

FEBRUARY 2021
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

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A Message From the NEW TNSA President

Hello Tennessee Stormwater Community

I am excited to be TNSA's President for 2021! I am certain that this year will be full of great opportunities and challenges for us all. I look forward to serving this wonderful group and am optimistic for this year ahead of us. I really miss seeing everyone in person and all of your smiling faces. Absolutely ready to return to meeting with actual people and shake a hands or bump fists. Who knew that would be my goal for the year? Sad to say how I took those simple things for granted and really have no idea when this will take place. I have learned over the last year not to take the simple things in life for granted and to spend as much time as you can with the people you love. Let's move forward through this year with optimism and hope and not take anything for granted.

Please reach out if you have ideas for the year ahead.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

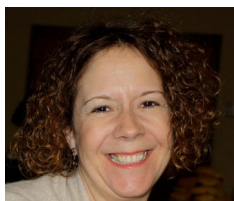
Respectfully,

Sheila Huffmire

Rutherford County. Assistant County Engineer. TNSA President 2021



A Note From the Executive Director



"Water does not resist. Water flows. When you plunge your hand into it, all you feel is a caress. Water is not a solid wall, it will not stop you. But water always goes where it wants to go, and nothing in the end can stand against it. Water is patient. Dripping water wears away a stone. Remember that, my child. Remember you are half water. If you can't go through an obstacle, go around it. Water does." — Margaret Atwood, The Penelopiad

Spring is in the air! This is the time of year we love to watch water and the elements work their magic. This is also the time of year you are called upon to work your magic. Whether it's creating a public event, educating residents or learning how to work within the parameters of the permit during these difficult times. You all have an important part in making sure our water quality is healthy.

I am choosing to have a positive outlook for this year! I truly believe we will be able to see each other in person at conference in October. The conference committee is working very hard to make sure this is the best one yet! They are putting together a day-long IDDE pre-conference workshop, meeting with Montgomery Bell personnel on how to best utilize the newly renovated space and have secured David Withers (Zoologist with TDEC) as the Keynote Speaker. We are currently accepting abstracts. Visit the website for more information.

I hope you will find this newsletter, as well as the stormwater materials we have available, useful in your local river, lake and wetland protection work. Because stormwater is everywhere, it touches every aspect of our life in one way or another. Stay positive and keep going. When you see an obstacle go around or through it, those are your only choices.

Thank you for all of the wonderful work you are doing throughout Tennessee. I look forward to seeing and hearing from you this year.

Best wishes,

Charlene DeSha

Executive Director

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. Two meetings were held on Zoom in March, one for each time zone.

NOTE: All in-person meetings are on hold at this time. Meetings will be held on Zoom.

♦ **Central Time Zone: Tuesday, March 2, 10:00 am CST**

♦ **Eastern Time Zone: Friday, March 5, 10:00 am EST**

Email Charlene DeSha if you would like to be added to a specific region email list.

Committee Updates

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

Chair: Aaron Rogge, CDM Smith

Communications Committee meeting will be held Wednesday March 10th and are looking for assistance developing the next set of legislative videos, including obtaining footage, writing scripts, and proofreading.

Inquiries can contact Aaron Rogge: roggea@cdmsmith.com

The next video in the series, "Stormwater, What's Being Done?" will be released in Spring 2021.

Public Outreach: Creates Education Resources

Chair: Tom Lawrence, Thomas Lawrence Engineering

The TNSA children's activity book is finished and ready to print! The book is slated for 2nd graders and under. The first printing will be distributed to MS4's free of charge. Your free copies will come with a dedicated brochure holder & stickers. Please contact Charlene DeSha if you would like free copies for future events.

The committee is in full swing and working on creating education outreach brochures/rack cards for your needs.

BMP: Standardizes Device Evaluation and Develops BMP Toolkit

Chair: Jacob Dorman, Contech

Congratulations to the BMP Committee for finalizing the [Guide to Stormwater Manufactured Treatment Devices](#). The guide is available on the TNSA Website, click here for page link. The committee will be sending a survey to members in order to determine their next project. Stay tuned!

Education: Manages and Creates Educational Training and Resources

Chair: Tim Gangaware, UT Tennessee Water Resources Research Center

Thank you to all of the TNSA Talk speakers so far this year. TNSA Talks are free to attend on Zoom and TNSA Members receive a PDH certificate. Registration is required for each talk. If you are interested in speaking at a talk, email Charlene DeSha. Several past TNSA Talks have been recorded and posted on the TNSA website:

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

The Committee is working on in-person education opportunities for 2021 as soon as it's safe for everyone to meet in person including the Stormwater Basics for MS4's.

Committee Updates Continued...

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

Chair: David Mason, CDM Smith

The TNSA policy committee is tracking a bill (SB 0113) introduced by Senator Gardenhire that has the potential to significantly limit or reduce the revenue generating capacity of stormwater utilities in TN. As introduced, the bill would require municipalities to abate the stormwater owed by a property owner until such fees equal the construction costs of stormwater ponds on-site. TNSA is working with other interested parties in TN to modify the bill's language or to have the bill withdrawn from consideration. TNSA members are encouraged to contact their local representatives about this bill.

The Tennessee Board of Water Quality, Oil & Gas has been rescheduled due to inclement weather to consider approval of the Post Construction Stormwater rule revisions (0400-40-10). The revised rule and response to public comments can be found here: <https://www.tn.gov/environment/about-tdec/boards-and-commissions/board-tennessee-board-of-water-quality--oil-and-gas.html> Members are encouraged to participate in the hearing if they have additional comments following TDEC's responses. If approved at the hearing, the rule will likely become effective this summer and TDEC is expected to immediately begin working on NPDES MS4 permit renewals that will include the new language.

TNSA BYLAW UPDATES

The board voted on a few changes to the bylaws.

- Term limits have been changed from 2 years to 3 years starting in 2022.
- President Elect Position has been eliminated. President will need to serve one term as Vice-President.
- In order to reduce the size of the board the At-Large MS4 positions will be eliminated after the current members end their term. Thought behind this is that the North West Region was added several years ago, which increased the size of the board, and MS4 positions went from 13 to 15. That will leave 12 MS4 positions.

Board Size and Spots per Level

MS4 = 2 per Region (6 Regions), 12 total

Private = 4

Associate = 2

Individual Level is non-voting and does not have a spot on the board.

Upcoming Conferences

Tennessee Municipal League Conference July 31-August 3, 2021 Chattanooga
 Tennessee Floodplain Management Conference August 11-13, 2021 Knoxville
 KY/TN Water Professionals Conference August 15-18, 2021 Chattanooga
 Tennessee Environmental Conference October 25-27, 2021 Kingsport
 TCAPWA/SWANA Annual Conference November 1-3, 2021 Memphis
 Tennessee American Society of Landscape Architects Conference
 November 19-22, 2021, Nashville



NMSA has launched two brief surveys. Each survey is very brief - time to complete both surveys will take 5 minutes.

One survey is focused on MS4 program effectiveness - what is working in stormwater programs and what isn't in a broad context. In short, NMSA wants to know what aspects of stormwater programs provide the most and least return on investment in terms of resources used in the program.

The second survey is focused on stormwater and trash, litter and gross solids. NMSA wants to know various aspects of this topic - how much of an issues stormwater and trash is, does it appear in permits, if/how it is measured, etc.

Both surveys are anonymous. Lastly, there is a tight schedule for both surveys - they will both close at the end of the day on **Friday, February 26, 2021**.

Survey on MS4 Program Effectiveness: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VMPCBBX>

Survey on Stormwater and Litter, Trash, and Gross Solids: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/765DTGF>

The National Municipal Stormwater Alliance or NMSA is a 501(c)(3) devoted to supporting Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permittees. They are the only national stormwater organization comprised of, operating on behalf of, and for the benefit of, MS4 permittees. TNSA is a member of NMSA.

The Tennessee RiverLine is a vision for a continuous system of multi-modal trail experiences along the Tennessee River from Knoxville, TN, to Paducah, KY.

The Tennessee RiverLine seeks to...

- Celebrate the beauty, diversity, and history of the Tennessee River Valley
- Connect the people and communities of the valley to each other, to our river heritage, and to the Tennessee River landscape
- Catalyze new investments, economic opportunity, social health, and ecological stewardship



Called North America's next great regional trail system, the Tennessee RiverLine originated in 2016 in UT's School of Landscape Architecture, housed jointly within the College of Architecture and Design and the Herbert College of Agriculture. Today it is administrated by the Tennessee RiverLine Partnership with ongoing strong financial support from UT and the Tennessee Valley Authority.

The Tennessee RiverLine Partnership was founded as a diverse group of river advocates, including UT, TVA, the National Park Service's Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program, and several other organizations and agencies, to achieve the Tennessee RiverLine vision.

For more information visit tnriverline.org.

TDEC Updates

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued the 2021 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Multi-Sector General Permit (MSGP) for stormwater discharges from industrial activity on January 15, 2021. This final permit will become effective on March 1, 2021. For more information, visit EPA's Industrial Stormwater website: <https://www.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater-discharges-industrial-activities>.

Rather than wait for EPA's final MSGP to inform Tennessee's 2020 Multi Sector Permit (TMSP), TDEC reissued the 2015 TMSP, unchanged, for a term of two years to provide an opportunity to review the final federal MSGP prior to proposing any changes to the TMSP. For more information regarding the TMSP visit: NPDES Industrial Stormwater General Permit (tn.gov)

Ann Morbitt | Integrated Water Resources Consultant
Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation
Division of Water Resources
711 R.S. Gass Blvd., Nashville, TN 37216
(615) 687-7119



SAVE THE DATE 2021 TNSA ANNUAL CONFERENCE "TOGETHER AGAIN"



MONTGOMERY BELL STATE PARK

OCTOBER 19-21, 2021

Inn Reservations Now Open

<https://www.tnstormwater.org/tnsa-conference>

SPONSORSHIP AND EXHIBITOR OPPORTUNITIES

You are invited to sponsor the 2021 Tennessee Stormwater Association Annual Conference. Join us as we explore challenges and discover solutions to the ever-changing world of stormwater management in Tennessee.

Sustaining Sponsor \$2,500

Dinner Sponsor \$1,500

- 2 Available

Breakfast/Lunch Sponsor \$1,000

- 2 Breakfast/2 Lunch

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Contact Charlene DeSha with any questions.
865-386-6917, Charlene@tnstormwater.org

TNSA RESOURCES

Webinars and Job Openings are listed on the TNSA Website

Link: <https://www.tnstormwater.org/webinars>

Link: <https://www.tnstormwater.org/job-openings>

Link: <https://www.tnstormwater.org/tnsatalks>

TNSA Stormwater Videos: Tennessee Stormwater Association YouTube Channel

TNSA Members have access to the Tresorit File Sharing program.

Please let Charlene DeSha know if you would like access.

Access links were sent to members in January.

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).



TDEC SHORT-TERM RESPONSE TO FLOODING: A GUIDE FOR COMMUNITIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) created a short-term guide for officials and community members to provide information in the hours, days, and weeks following a flood event. Please use this as a reference for basic answers to questions that may arise regarding TDEC's responsibilities immediately after a flood. Contact numbers for emergency resources and technical assistance for various local, state, and federal agencies involved in community flooding response are listed at the end of the document.

Entire Guide is located on the TNSA Website: <https://www.tnstormwater.org/newsletter-library>

Governor's Environmental Stewardship Awards



The Governor's Environmental Stewardship Awards (GESA) are presented annually to recognize outstanding achievements by individuals, local governments, businesses, organizations, educational institutions, and agencies for successful environmental projects and conservation measures. The awards program was instituted in 1986 by Ernie Blankenship of the Tennessee Department of Environment and Health, a predecessor of TDEC, and has been adopted by the Governor's office as one of its award programs.

Applications are judged in nine different criteria areas, including such items as project results and transferability, as well as three eligibility areas: location within the state of Tennessee, completion of a majority of the project in the current calendar year, and three years of exceptional environmental compliance with TDEC.

GESA are the most prestigious environmental and conservation awards in the state. For more than 30 years, the awards have been presented to individuals and organizations making significant contributions to the protection and improvement of our natural resources and wildlife.

GESA supports the Governor's priorities of Job and Economic Development and Health and Welfare, while also supporting TDEC priorities of Public/Private Partnerships and Positive Environmental Outcomes.

Application deadline: April 1, 2021

Link to apply: <https://www.tn.gov/environment/program-areas/opsp-policy-and-sustainable-practices/governor-s-environmental-stewardship-awards/gesa-application.html>

Tennessee Stormwater Association

SOCIAL
DISTANCE
EVENT



Mid-South Clean Water Expo

Tennessee's Premiere Organization
for Stormwater Professionals

Thursday, April 1, 2021

Location: Shelby Farms, Memphis

**Registration Cost:
\$50**

Attend the **2021 TNSA Mid-South Clean Water Expo** on **April 1, 2021** 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 Shelby Farms 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/mscwe

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

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On-site signage provided
List of attendees
Exhibit space
Brochures in packet
Speaking session
20 Expo registrations (invite your clients!)

Exhibitor \$500

Exhibit space
Brochures in packet
Logo featured on event signage
Demo area (up to 2 products - more demos may be available on request)
3 Expo registrations

Support Sponsor \$250

Provide Swag in Bag
Logo featured on print materials
2 registrations

TENNESSEE STORMWATER ASSOCIATION



charlene@tnstormwater.org

P.O. Box 6550

Maryville, TN 37803

865-386-6917

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