

SSWAB Subcommittee Shortlist Recommendations

Stormwater Planning Subcommittee

Note: The Subcommittee would prioritize recommendations #1 & #3.

1. Expand performance measures for tracking progress of the stormwater program. This would require an evaluation of those parameters already being measured, and what could be easily tracked by staff. Examples could include, but not be limited to:
 - Number of business inspections, *and* of follow-up actions to bring businesses into compliance
 - Number of outfalls:
 - With treatment per current stormwater manual design criteria
 - With treatment to a lesser level
 - Treated via vegetated conveyance ditches
 - Without treatment
 - With flow control per current stormwater manual design criteria
 - With flow control to a lesser stringent criteria or with only some of the tributary drainage area controlled to current design criteria
 - Without flow control though tributary to a stream or wetland
 - Number of surface water monitoring stations
 - Number of surface water monitoring stations with a numeric water quality parameter that exceeded water quality standards more than once
2. Create a user-friendly GIS Map of receiving water quality monitoring for both toxic (including emerging contaminants of concern) and conventional parameters which is conducted DOH, Ecology, Thurston County and others. The map should provide land uses of the sub-watershed being monitored, the monitoring locations, parameters monitored, frequency, concentrations over time, and applicable water quality criteria (if available). The map and associated data, should be made available to the public. The project should assess data gaps and propose a plan for filling the gaps to be able to assess ambient water quality over time.
3. Assess and prioritize the untreated stormwater outfalls to maximize benefits to water quality and reduce potential flooding, and develop a 10-year plan to install treatment and/or flow controls. This could precede and give priority attention to the CIP subcommittee's Recommendation #1.

Outreach Subcommittee

1. SSWAB Members should be linked to Ecology and other partner's informational websites to expand ideas as we work to find solutions to common problems. Create a "Contact A SSWAB Member" link on the website.

Stormwater Capital Improvement Program Subcommittee

1. Increase Financial Support for Stormwater CIP Program

The County should increase and consistently maintain financial support for its stormwater capital improvement program. Such action: a) could improve the County's ability to attract and retain additional qualified staff for the program and b) would allow the County to more rapidly address needs in high priority catchments identified through the NPDES-mandated Stormwater Management Action Plan (SMAP). Additionally, projects that address needs in these catchments should be preferentially weighted in the County's stormwater capital projects ranking system.

2. Effectiveness Monitoring for County Stormwater Retrofit Capital Improvement Projects

The County should incorporate post-project effectiveness monitoring in the planning and design of stormwater retrofit projects. The rationale for this type of monitoring is to: 1) determine if the project objectives are met, 2) correct noted deficiencies, and 3) use lessons learned in future project planning and design. For some projects, simple visual inspections and notetaking may be all that is required; however, in general, the level of monitoring effort and monitoring protocols, including duration, parameter selection, sampling/observation frequency, and analysis methods should be tailored and scaled to project goals and overall project cost. The County should document monitoring results and lessons learned.