



**Missouri
Department of
Natural Resources**

WATER QUALITY COORDINATING COMMITTEE

DNR Conference Center
Roaring River Conference Room
1730 E. Elm Street
Jefferson City, Missouri

November 15, 2011

10:00 a.m.

MEETING AGENDA

The State of Missouri's Streams Report: A Summary of Invertebrate Data 1993-2010
Holly Neill, Missouri Stream Team Watershed Coalition

Onsite Wastewater in Missouri and the New Pesticide General Permit
Chuck Harwood, Permits & Engineering Section, WPP

Other

Agency Activities

Meetings & Conferences



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MINUTES

Attendees:

Greg Anderson	DNR, Water Protection Program	Bob Broz	University of MO Extension
Holly Neill	MO Stream Team Watershed Coalition	Terri Brink	EPA Region 7
Amy Meier	MDC Streams	Bill Whipps	DNR, Water Protection Program
Tyler Bax	MDC Streams	Jane Davis	DNR, Water Protection Program
Rick Bailey	Marshall Municipal Utility	Mike Kruse	DNR, Water Protection Program
John Johnson	DNR, Water Protection Program	Chuck Harwood	DNR, Water Protection Program
Robert Voss	DNR, Water Protection Program	Suzy Higgins	DNR, Water Protection Program
Valerie Hentges	DNR, Water Protection Program	Anna Nowack	DNR, Water Protection Program
Tim Rielly	DNR, Environmental Services Pgm	Mark Osborn	DNR, Water Protection Program
Thomas Smith	Newman, Comley & Ruth, P.C.	Soojung Lim	DNR, Water Protection Program
Dave Michaelson	DNR, Environmental Services Pgm	Nick Bauer	Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District
Randy Niemeyer	DNR, Environmental Services Pgm	Darlene Schaben	DNR, Water Protection Program

Introductions were made.

The State of Missouri’s Streams Report: A Summary of Invertebrate Data 1993-2010, Holly Neill, Missouri Stream Team Watershed Coalition

PowerPoint Presentation; handouts: pamphlets “The State of Missouri’s Streams: Summary of Missouri Stream Team Invertebrate Data: 1993-2010”; “Linking Steam Teams for Healthy Watersheds”

The Missouri Stream Team Watershed Coalition (MSTWC) was formed in 1998 and established 501(c)(3) non-profit status. In 2009 they applied for and received a 319 minigrant from the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), which helped to lay the foundation of the organization. In 2010 the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) provided funding for staff support. Holly was the first person hired and is now the Executive Director. Previously, MSTWC was run by a board of directors that were all volunteers. One reason MSTWC was formed was because the state-agency-formed Stream Team Program, that includes DNR and MDC, wanted a non-profit organization independent of the state agencies that could work on different issues, such as advocacy.

Their mission is to promote and support watershed based Stream Team Associations, by serving as a resource for information, education, stewardship and advocacy; by facilitating communication among Associations; and by serving as a united voice for healthy watersheds in Missouri. Stream Team Associations are multiple Stream Teams that work together to meet common goals. There are currently 14 associations across the state. When a Stream Team Association decides to join the MSTWC, they will have representation on the board. Holly showed a state map with the location of all the Associations.



The Board met to develop a strategic plan. The plan would focus on education/outreach, advocacy, sustainable funding, and a technical aspect. In relation to education/outreach, an email system was implemented, an interactive website (www.mstwc.org), and a Nonpoint Source Educational Display for associations to use. They developed a process to educate the Stream Team community on issues that affect the quality of the state's water resources and encourage advocacy through "Issue Alerts" that are sent electronically. They are partnering with Karla Wilson, EcoWorks, on a state slogan, "Missouri...The Great Rivers State." In 2012 they will join the Missouri Conservation and Environmental Alliance, which is a program of Missouri Votes Conservation. MSTWC wants to provide sustainable funding to not only Associations but create a sustainable source of funding for the Coalition. They assist Stream Teams with the Revolving Tire Fund, a DNR program that the MSTWC administers. Associations can also utilize MSTWC's non-profit status when applying for grant funding. They recently received approval through legislation for a Missouri Stream Team specialty license plate. The first 200 applicants will receive a waiver of the \$15 special license fee. Information regarding the license plate can be found on their website. This year they awarded over \$7,000 in grants to Associations. They are also working with retailers across the state where a portion of the sale of an item on the "Water Wins" program will go to the MSTWC.

The last item of the plan is a technical aspect, which will require more work. The Board wanted to showcase Stream Team volunteer data and decided to develop a report that would encourage and inspire Stream Teams to monitor consistently and submit data. The report shows what has been accomplished over the last several years. Stream Team members, the general public, state agencies, etc. will receive a copy of the brochure and/or report. Volunteer water quality data has been collected since 1993, which includes biological, chemical and physical aspects. All data is managed at DNR. Early plans were to share the data received with volunteers but with the overwhelming amount of data and lack of staff time, this didn't happen. The data received has been used to locate problems, i.e., sewer line break, local pool draining, discovery of several barrels dumped in the stream. Several volunteers have discovered and reported fish kills. Frequently, cities and counties will request data on a specific stream. The Stream Team data is also used to supplement other agency data, such as Army Corps of Engineers, Missouri Dept. of Transportation, and U.S. Forest Service. The Dept. of Conservation uses the data primarily for education and also assist when dealing with sensitive watersheds or aquatic conservation opportunity areas. DNR uses Intro and Level 1 as screening data; Level 2 and 3, and CSI data is treated as agency collected data. The data is also used in preparing DNR's 303(d) list of impaired waters and the 305(b) report.

Just to clarify, the data is being used by agencies but not clearly communicated to volunteers. The MSTWC Board decided to develop a report. Data from 1993-2010 was compiled into a report. Holly explained how the data was compiled. MSTWC contracted with Tony Thorpe and Dan Obrecht, University of Missouri-Columbia, to assist with reviewing the data and develop the report. The report assesses 271 sites across the state. Holly handed out a copy of the brochure, "The State of Missouri's Streams – Summary of Missouri's Stream Team Invertebrate Data 1993-2010." (View full report at www.mstwc.org.) Holly explained how sites and data were chosen and the water quality scores that are listed. The full report is separated by region. Each region has its own web page and provides more information about the watershed, a map of site locations, and rating on overall scale. Each page includes a story about what the data told as well as some invertebrate facts at the bottom.

Future plans include a second report focusing on water chemistry data. Funding was secured through a fish kill grant from MDC. Ozark Water Watch has a "Status of the Watershed Report" created using USGS data. As a pilot program Ozark Water Watch wants to utilize volunteer data for this report instead of relying on USGS data. As a long-term goal, MSTWC is thinking to begin conversations on how Stream Team data can be better utilized.

Holly mentioned that part of the donation from Ms. Pat Jones provided the funding for the Stream Team Report. As mentioned earlier the full report is online. Other partners include MO Dept. of Conservation and Dept. of Natural Resources.



Onsite Wastewater in Missouri and the New Pesticide General Permit, Chuck Harwood, Permits & Engineering Section, WPP
PowerPoint Presentation

Chuck is a Soil Scientist with the Water Pollution Control Branch of the Water Protection Program. His primary duty is the residential housing development regulation, which deals with onsite wastewater systems. He is also the liaison between the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) and local authorities that deal with onsite wastewater. He has been in this position with the department for approx. ten years.

DHSS has authority over single family residential systems that discharge into a subsurface soil absorption system, single family lagoon (one lagoon-one house), or a holding tank. They also have authority over other sources of domestic wastewater with flows less than 3,000 gallons per day that include multi-family, commercial facilities and restaurants that discharge into a subsurface soil absorption system or holding tank. Of the state's 114 counties, 22 counties are directly administered by DHSS. Thirty counties are contract counties, which is through the local health agency. Part of their permitting fee goes to the state for that. The fee has been \$90 since 1995. There are 62 counties that are Ordinance counties. They have an ordinance that is as strict, if not more so, than the state ordinance. This sometimes creates confusion between the departments and local agencies.

DNR has the responsibility of determining the method of domestic wastewater treatment in residential housing developments (subdivisions), recreational developments and multiple family developments. DNR is also responsible for other sources of domestic wastewater with flows less than 3,000 gallons per day, including multi-family, commercial and restaurants that **do not** discharge into a subsurface soil absorption system (e.g., non-discharging lagoon and any discharging system). If there are two houses on one lagoon, it becomes a DNR responsibility. Any wastewater flow greater than 3,000 gallons per day is a DNR responsibility, as well as all industrial waste flows, which is anything not defined as domestic sewage.

House Bill 89 included language that DNR and DHSS "shall jointly hold stakeholder meetings for the purpose of gathering data and information regarding permits and inspections for on-site sewage disposal systems. The departments shall evaluate the data and information obtained and present their findings and recommendations in a report to be submitted to the general assembly by December 31, 2011." Two stakeholder meetings have been held where issues and potential solutions were discussed and recorded. Written comments were accepted between August 1 and October 15, 2011. These comments will be included in the report. The issues discussed included permitting; malfunctioning systems and enforcement; funding assistance; septage haulers; no-discharge lagoons; jurisdiction; web sites-permit assistance; and continued stakeholder meetings. They are currently working on the draft report. The next steps are to finalize the report and submit it to the General Assembly on or before December 31, 2011.

Chuck gave some general history of the Residential Housing Development Rule (10 CSR 20-6.030) (previously known as Subdivision Rule). The first rule became effective in 1974. It went through a major change in 1984. The current rule has been in effect since March 30, 1999. The current rule covers single family residential housing developments, recreational developments, and multiple family residential housing. Chuck explained how they calculated that a lot size could treat and control the effluent. The soil scientists, who write the reports, must be qualified in order for DNR to accept their reports.

Chuck is working on an amendment to the current regulation. The department will always seek to be consistent, transparent and accountable in its rulemaking activities. Each rulemaking shall be based upon substantial evidence; that the rulemaking is necessary to fully carry out the purposes of an authorizing statute. Stakeholder meetings have been held. The purpose of the amendment is for terminology and clarification of certain sections. The amendment will not change the methodology of the current rule. The main changes include the name, definitions, applicability, subdivisions, recreational developments, and multiple family developments. Chuck said these changes should make it an easy step-by-step regulation to follow.



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Chuck now has the responsibility of the Pesticide General Permit (G87). He explained that if anyone applies pesticides, herbicides, etc., and it affects 'waters of the state,' you will need a Pesticide General Permit. If you have any questions, feel free to contact him. He talked about permit requirements and that some are exempt. Permits are for five years. Permittees must keep records of where pesticides are applied. Permit information is available on the Internet as well as on a fact sheet. This became effective on October 31, 2011.

Meetings/Conferences

- Nov 16 Feral Hogs-Impact on the Environment – Mark Haindes of Auburn University (MU graduate) Conservation Hall – ABNR Building, Columbia
- Nov 17 Nutrient Reduction Strategy committee meeting – Bennett Springs and Roaring River Conference Room, DNR Conference Building, 1730 E. Elm Street, Jefferson City
- Nov 18 EPA Region 7 Administrator visit to MU campus and city of Columbia– Columbia city hall 12:30 and 2:00 Executive-Residence – MU Student Center Leadership Lounge (West of Ag Building on Rollins Street)
- Nov 18-19 River Soundings 2011, Forest Park Visitors Center, Education Lab, St. Louis, sponsored by Greenway Network
- Nov 19 Stream Team GIS Workshop – Strickland Hall University of Missouri (must pre-register – class filled)
- Nov 28-30 Soil and Water Training Conference at Tan-Tar-A, Osage Beach
- Dec 1-2 Water Summit at Stoney Creek Inn Conference Center, Columbia
- Dec. 2 Project WET Workshop, Columbia Eagle Bluffs (contact Erica Cox)
- Dec 6 Miscanthus and Switchgrass production to support Water Quality – 10:00 – MU Bradford Farm, Columbia – must register with Kristi Perry at 573-882-0085 for lunch
- Jan 11-12 Mo-Ag Industries Conference and CEU training - Lodge of the Four Seasons, Lake Ozark
- Feb 1-3 Missouri Natural Resources Conference – Tan-Tar-A, Osage Beach

Agency Activities

Robert Voss mentioned that the 2010 303(d) List of Impaired Waters has been approved by EPA and is on the Department of Natural Resources' web site. Missouri's proposed 2012 303(d) List is also on the web.

Anna Nowack informed the group that the Water Quality Standards rule has been filed with Secretary of State. A public hearing will be held at the Clean Water Commission meeting in January.

Greg Anderson mentioned the Nonpoint Source Annual Report is set for publication after the first of the year. It includes summaries of Missouri's 66-HUC watersheds. The Nonpoint Source Management Plan should be coming out after the first of the year.

Meeting Adjourned.