



PACE Stormwater Newsletter

June 2006

AUDIT RESULTS

The Watershed Approach to Stream Health (WASH) Project is a regional stormwater quality management program serving the communities of Boulder, Longmont, Louisville, Erie, Superior, and Boulder County. The WASH Project participants developed the WASH Plan, which addresses water quality protection in the Boulder and St. Vrain watersheds. The primary objective of the WASH Plan is compliance with EPA Phase II stormwater regulations. The WASH Project contracts with the Partners for A Clean Environment (PACE) Program to include stormwater pollution prevention strategies in PACE's certification criteria for municipal operations.

In April, WASH hired an independent auditor to assess the WASH/PACE program and determine what still needs to be accomplished to make Boulder County communities compliant with the local stormwater permit. Overall, the program is effectively conveying the message to municipalities and the private sector; however, there are still a number of changes that need to be implemented to better protect our waters.

The auditor discovered unacceptable or illicit discharges at several municipal operations. These discharges had previously been identified by WASH/PACE staff as a source that could potentially be cited as a violation during a regulatory audit. These violations can result in fines up to \$25,000 per violation. WASH/PACE staff have communicated these findings and possible solutions to the municipal supervisors and the WASH steering committee. Examples of violations identified were rinsing out street sweepers over storm drains, rinsing out recycling totes in a parking lot which was draining to a storm drain, washing lawn mowers outside where the runoff is draining into a wetland area, uncovered trash dumpsters with empty oil containers, and "jetting" plugged storm drains with high-pressure water.

The PACE staff is here to help your facility comply with the stormwater permit. PACE will inspect your facility and let you know how your operation is doing. It is **free** and **non-regulatory**. Don't let this opportunity pass by, because a regulatory inspection by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment is very likely in the near future and violations can be costly!

Don't forget to sign up for one of the municipal stormwater training classes! For more information visit www.pacepartners.com or call 303.441.1564.
Upcoming training dates: July 13th, July 26th, and August 17th

We all want clean drinking water and healthy streams, so...



Does your shop need to create a stormwater management plan?

Golf course maintenance, parks and open space maintenance, fleet maintenance, street maintenance, and public works operations are all required to have a Stormwater Pollution Prevention (SWPP) plan. PACE staff has developed generic SWPP plans to help facilities/operations comply with the stormwater permit. These plans can be easily adapted to be specific to your facility. If you would like additional details or to obtain a copy of these plans, contact Bonnie Greenwood at 303.441.1174 or bsgreenwood@co.boulder.co.us or Erin Courtney at 303.441.1241 or ecourtney@co.boulder.co.us.

Allowing materials or wash water to enter parking lots, streets, storm drains, and eventually creeks or other water bodies is **ILLEGAL!**

Please Protect Storm Drains!



New Staff Member

Erin Courtney joined our staff in March to work with the PACE Auto Repair/Body, Printing, and Landscape sectors, and with municipal facilities operations with the WASH program. Erin comes to Boulder County Public Health/PACE with an extensive knowledge of hazardous waste and recycling. If you have any questions related to these sectors, please contact Erin at 303.441.1241 or ecourtney@co.boulder.co.us.

We would like to highlight municipal operations that are implementing innovative BMP's and operating in compliance. Please contact Erin at ecourtney@co.boulder.co.us if you would like to be featured in the next newsletter.

REMEMBER... Municipal governments and private property owners are responsible for their contractors' practices! Ask your contractor to review WASH's Stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs) and **write them into your contract!**

"The Contractor shall take all measures necessary to prevent pollutants from entering storm drains or watercourses. For the purpose of eliminating stormwater pollution, the contractor shall implement effective Best Management Practices (BMPs). BMPs include general good housekeeping practices, appropriate scheduling of activities, operational practices, maintenance procedures and other measures to prevent the discharge of pollutants directly or indirectly to the storm drain system. These BMPs shall be maintained for the duration of the Contractor's work. The Contractor shall also be responsible for proper disposal of all waste materials, including wastes generated by the implementation of BMPs. Contractors must go to <http://www.ci.boulder.co.us/www/pace/government/index.html> for the applicable stormwater BMPs."

For more information, visit these websites:

www.basin.org/WASH

<http://www.ci.boulder.co.us/www/pace/government/index.html>

Contact Information:

Boulder County Public Health, Partners for a Clean Environment (PACE) Program

Bonnie Greenwood: 303-441-1174

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