

MAFSM 6th Annual Conference Recap

MAFSM held our 6th Annual Conference, **New Maps, New Regs: Reducing Flood and Stormwater Impacts** on October 21st, 2010 at The Conference Center at the Maritime Institute in Linthicum Heights, Maryland. This year's conference was attended by over 140 people – our largest yet.

This year's event featured one pre-conference activity—a Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) training held on October 20th. And two post-conference activities held on October 22nd, a CFM exam and a field tour featuring Prince George's County's Archimedes Screw Stormwater Pumping Station and Experimental Wetlands Project.

Our full-day conference had 22 breakout sessions on a wide array of local floodplain and stormwater issues and a Local Floodplain Manager's Roles and Responsibilities Workshop. Our exhibitor's hall was lined with tables featuring ten exhibitors, and we concluded with a networking social hour.

The conference was kicked off by keynote speaker, Sonal Sanghavi, P.E. of the Maryland State Highway Administration. Sonal spoke on SHA's Perspective – Gearing Up for Emerging Regulations. Dave Guignet of the Maryland Department of the Environment followed with a talk on Maryland's Floodplain Maps Program overview.



Exhibitor Hall



*Keynote Speaker Sonal Sanghavi of
SHA and former MAFSM Chair
Mary Roman of URS*

Both talks were well received and we are thankful for Sonal's and Dave's time and effort in support of MAFSM.

Our business meeting was held during lunch. The meeting included an address from our Chair, Mary Roman, P.E. of URS, and an update on ASFPM and ASFPM Foundation activities by Region III Director, Jeff Sparrow of Michael Baker, Jr. We also announced our new Officers and Regional Representatives resulting from our biennial elections. Following lunch, attendees had time to network in the exhibit hall before the afternoon concurrent sessions began.

This year MAFSM held a scholarship competition for college students. Students from local universities including University of Maryland at College Park, Salisbury, Frostburg, UMBC, University of Baltimore, St. Mary's College, University of Maryland Eastern Shore, University of Maryland University College, Morgan State, Coppin State, and Bowie State were asked to submit their major/minor, relevant coursework, work, volunteer, or other relevant experience, and plans and interest in floodplain and stormwater management in Maryland.

Soudeh Ahmadian and Poornima Natarajan (both from University of Maryland at College Park) were selected for the MAFSM scholarship. Both students received a free MAFSM membership as well as a free conference registration. We are thankful for their interest in our organization and the floodplain and stormwater fields.

MAFSM would like to thank everyone who attended the conference, especially our sponsors and exhibitors:

Gold Level Sponsors: URS and Dewberry

Silver Level Sponsors: Greenehorne & O'Mara, Michael Baker Jr. Inc, PBS&J, and AMEC

Bronze Sponsors: RK&K

We look forward to seeing even more attendees at our 7th Annual Conference, **Plan, Prepare, Protect – Maryland's Path to Sustainability and Resiliency** scheduled for October 20, 2011 at the Maritime Institute in Linthicum, MD.

Election Results

MAFSM recently held an election for its Board and Regional Representatives. These terms began January 1, 2011 and are in effect until December 31, 2013.

The following results were reported at the 6th Annual conference.

Chair – Paul Slonac, Michael Baker Jr., Inc.

Vice-chair – Mike Gilliam, Greenhorne & O'Mara

Treasurer – Jason Stick, Carroll County

Secretary – Barbara Litten, ZAI

Western Regional Representative – Kevin Wagner, Maryland Department of the Environment

Eastern Regional Representative – Betsy Jackson, Caroline County

Central Regional Representative – Dawn Hawkins-Nixon, Prince George's County

CFM Exam Future and Past

Another opportunity to take the exam in MD is coming soon. The Maryland Department of the Environment is hosting a CFM exam:

Date: Friday, July 15, 2011

Time: 9 AM - 12 PM

Location: Maryland Department of the Environment, Montgomery Park Business Center
1800 Washington Blvd.
Baltimore, MD 21230

(Aqua & Terra Conference Rooms - first floor behind MDE receptionist's desk)

Proctor: Kevin Wagner,
kwagner@mde.state.md.us or 301-689-1495

MDE will proctor the CFM® Exam at 9:00 AM on Friday, July 15, 2011. The CFM® is a certification program administered through ASFP. In order to take the exam, you must complete the application for the CFM Program which is available on the ASFP website at: www.floods.org under certification. The fee for taking the exam is \$100 for ASFP members and \$340 for non-members. You may submit an application for membership at the same time as applying for the exam. In order to be considered to take the CFM® Exam, you must submit your completed application along with the appropriate fee to ASFP by Friday, July 1, 2011. Walk-ins will not be permitted.

MAFSM hosted a CFM at the Michael Baker Jr., Inc. office in Linthicum, MD on April 7th. We wish the test takers good luck in obtaining their certification.

Community Rating System in MD

The Community Rating System (CRS) is a voluntary flood insurance discount program for communities that are currently in the NFIP and go beyond the minimum requirements for participation. For every 500 points earned, a community can get a 5% reduction on their flood insurance in mapped special flood hazard areas - policies outside the mapped flood also get a reduction. Currently, there are 8 communities in Maryland that participate in the CRS. They include: Town of Bel Air (Class 8), Caroline County (Class 9), Carroll County (Class 8), Harford County (Class 7), City of Havre de Grace (Class 9), Howard County (Class 8), Town of Ocean City (Class 7), Prince George's County (Class 5).

If a community is interested in joining CRS, contact Kevin Wagner with the Maryland Department of the Environment at 301-689-1495 to discuss the application process. Before a community applies to CRS, it is recommended they take a free CRS course offered at the [Emergency Management Institute](http://www.emmity.org) in Emmitsburg, MD.

More information on CRS can be found on FEMA's website at:
<http://www.fema.gov/business/nfip/crs.shtm>

Message from the Chair



As I begin my term as Chair of MAFSM, I would like to thank all the MAFSM members who have helped MAFSM become a sustainable and noteworthy group of floodplain and stormwater management professionals. We are still in our youth as organization – just seven years old. But we have made significant contributions to the floodplain and stormwater management community during this time. This includes financial contributions to support the ASFPM Foundation and the Gilbert White Memorial; conducting several CFM refresher trainings and exams; holding an NFIP workshop; creating an organizational website; publishing 11 newsletters; writing letters to our elected officials supporting the re-authorization of Pre-Disaster Mitigation funding, support for USGS stream gaging programs, and supporting the NOAA Sea Grant funding; providing scholarships to

both our local MAFSM conference and the national ASFPM conference; coordinating field tours of historic Laurel, Anne Arundel County's Outfalls, Prince George's County's Low Impact Development projects, a skip-jack tour of the Chesapeake Bay, and Prince George's County's Edmonston Pumping Station and Experimental Wetlands; and held six annual conferences.

All of this has been accomplished through the hard work and dedication of our members. For those of you who are active in the organization – thank you. And for those of you would like to become more active – contact me!

And speaking of conferences, please save the date for our seventh annual conference **Plan, Prepare, Protect – Maryland's Path to Sustainability and Resiliency** scheduled for **October 20, 2011 at the Maritime Institute in Linthicum, MD.**

Email me at pslonac@mbakercorp.com with your suggestions for MAFSM activities, improvement suggestions, or opportunities for training/education. Your continued support of the Maryland Association of Floodplain and Stormwater Managers is greatly appreciated.

FEMA DFIRM Map Status

Most communities in Maryland have recently completed or are in the process of converting their FEMA 100-year floodplain maps from a paper format into a digital product. The following schedule developed by Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) and the FEMA Region III lists the status of each Maryland County with the

date of the latest map upgrade (effective date), the scheduled release date of the preliminary Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map (DFIRM) and the target effective map date. The time needed to progress from preliminary DFIRM to effective maps has expanded due to Federal Registry publication issues from 18 months to approximately 24 months. Dates are subject to change.

County	Effective Date or Preliminary Map Release Date
Harford	January 2000
Saint Mary's	October 2004
Montgomery	August 2005
Frederick	July 2005
Baltimore	September 2008 / Preliminary Sept. 2009 for Panels 220 & 245
Baltimore City	Preliminary March 2009 – Effective Scheduled Jan 2012
Prince George's	Prelim. Sept. 2010 – Effective Scheduled March 2012

MDE Process Preliminary	Map Release Date	Target Effective Date
Somerset County*	Dec 2008 / Aug 2009	March 2011
Dorchester County *	March 2009	May 2011
Wicomico County *	August 2009	June 2012
Calvert County *	September 2009	December 2011
Anne Arundel County *	September 2009	June 2012
Howard County *	November 2009	September 2012
Cecil County *	April 2010	June 2012
Carroll County *	June 2010	June 2012
Washington County	September 2010	March 2012
Allegany County *	Scheduled April 2011	September 2012
Talbot County	Scheduled March 2011	September 2012
Charles County	Scheduled July 2011	December 2012
Garrett County	Scheduled December 2011	July 2012
Queen Anne's County	Scheduled June 2013	May 2015
Kent County	Scheduled May 2013	April 2015
Worcester County	Scheduled April 2013	March 2015
Caroline County	Scheduled August 2013	August 2015

***Denotes MDE lead through Mapping Process**

MDE acted as the lead contractor, or Cooperating Technical Partner (CTP), in 10 counties (as noted above) and worked with FEMA to develop an enhanced DFIRM mapping process in 17 counties (listed in blue text) that utilized several ongoing data programs throughout the State. These enhancements in 17 counties are improvements to the nontidal (riverine) floodplain models using more recent GIS data sets to develop Geo-referenced HEC-RAS models for all flood models derived after 2005. Additional enhancements are underway to include a Chesapeake Bay and Atlantic Coast tidal analysis initiated in 2009. Integration of the tidal models may not be reflected in the dates listed above, and will be evaluated separately by FEMA.

Stormwater Notes

In order to recognize the importance of stormwater issues, "Stormwater Notes" is a regular column in the Runoff Review. This issue's article has been brought to us by our Stormwater co-Chairs Rahul Kesarkar of Dewberry and Mary Roman of URS

Pssst: Have you heard? TMDL...

Addressing attendees of the 2011 Maryland Quality Initiative (MDQI) Conference, Mr. Neil Pederson, Maryland State Highway Administrator, stated that everyone should make themselves familiar with four letters, "T - M - D - L". The acronym is frequently used these days among engineering consultants, between local, state and federal government officials, and is quickly

making its way into conversations with the general public. What is TMDL, and why is it getting so much attention?

TMDL refers to Total Maximum Daily Loads of pollutants (bacteria, nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment etc) that are being released into the environment from human activity, including existing uses and new developments. Within the Chesapeake Bay Watershed, pollutants of major concern are nutrients (primarily nitrogen and phosphorus) and sediment which can have devastating detrimental effects on the streams, rivers and bay estuaries when left unchecked, and have resulted in significant degradation of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed.

Water quality standards were first established by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) through the Clean Water Act in 1972 including amendments written in 1987. In 1996, the Chesapeake Bay came into focus when the EPA studied certain sections of the Bay within Virginia and determined that insufficient levels of dissolved oxygen, required to support aquatic life, were present. At the same time, Maryland identified the upper Chesapeake Bay tidal water segments as impaired, since they did not meet current standards regarding nutrient and sediment levels. EPA standards were then refined to specifically address the Chesapeake Bay Watershed in the *Chesapeake 2000 Agreement*. The goal of this Agreement was to reduce TMDLs to acceptable levels (as defined by the EPA by the end of 2010) through voluntary efforts of participating Bay Watershed Partners,

including the States/Commonwealths of Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Delaware, Pennsylvania, New York, and the District of Columbia. Unfortunately, these voluntary efforts did not result in the TMDL reductions being achieved per the Agreement.

Consequently, the EPA re-examined the Chesapeake Bay Watershed and defined 98 impaired Bay segments, of which 58 are located within Maryland. Based on existing conditions and projected growth, a "TMDL diet" was developed for each segment, in order to reduce the nutrient and sediment loads to acceptable levels on a prescribed schedule. Due to the wide range and complexity of issues surrounding the "TMDL diet" concept, the EPA outlined a three-phase planning process to involve key stakeholders and to allow for refinement of the plan over time. In Phase I, each Bay Partner was required to establish and submit to the EPA a Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP), demonstrating reasonable assurance to all parties that the anticipated TMDL reductions could be achieved. Each WIP includes not only limits of nutrient and sediment levels per the TMDL diet for each Bay segment, but also detailed implementation

strategies, schedules, and responsible parties for specific tasks and activities. WIPs were submitted to EPA by Bay watershed partners in December 2010 and Phase I will be completed by the end of this year (2011).

New Contact information?

It is important for us to update all of our members on our latest news and events. If your contact information has changed since last year please email tward@g-and-o.com with your updates.

Treasurer's Report

As of April 15, 2011 MAFSM has \$11,230.33 in the Treasury.

Ideas for Articles

We welcome your input and ideas. If you would like to contribute to the newsletter, please contact Necolle Maccherone at Nmaccherone@mbakercorp.com.

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