



## SMSWG MEETING NOTES

Wednesday March 27, 2019 12:30 pm

Berwick Town Hall Selectman's Room – 11 Sullivan Street, Berwick, ME

### **Attendance:**

SMPDC: Abbie Sherwin

Integrated Environmental: Kristie Rabasca and Mary Wicklund

Eliot: Jess McQuade

Portsmouth Naval Shipyard: Jay Flagg

Berwick: James Bellissimo, Carly Stella, Steve Eldridge

York: Leslie Hinz, Dean Lessard

DOT: Taylor LaBrecque

MTA: Aimee Mountain

### **Agenda**

#### **1. Introductions**

#### **2. DEP/Permit Renewal Update**

- a. Overall Timeline: K. Rabasca provided an overall timeline for MS4 General Permit Submittals based on the 6<sup>th</sup> preliminary draft of the General Permit that was provided to stakeholders on 3/4/2019. The timeline shows that Towns have approximately 10 months to completely update their Stormwater Management Plans (SWMPs), before they are due to the Maine DEP for review along with their Notice of Intent to comply with the permit. The SWMPs will be much more comprehensive than ever before and will include all elements of the program (or links to pdfs maintained on a municipal website would be fine too). The most significant elements that will need to be updated are: IDDE Plans, Public Education Plans, and impaired waters elements. J. Kellogg asked for clarification, because this is very different from the timeline we saw in the 5<sup>th</sup> draft, where we would get Permit Year 1 to write our SWMPs. K. Rabasca confirmed that this is very different, because the Remand Rule requires that everything be clear, specific and measurable before coverage under the new permit begins. K. Rabasca had sent out an email in February with updated recommended budgets to cover the preparation of the new materials, from 7/1/2019 to 4/1/2020, while simultaneously implementing Permit Year 7.
- b. Comments on the 6<sup>th</sup> draft were provided to the DEP on 3/22/2019 (ISWG and SMSWG) – and the most significant comments were related to:
  - i. SWMP enforceability (that it NOT be an enforceable document, because each change would need to be sent through public notice – we need some flexibility to adapt our plans as personnel change, and as we find what is successful and what is not).
  - ii. Clarification that dry weather screening is required for all flowing outfalls using field kits and bacteria analysis once per permit cycle (whether there is evidence of an illicit discharge or not). But that we can rely on evaluations during prior permit cycles.

- iii. Wet weather monitoring – Friends of Casco Bay has stated they would appeal the permit if this is removed. MMA provided strong arguments against wet weather monitoring.
- iv. Impaired waters – most significant change is that anyone with an Urban Impaired stream will need to add 3 BMPs to their SWMP.
- c. Stakeholder meeting Gregg Wood indicated he would try to have a stakeholder meeting the week of 4/15. Eliot, Kittery and York would not be able to attend that week but the following week would be okay. K. Rabasca will send an email to Gregg.

**3. Culvert Grant Update** – A. Sherwin and K. Rabasca provided each Town with a fact sheet summarizing the 2019 Grant Program for Stream Crossing Upgrades as well as sample culverts or dams that would be good candidates for funding (handed out). A. Sherwin secured funding to assist the Towns in applying. If anyone needs assistance, they could meet individually with Abbie, or we could have a workshop.

- a. York already plans to apply and has been working with Jake Aman, so likely no assistance needed.
- b. Berwick does not have significant flooding issues, so will likely not apply.
- c. Eliot – Jess will review with Joel (K. Rabasca to send electronically)
- d. S. Berwick - not present (K. Rabasca to send electronically)
- e. Kittery – had applied previously for funding for 2 culverts but not received funding. A. Sherwin heard from John Maclaine that the applications were disqualified and not reviewed. He is new, and is looking for the reason they were disqualified. A. Sherwin to pass on when we hear. Kittery will likely try to apply again and would like SMPDC to assist.

**4. Public Education update PY 6 activities:**

- a. Awareness – Paid Facebook ads have been running since 12/29/2018 so far:
  - i. 3,410 people reached (target audience – age 25-65 in towns, college grads)
  - ii. 118 clicked on the ThinkBlueMaine link
  - iii. Spent \$178.33
  - iv. Ends 6/29/2019
- b. Weekly Facebook posts by Mary Wicklund continue
- c. Planned/Completed Yardscaping/Lawns to Lobsters Workshops:
  - i. 8/27/2018 AARP Breakfast
  - ii. 3/26/2019 South Berwick Adult Ed (22 attendees!)
  - iii. 5/2/2019 Rotary Club Eliot/South Berwick
  - iv. 5/16/2019 Wells Reserve Lunch and Learn (Lawns to Lobsters)
  - v. 6/3/2019 Kittery Land Trust – Kittery Community Center
  - vi. 6/22/2019 York Land Trust Wild-Scaping Workshop/Festival
- d. Booths:
  - i. York Marketfest 9/22/2018
  - ii. York Harvestfest 10/13/2018
  - iii. Kittery Block Party (with Watershed Table Model) 6/15/2019 (no strawberry festival)

- e. Point of Sale: - K. Rabasca and M. Wicklund will be coordinating in next couple weeks:
  - i. Kittery Ace Hardware
  - ii. Salmon Falls Nursery and Landscaping (Berwick/S. Berwick line)
  - iii. Eliot Agway
  - iv. York Eldredge Lumber
  - v. Coastal Landscaping

## 5. Public Education Planning PY7 and Next Permit

- i. SMSWG conducted a straw poll to see what awareness issue and behavior change issue each town is interested in pursuing during the next permit cycle. Each town was given 2 stickers and voted. Results are:

Awareness second audience issue: 1 vote municipal, 2 points pesticides, 5 points sediment/erosion.

Behavior change: (May need 2 target audiences) 1 vote pet waste, 4 votes Litter, 2 votes sediment/erosion control, 1 vote chlorides.

There was much discussion around these issues. J. Kellogg felt sediment/erosion control would be easier to evaluate than litter. K. Rabasca said litter evaluations could be street/road side counts, but she would give it some more thought.

### ii. ISWG Public Education Straw Poll Results

1. Think Blue Maine revamp (possible new ads from Think Blue MA)
2. Awareness 2<sup>nd</sup> audience: Green Sno Pro (Commercial applicators), or Sediment/erosion control (Contractors)
3. Behavior Change (Bacteria)
4. Public Participation (Urban Runoff)

## 6. Updates from Towns and Partners (including activities and dates of interest)

We ran out of time to review these, but they are provided here for reference:

- a. Maine Stormwater Conference – December 2 and 3, 2019
- b. Bates Purposeful Learning Intern (300 hours for research for Public Education Items)
- c. EPA Technical Assistance Call 2/7/2019 With Cindy Brown and Myra Schwartz (EPA Technical assistance) for IDDE bacteria tracking and evaluating the effectiveness of public education/outreach programs (including impact on water quality). NPS List Serve <https://www.epa.gov/nps/npsinfo-discussion-forum>.
- d. 3/28/2019 Maine Sustainability and Water Conference Augusta Civic Center - <https://umaine.edu/mitchellcenter/2019-conference/>
- e. 4/20/2019 Urban Runoff (ISWG/Portland) <https://urbanrunoff5k.com/>
- f. MEWEA Spring Conference – 4/24/2019 and 4/25/2019 Northern Maine Community College Campus (Presque Isle)
- g. 5/17/2019 Southern Maine Children’s Water Festival at USM <https://www1.maine.gov/dep/water/education/cwf/index.html>

## 7. Non-Point Source Grants:

- a. Watershed Mgt Plans (due 4/29/2019)
  - i. Priority Watershed for Highway Access-related Development Threat – no go

ii. Spinney Creek – no go, but next time?

**8. Other items as necessary**

Next Meetings: (last Wednesday of Jan, Mar, May, July, Sept, Nov)

Wednesday May 29, 2018 – York Library

Wednesday July 31, 2019 – Kittery Town Hall

Wednesday September 25, 2019 – Eliot Town Hall

## **Overall Timeline for MS4 Permit Submittals**

**(based on 6<sup>th</sup> preliminary draft dated 3/4/3019)**

~**May 2019 to February 2020** – MS4s prepare updated SWMP to address new MCM 1-6 requirements.

**March 2020** – MS4 provides notice within 30 days prior to submitting NOI and SWMP (see list below for major elements)

**April 1, 2020** – Last day to submit NOI and SWMP to DEP

**6/1/2020** – Last day for DEP to provide MS4 notice of deficiency (if no notice, you are approved). Begin 30-day public notice period for Permit Modification.

**7/1/2020** – MS4 Permit becomes effective – MS4s begin implementing

**10/1/2020** – Last day that any MS4 permit would be issued (if notice of deficiency of SWMP provided, you have 30 days to provide a schedule of when you will address deficiency, then no more than 90 days to address the deficiency, or you have 120 days from the date of the notice of deficiency to address it)

Major Elements needed for SWMP submittal 4/1/2020:

- Updated Public Education Plans (confirmed with DEP on 3/8/3019) for Awareness, Behavior Change and Public Participation Event.
- Updated IDDE Plans
  - with dry weather outfall screening SOPs or protocols,
  - Schedule for a wet weather assessment and possible outfall monitoring (maybe)
- Schedule/Game Plan for Construction Inspection Ordinance updates
- MCM 5 and 6 elements (O&M Plans, SWPPPs)
- MS4 identifies items consistent with TMDL WLAs and BMPs for Urban Impaired Streams (Appendix D)