

July - August 2014

Newsletter Update Volume 9

Clark County is updating its municipal code and stormwater design manual to comply with Washington's **NPDES Phase 1 Municipal Stormwater Permit**. This newsletter series will give you the latest updates and progress on the project.

WHAT'S NEW

The "Final Draft" of the code and manual are complete

Clark County has completed the edits to the draft Clark County Code and revised stormwater manual as of June 30, 2014. Per the requirements of the NPDES Phase 1 municipal stormwater permit, Clark County had to submit a draft to the Department of Ecology for review and comment. We anticipate comments from the state by early fall 2014.

What is our schedule this summer?

- **Review remaining policy questions** - Clark County will review remaining policy issues to clarify requirements related to the permit. Clark County's new manual follows the requirements of the permit and is not proposing any changes above and beyond the requirements at this time.
- **Review the project submittal process** - Clark County staff will review the development project application process and identify the tools necessary to help applicants navigate the updated submittal processes. Making the application process as easy as possible for applicants and staff is key to the success of the new code and manual.
- **Identify and organize training needs** - Identify key stakeholders, audiences and community members that would benefit from training updates to the development applications, LID design, construction requirements and maintenance considerations.

Trainings are coming this year!

- Learn about the new stormwater manual updates
- Brush up on your LID design and construction techniques?
- What do you have to do to maintain LID features?

Check out www.clark.wa.gov/stormwater for local workshops or the state's training opportunities on LID at www.wastormwatercenter.org. Workshops will run from September 2014 through early 2015.

Why does clean stormwater runoff matter?

- Runoff from our properties go right to our creeks, streams and rivers.....not a treatment plant to be cleaned
- The fish depend on clean water and a healthy food supply
- We play in our streams, rivers and lakes
- We enjoy the beauty of our rivers that enhance our community



PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS



What's next for the code and manual update project?

Policy & Process Updates

Through the process of updating the stormwater manual, there were several issues that were identified that need clarification, either with policy direction or updates to the application process.

The overall goal of the updated manual is to simplify and clarify information for all users, both those new to the process and returning users. Here are some areas that will continue to be reviewed for clarity:

- **Single-family residential stormwater design** - when do you need a licensed engineer?
- **County ownership of subdivision facilities** - should the county maintain or the HOA?
- **Updated standard details and legal documents** - create user friendly standards for all users.
- **Certainty of how new rules are applied** - create easy to understand policies and guides for all users.

Trainings

While some of the information in the stormwater manual is similar to the past manual, there are many new requirements. LID practices will now be mandatory. Therefore, it is beneficial to provide updated trainings, workshops and information to help users understand how to navigate the new manual.

Here are some ideas about new trainings. Let us know what trainings would help you and your colleagues:

- **The application process** - What is new in the submittal requirements?
- **The site planning process** - What are the new considerations for your project planning and design?
- **LID BMPs** - An overview of the various BMP techniques.
- **LID construction** - Tips and tricks to consider for a successful facility.
- **LID maintenance** - Learn some of the key techniques to maintain your new facility and minimize life-cycle costs.

Final adoption of code and manual

The stormwater code and manual are in draft form and will soon be reviewed by the Washington Department of Ecology to verify that the manual is equivalent to state standards. Here is an anticipated timeline for the remainder of the project:

- **July - September 2014** - DOE has 90 days to review and comment on the "Final Draft" manual.
- **Summer and fall 2014** - Clarify any outstanding questions, policies, processes or products related to our manual.
- **Fall - winter 2014** - Prepare trainings, outreach and workshops.
- **Winter 2014** - Prepare final versions of the code and manual.
- **March 2015** - Start the adoption process for code and manual.
- **June 2015** - BOCC to finalize the adoption of code and manual.
- **July 2015** - New regulations go into effect.

FEEDBACK

Q. Wow.....the new "Final Draft" of the stormwater manual is a lot of pages. What are some of the key sections to read if I'm new to stormwater management in our community.

A. Yes, the new manual is over 1,000 pages but we are working to create a stand-alone document that will meet every users needs for understanding how to manage stormwater on their site. We suggest all users read at least the Introduction and Book 1, Chapter 1. These sections will give you a good understanding of the requirements and will direct you to the specific areas of interest based on your project. If you are just maintaining stormwater features, go to Book 4. If you have an existing business and want to minimize pollution in stormwater, go to Book 3. If you are designing features, Books 1 and 2 are a great place to start.

i Need more information?

Visit our website for links to county and state information

www.clark.wa.gov/stormwater

(360) 397-2121 or e-mail cleanwater@clark.wa.gov

Are you looking for more information about LID?

There are several resources you can review to learn more about planning, design, construction and maintenance of LID:

- **Department of Ecology LID Resources page** - Lists a variety of information including building, planting and maintain LID.
- **2012 Technical Guidance Manual for LID** - A great resource full of technical information to design features.
- **Tour of LID in Clark County** - Our booklet and web page point you to examples of LID in our community. Take a tour of the sites to better understand the look and feel of these facilities.