



# Water Quality UPDATE

Newsletter of Extension Water Quality Programs

March 2003

## Stormwater Phase II

The Phase II Storm Water rules went into effect March 10, 2003 for Oklahoma municipalities smaller than 100,000 and construction sites larger than 1 acre. The rules affect 60 communities and other entities, termed small "Municipal Separate Stormwater Sewer Systems" or **MS4s**.

- Altus
- Arkoma
- Bartlesville
- Bethany
- Bixby
- Broken Arrow
- Catoosa
- Choctaw
- Claremore
- Cleveland County
- Comanche County
- Coweta
- Creek County
- Del City
- Edmond
- Forest Park
- Fort Sill AB
- Guthrie
- Hall Park
- Jenks
- Lawton
- Logan County
- McAlester
- Miami
- Midwest City
- Moffett
- Moore
- Muskogee
- Mustang
- Nichols Hills
- Nicoma Park
- Noble
- Norman
- Oakhurst
- Oklahoma County
- Oklahoma Dep't of Transportation (ODOT)
- Oklahoma Turnpike Authority (OTA)
- Okmulgee
- Owasso
- Pocola
- Ponca City
- Rogers County
- Sand Springs
- Sapulpa
- Sequoyah County
- Smith Village
- Spencer
- Sperry
- Stillwater
- Tahlequah
- The Village
- Tinker AFB
- Tulsa County
- Turley
- Valley Brook
- Wagoner County
- Warr Acres
- Woodlawn Park
- Yukon

For details see the DEQ website: <http://www.deq.state.ok.us/WQDnew/stormwater/index.html> and fact sheets on the EPA website <http://www.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/fact2-0.pdf>.

In brief there are six program elements each of these communities must address to be in compliance with the regulation. They are:

1. Public Education and Outreach
2. Public Participation/Involvement
3. Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination
4. Construction Site Runoff Control
5. Post-Construction Runoff Control
6. Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping

With its statewide presence and educational emphasis, the Extension Service should prove to be an invaluable resource for these communities. If a community in your county is on this list, the public works department may be in need of public education assistance. We are currently at work developing a program to meet this need. An introductory PowerPoint presentation with script that explains the rules and discusses the six program requirements is available on the WQ website <http://waterquality.okstate.edu/>. Click on **Presentations**.

If you have opportunity to use these materials, please let us know. Additional program information will soon be available.

### **Reserve a Stream Trailer for Earth Week**

Earth Week is April 21-27. If you haven't already, call Marley Beem, Mitch Fram, Alan Vandeventer, or Pat Bridger to see if a trailer is available

### **Water Quality Program Planning Meeting**

Several issues were discussed at the February 19 meeting. Minutes are available at <http://waterquality.okstate.edu/> or by calling the WQ office. Items discussed included: stream trailers, underserved audiences (e.g., fact sheets in Spanish), In-service training needs, stormwater, and the possibility of closer coordination with DEQ (Who-ya-gonna-call?)

Please let Mike know your ideas or suggestions in these or other areas, or come join us at the next meeting on the afternoon of April 1. Call Pat at 405-744-5653 to reserve your spot.

### **US EPA Region 6 General Permit for CAFOs**

by OCES Waste Management Specialist Doug Hamilton, [dhamilt@okstate.edu](mailto:dhamilt@okstate.edu)

EPA Region 6 is developing a general permit for Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) in Oklahoma and New Mexico. This will replace the existing general permit that expired in 1998. The new CAFO permit will include elements of the old permit, new requirements from the Federal CAFO rules released in February 2003, and provisions to meet state water quality standards.

A new permit is scheduled for release by the end of March. It will immediately enter a public hearing and comment period lasting 60 to 90 days. The final permit will most likely be released late summer or early fall, 2003. A good approximation is September 2003.

After the final permit is released, farms covered under the existing CAFO permit have 30 days to seek coverage under the new general permit. Operators will have until April 2006 to have a certified nutrient management plan in place.

All new CAFOs, and farms that were not previously covered under the general permit, have until February 2006 to seek coverage under the general permit. In some cases, a CAFO may be required to apply for an individual permit rather than seek coverage under the general permit. These conditions will be defined with release of the proposed permit.

During an information meeting with the industry held February 24, it became apparent that the area of greatest controversy is discharge requirements that CAFOs may have to meet in order to satisfy water quality standards. Extension will be working with producers to manage systems so that discharges do not occur.

### **Upcoming Conferences**

On March 26-28, the Great Plains Foundation will hold their 8th Annual Symposium, "Water Resources In the Lives of People of the Great Plains: Past, Present and Future" at Wichita State University. Cost is \$125. More information is available at [http://www.greatplainsfoundation.org/2003\\_symposium.htm](http://www.greatplainsfoundation.org/2003_symposium.htm).

The Oklahoma Clean Lakes Society is holding their annual meeting at Beaver's Bend State Park in Broken Bow, OK on April 9-11, 2003. Registration is \$65; a \$20 late fee applies after **March 12, 2003**. More information is available online at <http://www.scenicrivers.state.ok.us/>.

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