

BasinBriefs



A Periodic Update of Wet Weather News and Progress throughout the Eastern, Northern and Southern Basins of Allegheny County

April 2005

3RWW Mapping Project

3RWW has hired Michael Baker Corp. to obtain critical sewer and vertical elevation mapping data, to be provided to communities by Fall 2005. Hatch Mott MacDonald, the original contractor for the manhole mapping, was unable to complete the project. The remaining work has been organized by sewershed, rather than by municipality. Managers will be notified when mapping crews are in the area, and assistance (traffic control, etc.) may be requested. Municipal public works crews should continue physical inspection work throughout their systems.

Field Tool Available for Physical Survey

A PDA field tool for inputting physical survey data can be borrowed from 3RWW. Communities using ESRI-compatible data can request the the field tool now as their sewer system data can be loaded into the PDA. Other communities will need to have the format of their data assessed and converted into the field tool format. If you would like to borrow a PDA or have your data formatted, please call 3RWW. Communities are requested to have a schedule in place to utilize the unit continuously during the loan period.

"Flow Monitoring: It's All About the Numbers"

Saturday, April 9 at the ALOM Conference, 3 p.m. in the Sunburst Room
John Schombert, 3RWW
Dave Borneman, ALCOSAN

Semi-Annual Progress Report Due in July

Semi-annual progress reports are due to DEP and ACHD July 31, 2005. Municipalities should use Appendix E from the consent orders and include an explanation for anything behind schedule. For example, you may note the vertical elevation of critical sewers from 3RWW is not yet available to complete your system's hydraulic characterization or hydraulic design capacity. In this situation, municipalities may be considering proposing an alternative schedule because a regional approach is in place through a "binding agreement." (See consent orders: para. 17 in the COA and para. 18 in the ACO.) The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) agreement municipalities signed with 3RWW to complete the mapping project is a binding agreement. Any municipality that has not executed the MOU agreement can do so by contacting 3RWW. Municipal managers will be receiving a letter about this issue very shortly. For those who have mapping and elevation data from another source, 3RWW has an Excel spreadsheet tool to assist you in hydraulic calculations.

3RWW recently placed a stormwater ad to help all Southwestern PA MS4 permittees meet their Stormwater Phase II Year 2 public education requirement.

Flow Monitoring Workshops

The Flow Monitoring Work Group continues the development of a regional flow monitoring plan. Workshops are being scheduled by sewershed to fine tune the flow monitor placement.

Municipal representatives who attend the workshops should know the location of pipes, direction of flow and location of CSO, SSO and pump stations. Click here for a schedule of workshops.

Stormwater Education Ad

3RWW recently developed and placed a stormwater education ad in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (March 10) and the Tribune Review (March 12). DEP has approved the ad for meeting the Year 2 public education requirement for all Southwestern PA MS4 permittees. The ad is available electronically for municipalities interested in publishing it in their newsletters or local newspapers. Click here to download the ad from the 3RWW web site.

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