

Stormwater Permit MANUAL

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EPA and Partners Publish ‘Green Infrastructure Action Strategy’

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), with state and national partners, released a comprehensive plan on Jan. 17 that promotes “green infrastructure” approaches to reduce runoff and meet water quality goals. The plan explains how states, municipalities, permitting authorities and non-governmental organizations can use green infrastructure practices to meet water quality goals while sustaining their water infrastructure. The specifics of the strategy are outlined in an EPA document called “Managing Wet Weather with Green Infrastructure Action Strategy 2008.” The document outlines ways other organizations can implement green infrastructure, and includes a list of objectives EPA plans to complete in the future to further this initiative. *Page 2*

Court Agreement Calls for Pollution Reduction for California Roads

Pollution in stormwater runoff from Southern California freeways and highways will be reduced significantly with an agreement among the California Department of Transportation, the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) and Santa Monica Baykeeper. The agreement will achieve an aggressive numerical reduction in pollutants below 1994 pollution levels for Los Angeles and Ventura counties. The numerical approach in the newer agreement represents a straightforward requirement for stormwater management. *Page 4*

EPA Plans Final Rule To Encourage More Fees for State NPDES Permits

EPA stated that it is planning to issue a final rule that would allow the agency to reward states that implemented fees to process clean water permits, and penalize those that do not. Specifically, EPA plans to change the funds allocated under Section 106 of the Clean Water Act to encourage states to charge fees to permit holders. Some officials are concerned that this decision removes the flexibility states have for their water quality programs. Harry Stewart, president of the Association of State and Interstate Water Pollution Control Administrators, sent a letter to congressional appropriators responsible for EPA’s budget to express these concerns. *Page 6*

Also in this Issue:

Bush’s EPA Budget Request a Slight Decrease from 2008 Appropriations

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Stephen L. Johnson recently released the agency’s \$7.14 billion budget request for the 2009 fiscal year, as proposed by President George W. Bush 3

Idaho Ski Resort Agrees to \$185,000 Civil Penalty

The developer of an Idaho ski resort recently agreed to pay a \$185,000 penalty for alleged stormwater violations..... 7

EPA Suggests LID Strategies to Reduce Stormwater Costs

Low impact development (LID) can be used to reduce stormwater costs and improve the environmental impacts of development, the EPA said in a recent report..... 7

In the Update

- An update to state stormwater information for Ohio
- Changes to Tab 800 and Appendix 3 of the *Manual*.

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