the event is going as scheduled the volunteers can be relieved.

General Membership Meeting, Monday, June 13, 2005, 3:15 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The volunteers working the membership meeting will be available at least 15 minutes before the meeting starts. The volunteers will make sure that attendees have a complete set of handouts and that seating is available for everyone and the meeting is ready to start.

Volunteer Office, Monday, June 13, 2005 thru Thursday, June 16, 2 shifts per day, 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The individuals selected for this task will man the volunteer office. Answer questions as needed. Help direct volunteers to the appropriate locations. Promote and sell Conference, ASFPM and WAFSCM memorabilia.

Keynote Luncheon; Tuesday, June 14, 2005, 11:45 a.m. – 12:30 pm; and Awards Luncheon, Thursday, June 16, 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.

The volunteers for the key note luncheon and awards luncheon will make sure that each individual attending the lunch has a ticket for the lunch. The volunteers will make sure everyone is in the room and ready for the luncheon to start at noon.

Concurrent Sessions; Tuesday, June 14, 2005, 1:30 p.m. to 5:15 p.m., Wednesday, June 15, 10:15 a.m. to noon, and Thursday, June 16, 10:15 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

The individuals selected to assist with the concurrent tracks will assist as needed to make sure that the room is set up and ready for the session to start. The volunteer will remain in the track assigned for his/her scheduled time and assist the moderator or participants as needed to ensure a positive learning atmosphere. Volunteers may volunteer for the entire day or half day sessions or individual time slots in each day or half day.

Thursday Night Party: Monona Terrace Rooftop; Thursday, June 16, 2005, 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

The volunteers selected to work this event are in for a fun filled evening, yes, it is work but work you can enjoy. The volunteers will serve as the ASFPM host and hostess for the evening. Volunteers will be needed to direct individuals to the Event and assist where needed for the evening.

Other volunteer opportunities include the assisting at the training workshops and field trips.

The full brochure with detailed program, exhibits and registration forms are on the ASFPM website at www.floods.org. Any questions regarding registration and exhibitor

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space should be directed to ASFPM Administrator Diane Brown at 608-274-0123 or diane@floods.org. ASFPM and WAFSCM members as well as Wisconsin local government officials can register at a discount.

SCHOLARSHIPS TO THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE

The Wisconsin Association for Floodplain, Stormwater and Coastal Management (WAFSCM) will provide scholarships to subsidize conference registration to the ASFPM National Conference in Madison. Members will still be responsible for their own transportation, lodging, and meals, and remaining registration cost.

Here are the guidelines:

1. The applicant for a scholarship must be a WAFSCM Member with their 2005 dues of \$20 paid in full. See elsewhere in this issue of Water Matters for a membership application.
2. The applicant must be an elected official or appointed local government staff member.
3. Only one scholarship per local government.
4. To be eligible, applicants must apply, on their local government's letterhead, indicating the reason(s) they want the scholarship.
5. Applications must be submitted by May 1, 2005.
6. Scholarship recipients must agree to work at least four hours at the conference. (We will need room monitors, field trip coordinators, people to assist during the social events, and a variety of other logistical duties.)

Scholarship recipients will need to register for the national conference through ASFPM. They

will then receive from WAFSCM a check for the scholarship award towards their registration.

Send requests to:

David C. Fowler
c/o Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewage District
260 West Seeboth
Milwaukee, WI 53204
FAX - 414-221-6801

ATTENTION STORMWATER MANAGERS

One of the outcomes from the DNR's Post-Construction Stormwater Management Workshops was an interest in additional experience and empirical data to support BMP designs satisfying NR 151's requirements.

WAFSCM would like to poll the association's interest in establishing a steering committee and a fund for stormwater quality research. If there is interest in discussing this issue, we will convene a meeting at the Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) Conference in Madison. We have secured access to a meeting room on Monday June 13 between 5 PM and 7 PM. **REMEMBER:** you are welcome to this meeting even if you are not attending the national conference...

Anyone with an interest in additional water quality data relevant to the new stormwater performance standards of NR 151 should contact WAFSCM chair Mustafa Emir at memir@bonestroo.com or 262-643-9004.