

Urban Stormwater Working Group

October 13, 2020 2:00 – 3:00 pm

In attendance: Trevor Sample, Illinois EPA; Eliana Brown, Illinois Extension; Kate Gardiner, Illinois Extension; Layne Knoche, Illinois Extension; Allison Neubauer, Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant; Lisa Merrifield, Illinois Extension; Margaret Schneemann, Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant; Tyler Carpenter, Greater Egypt Regional Planning Commission; Mary Mitros, DuPage County Stormwater Management; Mary Beth Falsey, DuPage County Stormwater Management; Anna Marshall, UIUC Department of Sociology; Kelly Thompson, Illinois Environmental Regulatory Group; Patrick McPartlan, Kane-DuPage SWCD; Betsy Liggett, University of Illinois Safety and Compliance; John Sloan, National Great Rivers Research and Center; Steve Brendel, Madison County Stormwater; Austin Omer, Illinois Farm Bureau; Stephen McCracken, TCF/DRSCW; Donna Twickler, Sierra Club; and Sally McConkey, Illinois State Water Survey

Summary

Welcome and Member updates

Eliana Brown welcomed everyone to the meeting and opened it up for members to provide updates. There are currently no updates to report.

Illinois Urban Manual - *Patrick McPartlan, Kane-DuPage Soil & Water Conservation District*

The Illinois Urban Manual (IUM) is a manual intended for use as a technical reference by developers, planners, engineers, government officials and others involved in land use planning, building site development and natural resource conservation in both rural and urban communities as well as developing areas.

The IUM contains Standards & Specifications that describe best management practices (BMPs) for non-point source pollution in communities and developing areas. The BMPs focus on Soil Erosion & Sediment Control, Stormwater Management, and Special Area Protection. Funding for the IUM is, in large part, provided by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) through Section 319 and 604b of the Clean Water Act.

The initiative to update the IUM is a cooperative, multi-agency effort started by the Natural Resource Conservation Service. Updates in 2019 included Dewatering Standard, Basin Standards: Schematics, Sump Pit Standard Drawing, Temporary Causeway, and Culvert Inlet Protection. Updates coming in 2020 include Rolled Perimeter Control, Bioswale, Backcut Curb, Streambank Stabilization, Structural, Vegetative, Soil Bioengineering, Sump Pit, Concrete Washout, Slurry Control, Permanent Vegetation, and Temporary Vegetation.

Reporting Spreadsheet - *Anna Marshall, University of Illinois Department of Sociology*

Anna Marshall is a social scientist and analyzes the outreach information in the Resources and Outreach reporting spreadsheets for the Illinois NLRs biennial reports. While analyzing the spreadsheets last year, she noticed there were some inconsistencies in the way organizations were reporting their outreach information. She thought it would be helpful to update the spreadsheet to make it easier to use, as well as providing separate spreadsheets for the Agriculture and Urban Stormwater sectors.

Anna showed the updates she has been working on with Eliana and Kate and solicited feedback and suggestions from USWG members.

Meeting Minutes

Welcome and Member updates

Eliana Brown welcomed everyone to the meeting and opened it up for members to provide updates. There are no updates to report at this time.

Illinois Urban Manual - *Patrick McPartlan, Kane County Soil & Water Conservation District*

The Illinois Urban Manual is a manual intended for use as a technical reference. It is meant to be used by developers, planners, engineers, government officials and others involved in land use planning, building site development and natural resource conservation in both rural and urban communities as well as developing areas. It contains Standards & Specifications (materials, construction, drawings) that describe best management practices (BMPs). The IUM BMPs focus on non-point source pollution in communities and developing areas and include those on Soil Erosion & Sediment Control, Stormwater Management, and Special Area Protection.

Funding is, in large part, provided by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) through Section 319 and 604b of the Clean Water Act. The initiative to update the IUM is a cooperative, multi-agency effort initiated by Natural Resource Conservation Service. The IUM Steering Committee (SC) and Technical Review Committee (TRC) are tasked with the active revision of the manual. The SC is comprised of public agencies representing the entire State of Illinois. The TRC is comprised of the mentioned public agencies in addition to public and private professionals.

You can find the Illinois Urban Manual at illinoisurbanmanual.org. The website features the IUM, including Practice Standards, construction specifications, materials specifications, standard drawings, the IUM Field Manual. That's also where you can find announcements (like those for public review), upcoming educational opportunities, resources, and sign up to receive updates.

The IUM serves as a guide for proper selection, installation and maintenance of soil erosion & sediment control BMPs. Use when developing the site plan (Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) or equivalent) and implementing a practice onsite. For maintenance, you need to ask whether the practice is adequate to address site conditions, the practice is functioning properly, and whether maintenance is needed. During an inspection, use IUM Standard to assess practice performance onsite: Is the practice being used properly? Is the practice installed according to specifications? Is the practice being maintained appropriately?

Updates in 2019 included Dewatering Standard (Updated 2019), Basin Standards: Schematics, Sump Pit Standard Drawing, Temporary Causeway (New), and Culvert Inlet Protection (Update).

Patrick showed examples of existing Green Infrastructure standards and drawings.

Updates coming in 2020 include Rolled Perimeter Control (New), Bioswale (New), Backcut Curb (Update), Streambank Stabilization (Update & New), Structural (Update), Vegetative (Update), Soil Bioengineering (New), Sump Pit (Update), Concrete Washout (Update [add mortar washout]), Slurry Control (microsurfacing) (New), Permanent Vegetation (Update), and Temporary Vegetation (Update).

Special thanks to IUM Contributors: The IEP, TRC/SC Members, DNR, private consultants, SWCDs and especially Megan Andrews and Rick McAndless.

They are always looking for contributors, feedback, and ideas. Please feel free to contact Patrick at Patrick.McPartlan@KaneDuPageSWCD.org.

Discussion:

Kelly Thompson: I was involved with the Illinois Urban Manual long ago, could you remind me where in state statute does it give the authority to utilize the urban manual or put it in those ILR10 permits?

Patrick McPartlan: I'm not sure, I'd have to review the statute.

Kelly Thompson: How long is the public comment process?

Patrick McPartlan: I think it's two weeks, though I could be mistaken as I recently took over this position. We will meet in November to get those published and I can include you on any correspondence related to that.

Kelly Thompson: Sure! And is the Steering Committee the ones who recommend the practices?

Patrick McPartlan: I believe so.

Kate Gardiner: Where do we find those videos that you showed us earlier?

Patrick McPartlan: You can find them on the IUM website at illinoisurbanmanual.org under the "Video Gallery" tab.

Eliana Brown: How does this relate to other states, do they have urban manuals?

Patrick McPartlan: I don't know that they have urban manuals, but Minnesota has a great Technical Resources that we can always reference. I'm not sure if there is much coordination between state efforts currently, but that's a good idea moving forward.

Reporting Spreadsheet - *Anna Marshall, University of Illinois Department of Sociology*

While analyzing the Resources and Outreach spreadsheets last year, I noticed there were some inconsistencies in the way organizations were reporting their outreach information. I talked with Eliana Brown and Kate Gardiner and we thought it would be helpful to update the spreadsheet to make it easier to use, as well as provide separate spreadsheets for the Agriculture and Urban Stormwater sectors.

We want to find out who we should be sending this to and whether there are particular staff in each organization who could best complete this – we want to make sure we get the spreadsheet into the right hands. On the Staff and Financial Resources tab, in addition to the Grants Given and Grants Received, we added a section on Funded Programs. This can include cost shares funded by your organization. Some municipalities have incentives, for example, at one point MWRD did rain barrel giveaways. Are there any other cost-share programs that anyone can think of?

We really need feedback on the Outreach tab of the spreadsheet. As we go through this, we know many stormwater managers are engaged in public outreach, but on a wider array of issues than just the NLRS

topics. Another thing we need to be able to do on this spreadsheet is allow people to distinguish their activities for the NLRS from other activities they do.

Discussion:

Mary Mitros: This is something that we do. We will host or our partner agencies will host activities and events like this. Maybe not this year, but other years.

Anna Marshall: You raise a good point. This could be awkward to put in the field this year when many face-to-face events were cancelled. Since we will be using this during other years, it is helpful.

Sally McConkey: The University of Illinois has many lectures. Could you elaborate on what you're looking for in terms of presentations at educational institutions?

Anna Marshall: Skipping ahead to presentations, one of the things we experienced in the ag side is that there are all sorts of presentations that organizations gave. We wanted to give people as much guidance as possible. So these are presentations that the organization has given to homeowners and stakeholders at conferences, community groups, and other venues. We want to hear about anything that seems confusing because our whole purpose is to clarify the spreadsheet. Based on our experience collecting outreach information, we find that groups do this sort of thing. It's very encouraging to me the amount of work that is done at schools at all levels as well. We have a box that covers the type of topics that might be discussed: leaf collection, lawn fertilizer, green infrastructure, etc. So we'd like to hear if we are leaving anything out accidentally.

Mary Mitros: We do all of this, the only thing I can think of is workshops with the public, but there it is! Staffing at events did not really happen this year, but it is huge for our normal outreach to the public.

Eliana Brown: For this year, workshops, trainings, conferences all include virtual. Mary, I know that you still had a very extensive outreach program this year. If there's anything we're not capturing, please let us know. We want to give the most accurate picture of stormwater efforts in our state. This helps us do that, but it's only as good as the categories we create.

Mary Mitros: Workshops and trainings are something we do and there are technical ones, but with everything going on we've done a lot more general webinars for the public and residents.

Anna Marshall: Maybe webinars would fit in under conferences or workshops?

Mary Mitros: These general webinars would be comparable to the staffing of a booth at a fair.

Allison Neubauer: Would development of outreach materials be a new category (e.g. brochures, factsheets, etc) or does that fit under print media? It seems like fitting the webinars into the respective categories makes sense, as many of us have been converting these traditional forms of outreach into digital formats because of COVID-19.

Eliana Brown: That is a good point, Allison. Something we'll want to bring up in the report is the conversion of outreach for this special year.

Anna Marshall: How many partners organize conferences?

Mary Mitros: We organize about 1 – 2 per year, with partners, on normal years on topics related to stormwater.

Anna Marshall: We wondered if anyone funds related research? Some organizations on the ag side fund independent research on different BMPs and we wondered whether these were applicable. It sounds like the technical assistance probably is, but I'm not sure about the funded research.

Eliana Brown: Lisa, does Coastal Programs do anything like this?

Lisa Krause: Sometimes there are opportunities to do this, you could reach out to me and we could find an opportunity.

Eliana Brown: So maybe they have something in the Coastal Programs, but I would imagine it would be pretty limited. There isn't a stormwater equivalent of NREC.

Lisa Krause: The Illinois Coastal Management program is funding the Green Infrastructure Baseline Inventory that is being conducted through the Calumet Stormwater Collaborative. We have contributed funding to other related research in areas of the coastal area.

Anna Marshall: I think we're safe taking that one out. Allison, I very much appreciate your comment about print or media. I think it matters on the ag side as well. Our understanding of print or media should include brochures and factsheets. I know in the stormwater sector, there is an awful lot of published material, especially for the public. I would like to make sure those are included as examples in the print or media section because I want to make sure we include that. Do folks in the Stormwater sector think outreach materials are important enough to give it a separate category?

Mary Mitros: I would say it's separate from print or media. We haven't created new brochures, but we've created a lot of social graphics, things like that. There are a lot of outreach tools that could warrant their own category.

Anna Marshall: I like calling the category "Outreach Tools" – things that are produced to help the public implement the strategy. This would include brochures, factsheets, videos, anything produced and used.

Allison Neubauer: I think that makes sense.

Anna Marshall: We will polish this off and send it for another review.

Next steps

The Illinois NLR Partnership Workshop is November 6, 2020. Go to go.illinois.edu/nlrs to register.

There will not be an USWG call next month due to the workshop, but we can meet up again in December.