

Project Update

Stakeholder Group - The first Stakeholder Group meeting was held on June 25, 2015 to introduce the Phase II Study, gather critical stakeholder input, and learn about concerns or answer questions. The meeting kicked off with a presentation from Elizabeth Scott from RIDEM on stormwater related issues and a Phase I summary. This was followed by a presentation from Cynthia Baumann and Kate Barrett from the Project Team, who outlined the Phase II study goals and objectives, tasks, and public outreach plan.

The meeting concluded with a facilitated discussion where stakeholder group members provided input on the key challenges they feel the UNB Regional Stormwater Management District faces. A summary of the meeting will be posted on the website later this month, and we'll notify you by email when it's available.

Steering Committee - We ask that you include a link to the Study website (www.unbstormwater.org) on your website so your members, employees, constituents, and others can learn about the issues and stay informed about Study progress and key milestones. Our next meeting is Wednesday October 7th.

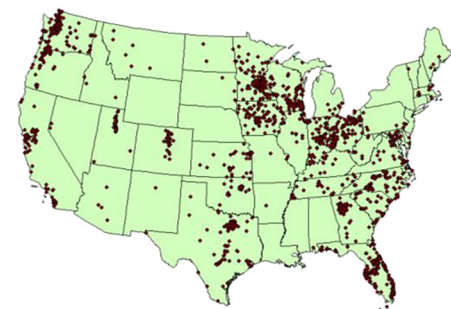
Municipal Meetings - The project team lead by CDM Smith, met with public works and engineering staff in the six Study communities to learn about the current status of municipal infrastructure and anticipated future needs.

Current Work

Determining the Stormwater Level of Service (LOS) - The existing LOS for each of the six municipalities is currently being evaluated. The future LOS will define a set of standards and services that the communities can expect from the stormwater district.

Development of Capital Improvement Projects (CIPs) - CDM Smith met with each municipality to gather information regarding their needs associated with management, operation, and maintenance of their stormwater systems. Based on the information gathered, short and long term projects are being developed to improve and mitigate stormwater related issues.

Developing Case Studies - The team is preparing a set of case studies to help the Steering Committee and Stakeholder Group members understand what other communities have done to manage stormwater more effectively and efficiently. According to the Western Kentucky University Stormwater Utility Survey (2014), more than 1,500 stormwater utilities have been documented nationwide.



U.S. Stormwater Utilities

Western Kentucky University Stormwater Utility Survey (2014)



In the News

DEM watching large fish kill in Seekonk, Providence rivers

The Providence Journal reported that several hundred fish are dead due to severely low oxygen in the Providence and Seekonk Rivers. Initial reports started around July 17th. Read more at:

<http://www.providencejournal.com/article/20150729/NEWS/150729231>

Street flooding reported around Rhode Island

In the Providence Journal on July 15, 2015 reports of flooding around RI as a result of "torrential rainfall in localized areas." Read more at:

<http://www.providencejournal.com/article/20150715/NEWS/150719505>

Upcoming Events

Saturday, September 19, 2015

International Coastal Cleanup
Save the Bay
www.savebay.org/icc

Saturday, September 19, 2015

6th Annual Woony River Ride
Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council
<http://www.wrwc.org/woonyride.php>

Thursday, October 22, 2015

Stakeholder Group Meeting #2
Existing Cost of Service and LOS
Capital Needs
Funding Framework

Stormwater Acronyms

BMPs

Best Management Practices are activities or structural improvements that help reduce the quantity and improve the quality of stormwater runoff.

LOS

Level of Service is a measure of the quality of service provided by the district.

MS4

Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System is a conveyance system used to collect or convey stormwater.

NPDES

National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System is a federally mandated system used for regulating point source and stormwater discharges.

TMDL

Total Maximum Daily Load is a calculation of the maximum amount of a pollutant that a waterbody can receive and still meet water quality standards.

Question of the Month

What type of entity do you envision the stormwater management district being managed by and what would they be responsible for?

Please send your responses to BaumannCA@cdmsmith.com.

A question for stakeholder members will be included in each newsletter. The question will always be relevant to the ongoing work of the UNB Regional Stormwater Management District Feasibility Study. Any responses and feedback to the questions will help the project team monitor their progress and help ensure the most equitable and effective solution to stormwater management is found.

