



## IWEA Watershed Management Committee – 2018 Annual Report

### 2018 Illinois MS4 Implementation Seminar

IWEA, along with ASCE/EWRI and APWA Suburban Branch hosted the 2018 Illinois Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Implementation Seminar on February 27th in Schaumburg. Karen Katamay with Illinois EPA provided an MS4 permit regulatory update. Dan Bounds, Baxter and Woodman, gave an overview of 2017 MS4 Program Audit Results and tips for developing an MS4 Stormwater Management Program Plan. Mary Beth Falsey gave an update on DuPage County Stormwater's shared services program. Implementation case studies were provided by Corey Van Dyk, Baxter and Woodman, on monitoring and outfall screening, and Nicole Roedl on Will County's construction site inspection management and tracking tools. Dan wrapped up the seminar with an interactive discussion on the value of commercial business inspections as part of an MS4 program. The seminar was well attended, served both breakfast and lunch, and provided ample time for attendees to share ideas and approaches for MS4 program implementation.



### 2018 Watershed Management Track – Illinois Wastewater Professionals Conference

The Watershed Management Committee planned and moderated the Watershed Management Track at the 2018 IWPC in Springfield. Scott Twait with Illinois EPA provided an Illinois Water Quality Standards Update. Abel Haile and Chris Davis, IEPA provided the TMDL Program Status and Nonpoint Source Program Updates. Brant Fleming, Illinois EPA Permits Section, provided up to date information on wastewater permit development, presented by Dan Bounds, Abel, and Scott. Dan continued with a presentation and discussion on Illinois MS4 Permit Implementation. A Chloride water quality update was presented by Lindsay Birt, Huff and Huff. To wrap up the track, Deanna Doohaluk of the Conservation Foundation presented nutrient trading concept development by the DuPage River Salt Creek Workgroup, followed by open-forum discussion on trading in Illinois. Highlights from the track's presenters include:



- Time Limited Water Quality Standards (TLWQS) are taking the place of variances.
- Illinois EPA has an internal working group focused on nutrient trading, which is a viable option in Illinois for point source dischargers that may struggle to meet nutrient limits.
- Ammonia standards will become much more stringent in the near future. Ammonia limits will be based on pH and temperature, and a site-specific monitoring study will be allowed.
- Phosphorus limits have been finalized by Illinois EPA, and permit conditions are being drafted.
- New acute and chronic WQS for chloride have been recommended by USEPA and are being evaluated for Illinois.
- Illinois EPA may be issuing private sewage disposal system permits in the future, instead of USEPA.
- Nonpoint source runoff is a significant source of pollutant loading to Illinois waters, and several programs and funding sources are in place to help reduce it.

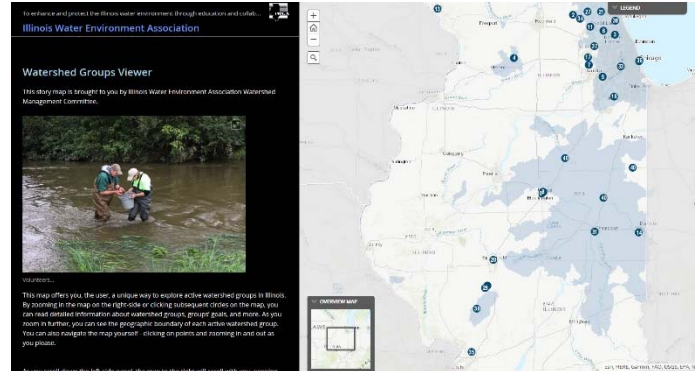
All presentation slides are available via the IWEA website Past Conference Slides link.

[https://www.iweasite.org/past\\_conference\\_slides.php](https://www.iweasite.org/past_conference_slides.php)



## Committee Webpage – Illinois Wastewater Professionals Conference

The Committee has been updating its webpage materials including watershed group information and contact information. The committee members have developed a list of active watershed groups to be included on the webpage. The committee collaborated with Maggie Yarnold, an IEPA Bureau of Water summer intern, to categorize the active watershed groups based on groups' goals and initiatives. Over 40 active watershed groups were categorized as: lake associations, outreach and education, policy and advocacy, recreation, wildlife and habitat, water quality, and watershed-based planning.



Around 53 percent of the groups examined specifically noted water quality improvement as a key goal, whereas only 24 percent mentioned watershed-based planning. This might be indicative of the lengthy and costly process to meet the U.S. EPA's nine-elements of watershed planning, whereas guides for water-quality improvement, such as the Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy, are more easily accessible.

Of the 40 groups which mentioned they focused on water quality, nearly 50 percent also focused on education and outreach. Education can be a catalyst for water quality improvement as more community members recognize how to decrease pollution; and it can help increase watershed group impact within the watershed and community and increase group size. For more information on active Illinois watershed groups, check out the geospatial web map tool coming soon (December 2018) on the IWEA website: <https://iweasite.org/watershed.php>

## 2018 Clarifier Newsletter Articles

For the IWEA Clarifier, the Committee produced four articles for "From the Shed", the standing quarterly column. The Committee is continuing to provide an Illinois water environment trivia question for each issue of the Clarifier.

The Committee conducted monthly conference calls to discuss timely watershed management topics, develop future activities, and coordinate efforts.

### **IWEA Watershed Management Committee Mission**

Develop, recommend, and conduct activities to broaden the understanding of watershed management to more effectively preserve and enhance the Illinois water environment. Conduct workshops, produce articles and updates for the IWEA Clarifier, and serve as a bridge to the Water Environment Federation Watershed Management Committee.

### **Current Committee Members**

Chair, Lindsay Birt, Ph.D., Huff & Huff, a subsidiary of GZA, Inc.  
Vice Chair, Gunilla Goulding  
Amy Walkenbach, IEPA  
Andrea Cline, Geosyntec  
Beth Baranski, League of Women Voters for Jo Davis County  
Cindy Skrukud, Sierra Club  
Dan Bounds, Baxter & Woodman  
Mary Beth Falsey, DuPage County Stormwater Management Commission  
Matt Bardol, Geosyntec  
Scott Tomkins, IEPA  
Stephen McCracken, The Conservation Foundation