



2019 CASQA Annual Conference

Conference Theme and Track Descriptions

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Stormwater... Why We Do What We Do!

"You cannot get through a single day without having an impact on the world around you. What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make." - Jane Goodall

Looking back over the last 30 years, it was in 1989 that a few early champions of California's stormwater community banded together to form the California Stormwater Quality Task Force. The Task Force quickly emerged as the cutting-edge statewide stormwater collaborative organization, bringing together stormwater professionals to help members achieve the goals of the Clean Water Act while improving the efficiency and effectiveness of stormwater management. As the reach of the stormwater regulatory broadened, so did the needs of the California stormwater community. To help meet these growing needs, the Task Force organized and formed the California Stormwater Quality Association (CASQA) in 2002. CASQA continues to be a leader in stormwater and is committed to seeing stormwater managed as a vital component of California's water resources, to support human and ecological needs, to protect water quality, and to restore our waterways.

Looking forward into the next thirty years and beyond, it is vital to not only be stewards of our waters, but to also be mentors for the next generation that will continue to protect and enhance our waterways for future generations. As an organization, CASQA will foster sustainable solutions to our water quality challenges, incorporating the best science and technologies to promote the health of our natural waters.

Tracks (11)

Construction and Post-Fire Response

Construction stormwater compliance has evolved by leaps and bounds over the last 30 years and will continue to change as technology evolves. This track will focus on proven strategies to resolve construction issues, innovative BMPs and controls, such as integration of new technologies and software. The track will highlight challenges and solutions to site management and cost controls, resolving monitoring and sampling issues, and dealing with the challenges of linear utilities and overhead best management programs (BMPs) project implementation. Additionally, this track will explore innovative post-wildfire response.

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Funding and Finance

Implementing a stormwater program and building and maintaining stormwater infrastructure requires both an understanding of the program's physical assets and the funding capacity to manage those assets to protect our waterways. Participants in this track will discuss stormwater program and infrastructure funding and financing, including assessment management, its role in full stormwater program integration, and different funding and financing mechanisms that may be available to the regulated community.

Industrial

Strategic approaches to industrial stormwater compliance and innovative treatment are one way to protect our waterways. The evolution of the Industrial General Permit is transitioning management of stormwater from industrial activities into a new era. This track will highlight all things industrial, such as pollutant source assessments, exceedance response action levels, monitoring, Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs), and Clean Water Act citizen lawsuits.

Legislation, Policy, Permitting, Legal

The adoption of the Clean Water Act literally stopped our rivers from burning and provided the framework for protecting of our waterways. Historic and current stormwater legislation drives many of our programs. The impact of future policies and requirements will continue to help protect our water ways for future generations. This track seeks to provide a forum for updates from regulators, discussions of future policy and legislative initiatives, examples of innovative ways that regulatory obligations can be met, and an update from legal experts. Potential updates may include current and future statewide stormwater policies, discussions of regional differences, and pioneering local policy implementations.

Monitoring, Science, and Data Management

Without both the collection of quality data and the correct interpretation of the data collected, stormwater assessments will not continue to evolve. This track will highlight innovations in monitoring, data collection tracking, and stormwater geographic information systems (GIS). We'll include discussions of how monitoring and data can be used to create new water quality standards and show how true source control is working. This track will also focus on emerging science and technologies related to pollutants of concern and advances in watershed planning and modeling.

Municipal Program Implementation

Municipal stormwater programs continue to evolve as programs adapt to lessons learned over decades of implementation. This track will focus on the challenges and solutions to implementing a municipal stormwater program. It will highlight opportunities to connect municipal stormwater programs and other environmental sectors and agencies and provide presentations on novel approaches to implementing municipal stormwater programs for both Phase I and Phase II agencies. This track will incorporate emerging issues for municipalities such as post-fire stormwater management response, social issues such as transient encampments, and the need to engage with sister departments in the same jurisdiction and work with both governmental and non-governmental agencies to tackle some of the biggest issues impacting our waterways.

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Outreach and Education

With knowledge comes power. To protect and enhance our natural waterways into the future, we need an informed and engaged society. Please share your stormwater-related experience with creating and implementing innovative stormwater outreach campaigns, building community to foster a sense of stewardship, using social media as an outreach tool, reaching school-age children with programs in/out of the classroom, and measuring your effectiveness to help mold your program for continued success in the future.

Stormwater Infrastructure and Natural Waterways

Stormwater BMPs are designed to protect our waterways from ubiquitous pollution sources. Ensuring that these BMPs are functional is critical to their success. Physical infrastructure for improving stormwater runoff quality, protecting natural channels from hydromodification, preventing flood impacts to property, recharging groundwater supplies, and providing the opportunities for rainwater harvesting will be highlighted. This track will focus on pilot studies, design lessons learned, operation and maintenance challenges/solutions, and adaptability after installation. The track will cover natural waterway enhancements, source control BMPs, and treatment control BMPs along with how these practices can be used to provide integrated watershed management.

Sustainability

Sustainable practices will lead stormwater use into the future. This track will look at the sustainable practices, legal requirements, opportunities for collaboration, and programs that connect stormwater and other environmental sectors. It will highlight ongoing efforts and where further integration may take us in the future. Important topics such as water supply, water rights, groundwater recharge, Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) planning, energy, and climate change will be discussed. Presentations may highlight how sustainability factors into watershed management and resiliency planning.

Total Maximum Daily Loads Development and Implementation

Total Maximum Daily Loads provide a mechanism to support the wellbeing of California's waterways by correcting the challenges of the past while looking to the future. TMDLs have been incorporated into many permits and drive the implementation of many programs. This track will highlight the science that goes into developing TMDLs, the challenges of complying with TMDL-based requirements, and ways in which different parties to a TMDL can come together on implementation.

Trash

Trash is choking our waterways and the impacts are severe. The problem seems ubiquitous. Visionary changes are needed to reverse this mounting trash problem to help protect the health of our waterways. The state-wide Trash Amendments require innovative solutions and collaboration among permittees to overcome challenges associated with implementation. This track will incorporate topics relevant to the Trash Amendments, such as full trash capture BMP implementation, monitoring methods, reporting, and demonstrating compliance under Track 2. Additional related topics include source identification, effective and sustainable solutions, data comparability, micro-debris, and relationships between trash and other potential pollutants.