

## AREAS OF EXPERTISE

### WATERSHED MANAGEMENT

- Watershed Planning
- Local Ordinance Review
- Grant Applications and Administration
- MDEQ Compliance and Permitting
- NPDES Permitting, Compliance and Inspection
- Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Programs
- Illicit Discharge Elimination Plans
- Public Education

### LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

- Detention/Retention Basin Design
- Bioswale/Rain Garden Design
- Storm Water Management Plans
- Streambank Restoration
- Sustainable Landscape Design
- Wetland Mitigation/Creation

### ENGINEERING SERVICES

- FEMA Floodplain Review and Permitting
- Infrastructure Assessment and Rehabilitation
- STCAP/LTCAP Assistance
- Sanitary Sewer Evaluations
- SSO/CSO Outfall Inspections



HUBBELL, ROTH & CLARK, INC.  
Consulting Engineers

## The Growing Storm in Storm Water Permitting By: Bill Stone

Recent changes in the Municipal Storm Water Permit Program will drastically impact the watershed planning and implementation efforts in the State. In November 2006, Kalamazoo and Comstock Townships filed a case against the MDEQ in the Circuit Court of Kalamazoo asking the court to determine if they were subject to MDEQ rules regarding municipal storm water regulations. The Townships argued that they have never owned or operated a municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) and are therefore not subject to the MDEQ rules. MDEQ countered that Townships have jurisdiction over their storm water local ordinances and have watershed planning oversight. After reviewing the arguments and the Federal and State rules, the court found that the MDEQ had over extended the intent of the Federal rule. **On January 22, 2007, the court indicated that public entities that do not own or operate an MS4 are not subject to the storm water permit requirements, or the permit fees.**



This verdict may cause land-use decisions and other water resources protection implementation efforts to become curtailed. Hopefully the Townships will continue their participation at some level in the watershed efforts because of the benefits of the regional approach to solving water quality issues.



MDEQ placed a form on their website ([www.michigan.gov/documents/deq/wb-stormwater-MS4-modification\\_termination\\_form\\_188733\\_7.pdf](http://www.michigan.gov/documents/deq/wb-stormwater-MS4-modification_termination_form_188733_7.pdf)) for permittees to request termination of their municipal storm water permit. Because of the confusion caused by the form, SEMCOG hosted an informational meeting on the issue which was attended by MDEQ.

At the meeting, the MDEQ provided information on:

- how to determine if your community is regulated;
- how to request a permit termination or modification;
- how to request a reduction in your annual permit fee; and
- how to provide input on the new General Permit Drafts (the current permits expire on April 1, 2008).



The rules and procedures that govern these actions and the meeting raised as many questions as it answered. We suggest getting some advice before deciding on your course of action. If you have any questions about these recent developments you can contact Bill Stone at 248-454-6326, or your MDEQ Water Bureau representative.



## HRC Welcomes A New Face

HRC is pleased to announce that in February, Dana Calhoun, P.E., became the newest member of the Environmental Engineering Department. Some of Dana's newfound responsibilities include: assisting with plan reviews for Bloomfield Hills and performing design duties for the Department.

As a former Engineering Director with West Bloomfield Township, Dana was responsible for various duties including reviewing plans and design specifications for safety path construction, county drains, and water main and sanitary sewer extensions. Prior to West Bloomfield, Dana held a position as Storm Water Engineer for the City of Troy, where she assisted in the development and implementation of the City's Storm Water General Permit programs, including the development of storm water related ordinances and standards. Dana brings with her many years of watershed management planning and design experience.

Dana holds a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering and Biology. She is a registered professional engineer in Michigan and is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) and American Public Works Association (APWA).

Dana currently lives in Oak Park with her husband of seven years and her sixteen-month old son, Jonah.



## HRC Staff Leads the Way in Environmental Assessment

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) requires all communities and entities owning, operating, or controlling Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s) in an urbanized area to develop and implement actions within their Phase I and Phase II General Storm Water Permits. These actions include:

- Chemical Management
- Vehicle/Equipment Fueling and Washing
- Vehicle Parking and Storage
- Dumpster and Loading Docks Maintenance
- Cleaning Paved Work Areas
- Sanding, Grinding, and Painting Practices
- Good Housekeeping
- Best Management Practice (BMP) Implementation
- Post Construction Control

HRC's team will provide technical environmental assessments and recommendations to municipalities, industries, and private entities, as well as develop Pollution Incident Prevention Plans (PIPPs) for salt and oil storage, and sandlots. HRC recently performed an environmental assessment for the Bloomfield Hills Department of Public Works, which entailed a chemicals storage, building layout, equipment storage, and operations evaluation. If you are interested in learning more about our team and facilities management assessment and other environmental services we provide, please contact Jamie Burton, Department Head, at: (248) 454-6363 or [jburton@hrc-engr.com](mailto:jburton@hrc-engr.com).



The EED Department offers a broad range of services to communities facing the challenges of new storm water permit regulations and an increased regulatory focus on watershed planning.

Visit our web site at: [www.hrc-engr.com](http://www.hrc-engr.com) for more information on the services the EED and other HRC departments provide.

## Department Contacts:

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