

## **PA 12-155 Nonpoint Source Phosphorus Subcommittee**

### **Meeting notes from September 30, 2013 breakout session:**

Co-Chairpersons:

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Updated information will be posted as it becomes available at [www.ct.gov/deep/phosphorus](http://www.ct.gov/deep/phosphorus). A sub-page for the Nonpoint Source Phosphorus Subcommittee will be created soon, with a link on that page.

The draft scope and next meeting date(s) for the NPS Phosphorus Subcommittee are posted at the link above. Information about the other subcommittees can also be found there. There are relevant web links within this summary, and also additional links at the end of this document.

There will be a Public Meeting on October 31 at 9:30 a.m. in DEEP's Phoenix Auditorium for [DEEP's Update to the Nonpoint Source Pollution Program Plan](#). We will describe the process, roll out an outline, and discover concerns problems and priorities for the future of DEEP's NPS Program consistent with EPA Guidance.

The group should make every effort to list sources of phosphorus that enter waterways and attempt to quantify relative loading. How is CT refining models? NPS management program, [Tech Note #8](#), and [319 2013 guidelines](#)? The [USGS Sparrow Model](#) is appropriate for quantitative modeling. The scientific methods workgroup should collaborate with modeling efforts.

[DEEP's Lake TMDLs](#) provide some background for Phosphorus controls. See also: [Lake Champlain](#), [Charles River](#)

Septic /Onsite wastewater: According to COWRA: There is data that shows that phosphorus problems related to onsite waste disposal systems occur most often where adequate separation to the groundwater table does not exist. Iron oxides on soil particles bind phosphorous very effectively in aerated soils.

According to COWRA: There is data indicating that receiving soils near rapid infiltration systems, that have been properly sited, are not oversaturated 30 years later. As a rule there is now more emphasis on widespread LID, than concentrated deeper infiltration systems.

Source Control Pollution Prevention: There is a need for identification of products containing phosphorus that is eventually released to the environment, so that appropriate policies can be put in place or consumers educated / taxed/

incentivized to make better choices. Where worthwhile, consumers should spend more money for more appropriate chemicals. Education efforts should be successful as evidenced by the popularity of the green movement

Communication with the **Coordinating Committee, Scientific Methods Workgroup, and Municipal Implementation Workgroup** is essential. An effort will be made to keep the [DEEP Phosphorus website www.ct.gov/deep/phosphorus](http://www.ct.gov/deep/phosphorus) and future sub-pages updated.

Fertilizer Use: Residential users are more prone to overuse than commercial, but both would benefit from more attention. How is guidance from PA-155 being enacted by CT Dept. of Agriculture and others? Timing of application, avoiding areas close to watercourses and the water table, using soil tests to reduce pollution, etc, need to be stressed in public education activities.

Golf courses: It makes sense that public golf courses run by municipalities that are also paying to upgrade wastewater plants should understand the need to reduce applications, etc.

Residential lawncare gardening composting waste management issues: Education is needed to reduce pollution. Does home composting increase loadings if done in inappropriate ways?

Messaging and maximizing education outreach efforts were stressed.

Public education: [MS4 permits](#) require six measures, EPA and other funding for outreach.

Possible appropriate technologies: ie: Urine separation toilets for homes served by onsite systems in problem areas;

**Next meeting: 10/28/2013, 1 p.m. in Room 2B, DEEP Headquarters, 79 Elm St.**

Possible scheduling for the remainder of 2013:

every 4 weeks: 11/25, 12/30

or

every 3 weeks: 11/18, 12/9, 12/30

Additional Websites for reference:

DEEP NPS plan update process:

[http://www.ct.gov/deep/cwp/view.asp?a=2719&q=526576&deepNav\\_GID=1654](http://www.ct.gov/deep/cwp/view.asp?a=2719&q=526576&deepNav_GID=1654)

DEEP Watershed Main page <http://www.ct.gov/deep/watershed>

DEEP TMDL main page: <http://www.ct.gov/deep/tmdl>

Watershed Based Plans:

[http://www.ct.gov/deep/cwp/view.asp?a=2719&q=379296&deepNav\\_GID=1654](http://www.ct.gov/deep/cwp/view.asp?a=2719&q=379296&deepNav_GID=1654)

[Quinnipiac Watershed Based Plan](#) Some comparisons are made of nonpoint and point source loadings for bacteria and nutrients

Pipeline background informational article on phosphorus

<http://www.nesc.wvu.edu/pipeline.cfm>

DEEP Stormwater Permitting <http://www.ct.gov/deep/stormwater>