

The Ohio Turnpike Stormwater Management Program

The Stormwater Management Program has entered the second year of implementation. In each of the next three succeeding years, the program will continue to be developed and additional best management practices will be initiated. The Stormwater Management Program will provide guidance in the implementation of methods and activities that will alleviate certain stormwater pollutants including sediment, illicit flow, etc.

Stormwater quality and quantity will also be managed with the adoption of program policies, procedures and other guidelines, which would include documentation, planning, design, and the publishing of manuals. This information will provide guidance in the construction of new facilities and infrastructure, maintenance, repair, replacement and modification of storm sewer systems, as well as criteria for the survey of existing infrastructure and identification of illicit discharges. Additionally, the Stormwater Management Program will encompass the design of retention and detention ponds, a storm sewer system plan and inventory, sediment and erosion control practices along with employee and public education activities.

Recent accomplishments of the Stormwater Management Program include the adoption of landscape management procedures that will improve the filtration of sediment from stormwater runoff. Also, the stamping of manhole drain covers will be required in all new project specifications indicating that the dumping of waste is prohibited and will serve as a warning not to dump hazardous materials into such manholes. The OTC also developed a link on the OTC home page, which will provide a source of current information on the recent developments of this Stormwater Management Program.

The development of a storm sewer system inventory will become the main focus of the Stormwater Management Program over the next couple of years. Due to the vast inventory of stormwater infrastructure that exists along the Ohio Turnpike, the implementation of a Geographic Information System (GIS) will be considered as one of the management tools in this Stormwater Management Program. GIS will facilitate the tracking and monitoring of inventory and provide other regulated communities and various agencies with access to this information.

File: f:/proj2002/71-02-04/stormwater/newsletter04