

MARCH 2025
1ST QUARTER



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Charlene DeSha

Charlene@tnstormwater.org
865-386-6917

WEBSITE

www.tnstormwater.org

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TNSA Times

Tennessee Stormwater Association
Quarterly Newsletter

A Message From the TNSA President

PAGE 1

Greetings TNSA Family,
We're through nearly two months of 2025 and our communities are already being tested by recent flooding and winter snow storms. As challenging as these events can be for everyone, many of us are tasked with important roles in helping mitigate the outcome of severe weather. Through our efforts as Stormwater professionals we have the opportunity to not only roll with the punches, but minimize future issues for our MS4s.

Ovid, a Roman poet who lived during the reign of Augustus, said that "Dripping water hollows out stone, not through force but through persistence". I believe this way of thinking could benefit most people, but it fits exceptionally well for us. We face various obstacles in our overarching goals for clean water and flood control. These obstacles will likely not be overcome through force, but through persistence in our day-to-day actions.

Considering the overlap in how Stormwater and Floodplain regulations are addressed, last year we decided to gather professionals from each into one room. A favorite new event, the 2nd Annual "Confluence: A Floodplain & Stormwater Summit" was held in Franklin, TN on February 26, 2025 and we had a great turnout. If you have not been able to attend, look for the 2026 date.



Floodwater in Rives, Tenn. on Sunday, Feb. 16, 2025. (Photo: Jacob Fulbright)

Much like the season has brought us weather, the season has also brought new legislation that could affect TNSA members. There are quite a few bills to take into consideration and too many to detail here. However, two examples include:

- HB0541- which "As introduced, prohibits the department of environment and conservation from applying criteria that will result in the classification of real property as a wetland, or otherwise regulating real property as a wetland, unless the property is classified as a wetland under federal law." This bill would result in significant changes to how wetlands are delineated in Tennessee and almost certainly reduce their number.
- HB1071- which "As introduced, prohibits the department of environment and conservation from applying criteria that will result in the classification of real property as a wetland if the property is prior converted cropland that is exempt from classification as a wetland under federal law."

I recommend reading the various bills to see how your program could be impacted if passed. We have a busy year ahead of us at TNSA and I hope to see some new and familiar faces at one of our many events!

TNSA President
Joe Phillips
Sumner County



The Tennessee Stormwater Association is Tennessee's premier membership organization for stormwater professionals. TNSA's mission is to assist members with their local efforts to comply with State and Federal clean water laws; including stormwater regulations through EPA and TDEC (Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation). TNSA's goal is to protect and improve the quality of the waters of Tennessee through the exchange of information and knowledge regarding design, construction, maintenance, administration and operation of stormwater facilities.

Upcoming Regional Meetings

Regional meetings are held each quarter. You do not have to be a TNSA member to attend a meeting. Region meetings are a great way to keep updated within your area and the state. Meet like-minded professionals, network, learn about statewide events and new ideas within the stormwater community. Region chairs are always looking speakers at the meetings. If you are interested in speaking please contact the region chairs. The chairs arrange the meetings and set the agendas.

Meeting Dates/Locations are subject to change. Email the region chair if you would like to be added to a specific region email list. If agendas were provided before the meeting they will be uploaded to the Club Express document library under Region Meetings.

West Region Chair: Chris Masin, Chris.Masin@shelbycountyttn.gov

March 4: Lakeland City Hall 10001 US Hwy 70 Lakeland, TN 38002

Conference Room A

Time: 1pm-3pm

Future Dates: June 3, Sept. 2, Dec. 2

North West Region Chair: Tom Lawrence, tomlawrence@bellsouth.net

March 5: Martin Public Library 410 S Lindell St, Martin, TN 38237

Time: 11am

Please RSVP to charlene@tnstormwater.org

Future Dates: June 4 (Brownsville), Sept. 3 (Union City Library), Dec. 3 (Jackson City Hall)

Middle Region Chair: Don Green, biogreen1@comcast.net

March 6: Gallatin Civic Center 210 Albert Gallatin Ave, Gallatin, TN 37066

Time: 10am-12pm

Future Dates: June 5, Sept. 4, Dec. 4

East Region Chair: Josh Clemens, joshua.clemens@adspipe.com

March 7: Ensafe 308 North Peters Rd., Suite 200 Knoxville, TN 37922

Time: 8:30am Networking, 9:30am-11:30am Meeting Time

Future Dates: June 6, Sept. 5, Dec. 5

South East Region Chair: Erik Hancock, ehancock@chattanooga.gov

March 11: Greenway Farm Conference Center 4960 Gann Store Road, Hixson TN 37343

Time: 11am-12:30pm

Future Dates: June 10, Sept. 9, Dec. 9

North East Region Chair: Amanda McMullen, AmandaMcMullen@KingsportTN.gov

March 13: Kingsport Water Services Center 1113 Konnarock Rd Kingsport 37664

Time: 1pm

Future Dates: June 12, Sept. 11, Dec. 11

**Meeting
dates/locations
are subject to
change**

HOW TO LOCATE TN STATE BILLS

Interested in keeping up with new Tennessee bills and legislation this year? The state website has a feature that is easy to use.

You can sign up and follow specific bills.

Here are a few tips...

TN General Assembly Website: <https://wapp.capitol.tn.gov/apps/SubjectIndex/Default.aspx>

You will need to create and account and login.

Click on the top right "My Bills" create a list and search bills by the title you are interested in.

Search is available by Subject, Legislator or Bill #/Keyword.

Once you find your bill just click add

If you come across any legislation the policy committee may not be aware of, email David Mason, TNSA Policy Committee chair at MasonD@cdmsmith.com

Tennessee Stormwater Association



**Hub City
Water Expo**

Tennessee's Premiere Organization
for Stormwater Professionals

Wednesday, April 2, 2025

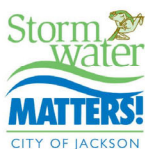
City of Jackson Fairgrounds Park

800 S. Highland Ave. Jackson, TN 38301

Registration \$75

5 PDH's and Lunch Included

Attend the **2025 TNSA's Hub City Water Expo** on **April 2, 2025** to gain exposure to innovative research being performed on commonly employed construction site erosion and sediment control practices with hands-on field demonstrations. The field instructional session will be held at the Fairgrounds Park and will provide attendees with an opportunity to learn proper design and installation techniques on various erosion and sediment controls to achieve improved performance & compliance.



LEARN MORE AND REGISTER AT www.tnstormwater.org/ecd

Contact Charlene Desha at Charlene@tnstormwater.org or 865-386-6917 for sponsorship and exhibitor opportunities

**SPONSORSHIP
&
VENDOR DEMO
SPOTS AVAILABLE**

Presenting Sponsor
\$2,500

Event Sponsor
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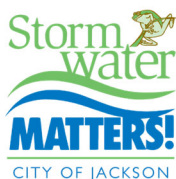
Demo Sponsor
Outside Demo or Inside Exhibit Space
\$500

MS4 & Support Sponsor
\$250

Contact Charlene DeSha if
interested.

charlene@tnstormwater.org
865-386-6917

Thank you to our Sponsors



Thank you to our Vendors



TNSA Committee Updates

Conference: Coordinates the Annual Conference

Chair: Amy Hathaway, WK Dickson

This year's theme is "Prepare Today, Protect Tomorrow" with our intention to focus on sustainability and resiliency among our TN community. Our keynote speaker will be Dodd Galbreath, Director of Lipscomb University's Sustainability Program. Dates are October 21-23, 2025, Chattanooga, TN.

This year, you'll see some exciting changes and updates to the conference at our new location in Chattanooga. The conference committee is developing plans to include a pre-conference workshop and a pre-conference field tour in addition to a fantastic agenda for the conference. We will be holding our Annual Social at the Tennessee Aquarium, Wednesday night! Due to the social price increase we have a non-social registration fee and a social registration fee.

Call for Abstracts is open, deadline is June 1. We are looking for abstracts on the following topics:

Click here for to submit online.

- Climate Change
- Disaster Response
- Emerging Contaminants
- Environmental Justice
- Interagency Coordination
- Community Case Studies
- SCM Design, Inspection & Maintenance
- Program Funding
- Regulatory Compliance

Please contact Amy at ahathaway@wkdickson.com if you have questions.

Registration and Sponsorships are open!!!

Early Bird Prices End September 30, 2025

TNSA Membership Early Bird:

\$325 without Social/\$350 with Social

Non-TNSA Member Early Bird:

\$375 without Social/\$400 with Social



Visit our website for more updated information: <https://www.tnstormwater.org/tnsa-conference>

TDEC Updates

Introducing the TDEC Wetlands Screening Tool

TDEC has refined GIS mapping to be a more useful screening and planning tool for wetlands in Tennessee. TDEC worked with SkyTec contractors to update and refine GIS predictive modeling of wetlands in Tennessee. This refined tool, which predicts where wetlands are located, is now available online, and will serve as an accessible screening tool for practitioners, regulators, developers, and members of the public.

Click here for the Link



TNSA Committee Updates (Continued)

INTERESTED IN BEING MORE INVOLVED? CONSIDER PARTICIPATING IN A COMMITTEE. POLICY, CONFERENCE, EDUCATION, COMMUNICATION, SCM AND PUBLIC OUTREACH CONTACT CHARLENE FOR MORE INFORMATION

SCM: Standardizes Device Evaluation and Develops SCM Toolkit.

Co-Chairs: Jacob Dorman, Contech & Dana Stayer, StormTrap

The next meeting is scheduled for March 21 at 11am central time. If you would like to join the committee or the call, please contact Jacob or Dana.

Communication: Goal is to work on communication within and outside of the organization

Chair: Aaron Rogge, CDM Smith

The Communications Committee is up and running for 2025. The focus this year will be supporting TNSA talks and Conference Committees by capturing popular topics and guiding speakers to produce lasting content for TNSA. The committee is also researching social media posting strategies to disseminate to MS4s so that we can all boost engagement while satisfying our MCMs. If you're interested in helping out, the next call is on March 27th. Contact Aaron Rogge for more details.

Policy: Works with TDEC to share and update members on state and EPA regulations and policies.

Chair: David Mason, CDM Smith

The Policy Committee is keeping a close eye on any new bills introduced in 2025.

Please notify David Mason or Charlene DeSha if you see anything concerning come across your office.

Interested in following and keeping up with TN Legislation and Bills, see information on the bottom of page 2 of this newsletter.

Public Outreach: Working to create education resources for MS4's and TNSA members

Chair: Tom Lawrence, Thomas Lawrence, PLLC

The committee is working on the next HOA brochure which will discuss how to maintain stormwater features within the HOA.

You can purchase pre-printed brochures here: <https://www.tnstormwater.org/ed>

We currently have 3 brochures, a children's activity booklet and stickers. For additional brochures please visit the Club Express document library.

Education: Manages and Creates Educational Training and Resources

Chair: Tim Gangaware, UT Water Resources Research Center

Upcoming Event:

The education committee is working on lining up three TNSA Talks in 2025. Topics range from Community Outreach/Education, MTD Sizing under the new permit and Streambank repair.

Dates to be released soon.

TNSA Talks are held on Zoom, one hour in length and include PDH's.

Contact Tim or Charlene if you are interested in speaking at a TNSA Talk.

TN Stormwater Management Training Schedule Spring 2025

TNEPSC Level 1

Jan 28, 2025	ZOOM	JW	CLOSED
March 19, 2025	Nashville	JW	
April 3, 2025	Memphis	TL	
April 11, 2025	Knoxville	JW	
TBD	ZOOM	IS	

Level 1 Recertification (On-Line course will open for registration March 2025)

In person courses will be scheduled for Fall 2025

Level 2 Design

January 15-16, 2025	Memphis	JB & TL	CLOSED
May 20-21, 2025	Knoxville	JB & SC	
August 5-6, 2025	Nashville	JB & SC	

Level 2 Recertification Course

January 29, 2025	ZOOM	SC & JW	CLOSED
March 27, 2025	ZOOM*	SC & JW	

*For persons that expired Dec. 31, 2024 only

SCM Inspection and Maintenance Course

February 25-26, 2025	ZOOM	BL & JH	CLOSED
May 13-14, 2025	Nashville	BL & JH	
TBD	Chattanooga	BL & JH	

SCM I&M Refresher Course

TBD	ZOOM	BL & JH	
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TN Hydrologic Determination Course

April 14 – 17, 2025	Oak Ridge - Double Tree Hotel
August 11 – 14, 2025	Oak Ridge – Double Tree Hotel
November 17-20, 2025	Jackson – West TN REC

TN-HDT Refresher Course

Sept 16, 2025	Oak Ridge – Doubletree Hotel
Sept 17, 2025 TDEC Staff	Oak Ridge – Doubletree Hotel
Sept 23, 2025	Dickson – The Station
Sept. 24, 2025 TDEC Staff	Dickson – The Station
Nov. 21, 2025	Jackson - West TN REC

Instructors:

JB - John Buchanan
 JW - Janette Wolf
 TL - Tom Lawrence
 IS - Ian Simpson
 SC - Steve Casey
 JH - Jon Hathaway
 BL - Bill Lord

Registration Link:
<https://tnepsc.org/index.asp?vp=1>

Contact: Tim Gangaware
 Tennessee Water Resources Research Center
gangwrrc@utk.edu
 865-974-2151

Riparian Planning Workshop for Tennessee

The University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture in partnership with the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation announces two workshops for the Tennessee Community Riparian Restoration Program. Representatives from nonprofits, community groups, municipalities, tree boards and foresters, watershed conservation alliances and state and federal agencies are invited to attend! The objectives of this opportunity are:

- Share Research Findings:**
 - Presentation of a riparian map for Tennessee, including methods and applications.
- Group Discussion:**
 - Gathering group feedback on practical applications of a tool for riparian area protection and re-establishment to drive more effective collaboration within your community.

Workshop Highlights

- Explore innovative methods for delineating riparian areas. Learn how scoring mechanisms can inform group conservation priorities.
- Collaborate with other professionals and members of your community to shape a user-friendly mapping tool tailored for community oriented conservation and restoration planning.
- Lunch provided.

The Knoxville workshop will be held at:
 UT Extension Eastern Region Office
 10am – 1pm EST March 26, 2025
 Knoxville, TN

The Murfreesboro workshop will be held at:
 Lane Agripark
 10am – 1pm CST March 27, 2025
 Murfreesboro, TN

If you are interested in attending, please fill out the following form. There is no registration fee, and lunch will be provided!



REGISTER NOW



STORMWATER UPDATE

- NMSA at StormCon 2025 - NMSA will once again have a significant presence at StormCon this year including our annual NMSA public meeting as well as a full day of sessions on Wed, August 27 focusing on national perspectives on legal and policy issues, updates on the STEPP program, national and regional perspective on resilience, and information on research efforts focused on supporting local stormwater programs. Join us at StormCon 2025 in Orlando, FL. To register, go to: <https://www.stormcon.com/sc25/begin> and use the code NMSA15 to get a 15% discount for NMSA members.
- NMSA Introduces Bulk Virtual Training for Non-Technical Staff - NMSA is now offering online training through the NMSA Learning Management System (LMS) on topics such as IDDE, spill prevention/good housekeeping, and erosion and sediment control. This training targets all municipal staff who are required to be trained to meet permit compliance. Individual and bulk rate packages are available to MS4s and a NMSA membership is included with all bulk training packages. To learn more go to: <https://ms4nmsa.org/nmsa-online-bulk-training-courses/>.
- STEPP Program Readies for First Verification Completion - NMSA launched the Stormwater Testing and Evaluation for Products and Products (STEPP) program in April 2024 and has received several applications since this launch to verify the performance of trash capture technologies. It is expected that the first verification will be completed over the next few months. Verification services for hydrodynamic separators are anticipated to be available in this timeframe as well with these services expanding to filter products by the end of 2025. Field testing verification processes and protocols are being developed currently. To learn more, please go to: <http://stormwatertesting.org/>.
- NMSA Supports WEF MS4 Needs Assessment Survey - The Water Environment Federation (WEF) has launched its fourth iteration of the National Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System Needs Assessment Survey. The window to provide input to this survey is still open as the deadline has been temporarily extended. To access the survey, go to: https://www.research.net/r/2024_WEF_MS4_Needs_Assessment_Survey.

This biennial survey aims to continue tracking the needs of the MS4 sector by:

- ◆ Identifying MS4 Program Challenges and Drivers: Understanding the common issues and factors influencing MS4 programs.
- ◆ Determining Information and Resource Needs: Pinpointing the technical and informational resources that MS4 permittees require.
- ◆ Estimating Funding Levels and Needs: Approximating current funding levels and identifying the funding gaps within the MS4 sector.

Data from past surveys has played a crucial role in shaping policy and influencing public opinion to recognize stormwater as a distinct infrastructure sector. This data has also been instrumental in improving stormwater management programs.

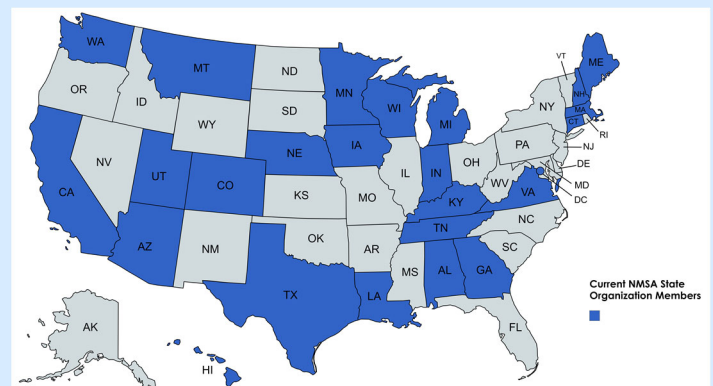
NOTE: There are 41 survey questions, and the completion time is approximately 20 minutes.

- NMSA Hosting Upcoming Webinar on U.S. Supreme Court Rulings Impacting the Stormwater Sector - Webinar to be held on from 12-1:30pm (Eastern) on February 28, 2025. The Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS) has heard arguments and made recent rulings that have direct impacts on the stormwater sector. The twin rulings of *Loper Bright Enterprises v. Secretary of Commerce* and *Corner Post v. Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System* is redefining how administrative law will address federal regulations and their impacts, including in the Clean Water sector. Click here to register.

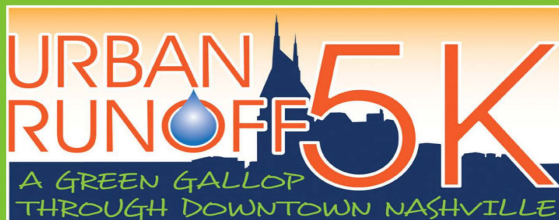
Click here for full NMSA newsletter updates

<https://ms4nmsa.org/>

The National Municipal Stormwater Alliance (NMSA) is a 501(c)(3) devoted to supporting Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) programs across the country. NMSA is the only national organization that is solely focused on the MS4 sector.



13th ANNUAL



JOIN US AND COMPETE FOR THE 2025 TEAM SPIRIT AWARD!!!

URBAN RUNOFF & WATER QUALITY FESTIVAL

Registration and Festival begin at 6:30 AM
Race starts at 7:30 Am
Saturday, August 2, 2025
Shelby Bottoms Park 1900 Davidson St. Nashville, TN
For more information and to register visit our website
<https://www.tnstormwater.org/urban-runoff-5k>



SPONSORSHIP AND WATER QUALITY BOOTH SPOTS AVAILABLE FOR BOTH RACE EVENTS

BOOTHSPOTS: \$50

SPONSORSHIPS

**Splash
\$500**

**WQ Grant
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**Green
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**Performance
\$1500**

**Presenting
\$2500**

Tnstormwater.org



September 20, 2025

**International Harvester Managerial Park
4523 Canada Rd, Lakeland, TN 38002**

3 Mile Trail Run, Family Fun Run & Water Quality Festival
Registration is 7:00AM Trail Run Starts at 8:00AM Fun Run at 9AM
Water Quality Festival 7am-10am

Join us for the Water Quality Festival after the race in the park which includes music, food trucks and fun!

For more information visit our website:

<https://www.tnstormwater.org/westtrailrun>



Partnering Organization Updates



Tennessee Nutrient Reduction Task Force

Improving Stream Water Quality

COMING SOON!

- Wetlands Brochure: The Communications and Outreach subcommittee developed a 1-page brochure that defines wetlands and summarizes their economical and environmental benefits. The intended audience is organizations who focus on education and outreach, such as watershed groups and MS4s.
- Revamped Nutrient Task Force logo
- Updates to the NTF website

[Click here for more information](#)

NEW Small Business Environmental Assistance Program

A message from Ginna McWhirter, Small Business Education and Outreach Specialist:

At the end of August, I joined the Small Business Environmental Assistance Program (SBEAP) as the education and outreach specialist. While the program may seem niche, there are countless avenues through which we can offer help. From drycleaners to paint shops, we are here to answer all your compliance, regulatory, and permit questions.

As we continue to spread the word about this wonderful program, I created a video to provide a quick reference on what the program is and how it can help your small business. Please visit our YouTube channel to watch the video.

For assistance, you can call the SBEAP hotline at 800-734-3619 or send us an email at BGSBEAP@tn.gov.

Our website also offers many extensive resources. You can visit it by following the link to www.tn.gov/environment/sbeap.

To stay up to date with the SBEAP, sign up for our quarterly newsletter. We'll see you out and about!

Ginna McWhirter | Environmental Consultant
Division of Stakeholder Engagement
Small Business Environmental Assistance Program
8383 Wolf Lake Drive, Bartlett, TN 38133
p. 901-713-4626
Ginna.McWhirter@tn.gov



2025 STORMWATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONFERENCES

Tennessee American Society of Landscape Architects Conference April 16-17 Knoxville

Municipal WET Weather Stormwater Conference (EPA/IECA) April 29-30 Charlotte, NC

TN Environmental Show of the South May 14-16 Chattanooga

KY/TN Water Professionals Conference July 27-30 Knoxville

TN Association of Floodplain Managers July 28-30 Pickwick State Park

Tennessee Municipal League Conference August 2-5 Chattanooga

TN Sustainability Conference August 20-22 Gatlinburg

StormCon August 26-28 Orlando, FL

TN Engineers Conference September Sept 14-16 Franklin

TCAPWA/SWANA Annual Conference Sept 22-24 Memphis

SESWA October 1-3 Hilton Head, SC

TNSA Annual Conference October 21-23 Chattanooga

Any other conferences or symposiums?

Notify Charlene to be added to the list.

charlene@tnstormwater.org

Get It Flowing Faster with Good Earth Tools' Culvert Cleaner

Submitted by: *Caroline Peck*

If you're responsible for stormwater management in Tennessee, you understand the challenges that blocked culverts create. In the short term, clogged culverts lead to ponding, flooding, and ice buildup, posing significant safety and maintenance concerns. Over time, unresolved blockages can cause roadway and shoulder erosion, leading to extended road downtime, expensive repairs, and budget overruns for municipal and county stormwater programs. In extreme cases, neglected culverts can contribute to infrastructure failure.

Stormwater Management Departments across Tennessee must maintain a dependable, efficient, and cost-effective culvert cleaning schedule to prevent these risks, especially with the state's diverse weather patterns and heavy rainfall events

Common Culvert Cleaning Solutions: Pros and Cons

Tennessee stormwater professionals seek efficient, cost-effective, and environmentally responsible solutions to culvert maintenance. However, traditional methods come with drawbacks:

Manual Cleaning: Labor-intensive and often unsafe, particularly in confined or flooded spaces.

Jet Trucks: Require thousands of gallons of water, making them costly and environmentally wasteful. High-pressure jets can also damage surrounding areas and create erosion issues in sensitive environments.

Vacuum Trucks: Effective for some blockages but expensive and require extensive manpower, often beyond the budget of local municipalities. These methods are not only costly but also pose risks to workers and the environment. High water use, soil disturbance, and chemical contamination from runoff can negatively impact Tennessee's waterways, including the Mississippi River Basin and other protected watersheds.

Sustainable Culvert Cleaning Solution for Tennessee

For over 60 years, Good Earth Tools has engineered innovative, cost-saving solutions for industrial applications. Our Culvert Cleaner is designed to improve efficiency while prioritizing environmental safety and worker protection—critical concerns for Tennessee's stormwater managers.

Why the Good Earth Tools Culvert Cleaner is the Right Choice for Tennessee:

Environmentally Friendly: Unlike jetting systems, our mechanical auger system requires no water or harmful chemicals. This prevents unnecessary water waste and protects Tennessee's waterways from contamination.

Cost-Effective: With just two operators, you can restore water flow, reducing labor costs and expensive road closures. In most cases, culverts can be fully cleared within an hour—a fraction of the time required for traditional methods.

Safe for Operators: The system eliminates the need for workers to enter confined spaces, significantly reducing injury risks. No exposure to high-pressure water jets or hazardous conditions.

Highly Versatile: The Good Earth Tools Culvert Cleaner fits most backhoes and mini excavators with auxiliary hydraulics and accommodates culverts up to 60 feet in length and 36 inches in diameter.

Durable & Long-Lasting: With carbide-protected bits and a sealed drive system, our equipment stands up to heavy use and underwater environments, minimizing replacement costs and maintenance downtime.

With these advantages, Tennessee stormwater departments can clean more culverts per day with a smaller team, reduced costs, and a lower environmental impact..

Effortless Storage for Maximum Efficiency

Misplaced or damaged tools can slow you down. With the Good Earth Tools Culvert Cleaner Transport Kit, you get a reliable storage solution that keeps everything protected and exactly where you need it, so you can work efficiently and get the job done with ease.

Our custom transport kit features a utility trailer, equipped with secure racks for augers and couplers, motor drive fusible link, rock head, and additional storage space.

Designed for seamless integration, the Transport Kit ensures you're always ready to clean culverts efficiently and effectively, no matter where the job takes you.

Contact Us Today

Interested in reducing costs, increasing efficiency, and improving environmental safety in Tennessee's stormwater systems? Contact the Good Earth Tools team today.

Steve Whittington

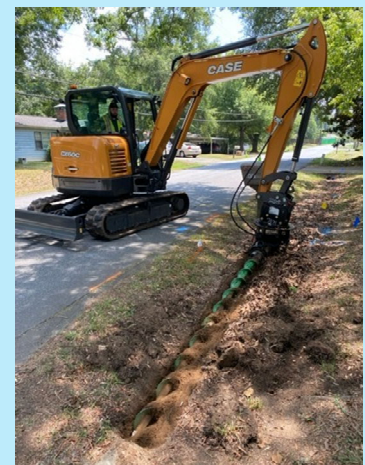
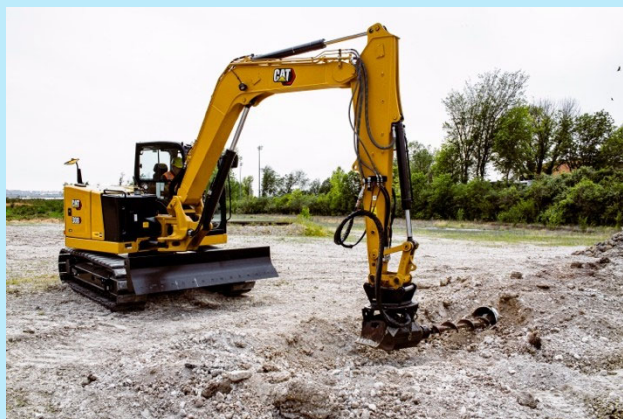
Regional Account Manager

SteveW@GoodEarthTools.com

636-638-2486



Scan to learn more





2025 Governor's Environmental Stewardship Awards

Nominations are currently being accepted until March 14, 2025
Award recipients will be announced in the summer of 2025

The Governor's Environmental Stewardship Awards include ten categories:

- Agriculture and Forestry
- Building Green (updated descriptions)
- NEW CATEGORY: Clean Air and Transportation Solutions
- Energy and Renewable Resources (updated descriptions)
- Environmental Education and Outreach
- Materials Management
- Natural Resource
- Water Quality
- Sustainable Performance
- Lifetime Achievement

The deadline for nominations is March 14, 2025. Award recipients will be announced in the summer of 2025. If you feel like an individual or group would be a good candidate for the awards, direct them to the nomination forms and other pertinent information on our website.

<https://www.tn.gov/environment/sustainability/gesa.html>

If anyone has questions about the application or the process, please view the webinar recording that we hosted in January of 2025. [Click here for webinar](#)

New OHWM Guidance & Form

In light of the Sackett decision, US Army Corps of Engineers staff have revised the guidance for identification of the Ordinary High Water Mark (OHWM). Identification of the OHWM is an important step when conducting jurisdictional determinations for Waters of the US. Wetland connectivity to navigable waters requires immediate adjacency to a stream or the presence of an Ephemeral Channel between the jurisdictional wetland and the nearest Intermittent or Perennial Stream. This hydrologic connectivity determines if wetlands are jurisdictional or non-jurisdictional features.

While TDEC has developed a dichotomous stream determination process that calls out Streams vs. Wet Weather Conveyances, the feds have a more complex system that includes the labels of Perennial, Intermittent, Ephemeral, and Upland Drainage Features. Not all Wet Weather Conveyances are Ephemeral Channels because some are upland swales.

This new guidance for identification of OHWM will help clear up questions of hydrologic connectivity for federal employees and for environmental consultants.

[Click here for the Data Sheet](#)

Link to Manual: <https://erdc-library.erdc.dren.mil/items/76c61f8f-6d75-4a35-aaf3-39aa64918afb>



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P.O. Box 6550, Maryville, TN 37802
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Charlene@tnstormwater.org