Acquiring your Permit & Keeping your Local Authority Happy!

Erica Williams, Environmental Manager, City of Moline
Why?

- It’s the Law
  - Clean Water Act
  - USEPA
- CMA
  The local Municipalities have MS4 NPDES Permits to Protect
- CYA
  To protect you! REALLY!
Acquiring Your Permit

- THIS IS NOT PERSONAL!
  - It’s the law
  - It’s for your own good
  - EVERYONE’S DOING IT!

- Local Requirements
  - Let your local authority make the determination!
    - No ONE characteristic rules out the need for a Permit!
    - Phone call is quick, cheap, simple,
    - We like to be thought of!

- It would be too easy (and boring) if we were all the same!
  - Unified Ordinance for the general requirements
  - Individual Requirements based on history, topography, etc.
Acquiring Your Permit

- Actually getting the Permit
  - > 1 Acre
    - Pretty much the same as EPA NPDES requirements
    - Just add Calcs! That’s what you hire Engineers for!
  - < 1 Acre
    - Check with your locals
    - Required submittals vary
    - None of it painful – I guarantee you!
Keeping the Locals Happy

IT'S NOT THAT HARD, I PROMISE!

- Talk to us!
  - Save the gripes
    - We’ve already heard them all
    - The requirements are not going away
    - We already know we are “the worst City to work in”
  - Do what you say you’ll do/what’s on the SWP3 – we approve them for a reason
- Talk to us! See above
- DO YOUR OWN INSPECTIONS! And fix what needs to be fixed.
- Talk to us! See above.
CRUCIAL POINTS

- EROSION CONTROL IS THE LAW!
- INSTALL **BEFORE** YOU DIG
- PREVENT EROSION BEFORE IT OCCURS
- DO INSPECTIONS!
- CALL WITH QUESTIONS, ANY TIME
Some Favorite Local Photos

- A bit too much tracking perhaps?
“but I broomed at the end of the day”
Just because it’s there, doesn’t mean it’s working.
An effort would have been at least nice.
Again, can you at least try?
But perhaps something a bit better than this.
SILT FENCE IS NOT ALWAYS THE ANSWER. (steep slope and wetlands)
Placement is key.
Again, placement!
Even if proper erosion control was used, watering the mud and not the sod kind of defeats the purpose...
Seriously???????
Sometimes, more than one line of defense needed.
“Wasn’t me, must have been the plumbers, electricians, roofers, (fill in the blank).”
Sometimes just trying to fix it doesn’t make it right! Wire, staples, and packing tape aren’t quite cutting it.
And my personal favorites…
When “meaning well” goes awry! BTW, this was a City “effort” (we have lapses in judgment too).
Lines we’ve heard before that don’t work! Please don’t even try.

- We won’t have to truck soil offsite so tracking won’t be an issue.
- My construction entrance is fine; your rock around here is colored to look like dirt.
- Can’t I just clean it up at the end of the day?
- Of course I know how to install silt fence.
- I’ll fix that right away.
- You expect miracles.
- Do you know how much this costs?
- Your requirements are putting me out of business.
- This is the worst City I’ve ever worked in.
- This is the only City I’ve ever had to do this in!
Thank you

In the interest of keeping THIS local authority happy, questions, but not comments, will be taken!