

Local Government Stormwater Group Update – November 3, 2015

To: Local Government Stormwater Group
From: Curt Witynski, Assistant Director

I'm writing to share two items of information:

1. The Local Government Stormwater Group co-sponsored several presentations at the League's annual conference held last week in Milwaukee. *If you are interested in obtaining copies of the items listed below, they will be posted on our Web site on our Annual Conference page. Simply scroll down to the conference program. PowerPoints that we have are posted next to the workshop description) --*
http://www.lwm-info.org/index.asp?SEC=D2415338-2165-4ECA-B451-BFCEC80634DB&Type=B_BASIC

Madison Pilot Study on Chemically Treating Stormwater
Stormwater Law Update
Wasau's Experience with a Stormwater Utility Referendum

2. The League recently provided feedback to a legislator on a draft proposal he is considering introducing that would significantly change state law governing stormwater utility charges. Some of the changes made by the draft bill include:

- requiring municipal streets to be charged.
- requiring a specific method /calculation of peak flow for assessing charges. This means that 99% of the stormwater utilities that rely on an Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU), based on impervious surface, would need to conduct a major level of effort to reassign charges to their customers.
- Requiring parcel by parcel analysis.
- Where there is a challenge to a fee, the burden is placed on the municipality to justify each parcel charge, or denial of credit.
- It would allow owners to "opt out" of the system unless the municipality can demonstrate the specific connection between the parcel and stormwater system.

We informed the legislator that we have major concerns with the proposal and would strongly oppose it if it was introduced. The bill has not been introduced and I'm not sure yet if the legislator plans to proceed. We will continue to monitor the situation and will keep you informed of any developments.

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