

Stormwater Coalition of Tompkins County

Meeting Minutes

March 25, 2015

Attendees: Barry Goodrich, Dave Sprout, Marty Moseley, Darby Kiley, Lynn Leopold, Brent Cross

The lawn care newspaper ad was discussed. Multiple coalition members suggested that a link to soil testing information be added. Angel will add this and finalize the ad. It was suggested that the lawn care ad be run for a 3 week period and then we run a dog waste ad for the next three week period. Angel will work on developing a second dog waste ad. Marty Moseley asked if the ad could also be posted on the Ithaca Times website and what the effectiveness is of on-line posting compared to print posting. Angel will follow up with Jim Bliniski at the Ithaca Times regarding these questions.

The end of the annual reporting year was March 9th. Please submit annual reporting information to Angel **by April 17th** using the **Excel spreadsheet** that she provided.

Angel discussed sewershed mapping using GIS as a first step. The cost would be approximately \$2,500 to \$3,500 depending on the amount of time it would take. Coalition discussed the need to conduct additional mapping to further refine the boundaries that are developed from the GIS analysis. Brent Cross discussed hiring an intern for the summer and what qualifications would be needed to conduct mapping. Coalition members suggested that an engineering or environmental science student would most likely have the necessary skills. The main thing they would need to know is how to operate the GPS equipment and how to correct and input the data into a desktop computer for integration into ArcGIS.

Angel discussed a drainage law training she recently attended at the Soil and Water Conservation District's Annual Water Quality Symposium. Dr. David Orr from the Cornell Local Roads program was the presenter and it was an excellent training. Coalition members expressed an interest in having a similar training for coalition members and municipal staff. Angel will contact Dr. Orr and determine the possibility of holding a training locally.

The Ditch BMP training hosted by the Town of Caroline Watershed Committee was discussed. Angel asked Rebecca Schneider for the ditch mapping GIS files, because the ditches in multiple watersheds throughout Tompkins County have been mapped. If obtained, the ditch maps could be incorporated in the stormwater outfall maps that were developed for each municipality to provide more information on each municipality storm sewer system. Obtaining this information would also cut down on the mapping that each municipality would have to do. Coalition members discussed the need to map ditches to get an understanding how water is flowing via ditches systems into local waterbodies. Barry Goodrich mentioned that it would be helpful to get GPS units for highway staff so they can conduct mapping when they are out in the field. Angel will look into the cost of GPS units.

Copies of the 2015 Stormwater Management Design Manual are available through the Tompkins County Soil and Water Conservation District. Please let Angel know if you would like a copy.

Angel announced that she will be giving a presentation at Cornell Cooperative Extension on rain barrels and rain gardens. The presentation will take place on March 26th from 6:30pm – 8:30 pm.

***Good Housekeeping/IDDE Video is available for use by municipalities. Let me know if you would like to borrow the videos!

Next Meeting May 13th at 1:30 pm (Town of Ithaca DPW)