

Erosion and Sediment Control Workshop

Starting July 2009, ODOT will require that Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans (SWP3s) be designed by a Professional Engineer who is CPESC certified. TMACOG and the Stormwater Coalition have arranged to present a Certified Professional in Erosion and Sediment Control (CPESC) training session in Maumee at the Home Builders Association, March 30. In addition to training and certification for PEs, CPESC training will benefit any private or public sector personnel who work in construction site planning, design, engineering, and inspection. Topics will include:

- Development and review of stormwater construction site permits
- Installation and inspection of erosion and sediment control practices, and design and review of plans

Registration for the training session is online at www.tmacog.org. See the What's Hot button. Fee for the workshop is \$75 for Stormwater Coalition members and sponsors, and \$150 for non-members. The registration fee includes a copy of the CPESC training book. The workshop is sponsored by DGL Consulting Engineers, LLC with additional support from Jones & Henry Engineers, Ltd., and Associated General Contractors.

The March 30 workshop is a review course for CPESC certification. The optional CPESC exam will be given in Toledo April 8. For more information about the CPESC program see www.cpesc.org/. For more information about the workshop contact Kurt Erichsen at 419.241.9155 ext. 126 or kurt@tmacog.org.

Clean Ohio Fund Applications Due February 6

Applications for grant funds to preserve open space in Lucas County are due to TMACOG Friday, February 6 at 5 p.m. All applications will be evaluated March 9 at 3 p.m. at a meeting of the Natural Resources Assistance Council (NRAC). NRAC will make decisions and recommendations for funding at that meeting. For more information on NRAC and the Clean Ohio Fund, contact Kurt Erichsen at 419.241.9155 ext. 126 or kurt@tmacog.org.

Northwest Ohio Counties in Compliance with Particulate Standards

In September 2006, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) revised National Ambient Air Quality Standards to significantly strengthen the standard for particulates. The old 24-hour measurement standard was 65 micrograms per cubic meter, and the new standard is 35. The particulates measured are tiny, about 1/30th the size of a human hair, but have been linked to serious human health problems. In December 2008, based on measurements in Lucas and Wood counties and on projections, the EPA has declared that northwest Ohio is in attainment and no specific steps to improve air quality are required. However, people in the region must continue to work to keep air quality from deteriorating to unhealthy levels. TMACOG and members of the Air Quality Committee work with the EPA to share public information and work to keep particulates and ozone in check.

In related news, the Ohio Department of Development is soliciting applications for the Diesel Emissions Reduction Grant Program (DERG). The deadline to submit applications is March 2. For more information, see www.odod.state.oh.us/diesel-emissions/. Information about the DERG program will be part of a Green Fleets workshop held at TMACOG February 10 at noon. For more information on Green Fleets contact Dave Gedeon at 419.241.9155 ext. 125 or gedeon@tmacog.org.

Transit Forum – Analysis Results at Feb. 18 Meeting

The next installment in an on-going series of meetings called to address public transit issues is scheduled for February 18, 4:30 – 7 p.m. at TMACOG. This meeting will be a leadership review of the results of TARTA's Comprehensive Operational Analysis of services. The discussion will be of value to those decision-makers and stakeholders in public transit including elected and administrative officials, large employers, and representatives of agencies, universities and hospitals. People who plan to attend are asked to call to register. Please contact Diane Reamer-Evans at 419.241.9155 ext. 117, or evans@tmacog.org.



Swan Creek Watershed Examined as Part of National Water Infrastructure TV Program

Many of the pipes supplying water to homes and business in the U.S. are old and their maintenance has been deferred, sometimes for generations. "Liquid Assets" is a new public television program which looks at the precarious condition of the nation's water infrastructure. On Tuesday, February 10, local PBS station WGTE will show the 90-minute program at 8 p.m. and follow up at 9:30 with a live town hall program looking at the Swan Creek Balanced Growth Initiative. The local initiative was the focus of a three-year study. The final report is being reviewed by representatives of the 23 jurisdictions in the watershed and being considered for endorsement. The audience will see a short locally produced video that gives an overview of the Swan Creek initiative and then the studio audience and viewers will be able to ask questions of a panel of people who were involved in its development.

National Train Day Kicks Off in Toledo Station in May

The Toledo Amtrak station will be the first in the country to celebrate National Train Day in 2009. While other cities recognizing the national celebration have planned events for May 9, the Toledo region has planned a family-friendly day of events for May 2. In 2008, more than a thousand people came through the Toledo station for the first National Train Day. The second annual event should be even more successful. Because Toledo is out in front of the rest of the nation, organizers hope to be able to have Amtrak train equipment on hand for visitors to tour and examine this year.

National Train Day in Toledo begins at 9:30 a.m. with opening ceremonies and continues until 4 p.m. The day's events will include model train exhibits, entertainment, and open house tours. Businesses, non-profit agencies, and train clubs that are

interested in participating with displays or as event sponsors are asked to contact Diane Reamer-Evans at 419.241.9155 ext. 117, or evans@tmacog.org.

Annual Meeting of Regional Councils

At the 2009 National Conference of Regions in Washington D.C., February 22-24, representatives from councils of government around the country will gather to consider the impact of the new administration and new congress. TMACOG President Tony Reams will be the moderator of a plenary session on reauthorization of the federal transportation bill with an emphasis on freight policy. This session will include presentations on trade corridors and a review of policy recommendations for the transportation bill as well as other legislation that has been introduced to address freight concerns.

Additional sessions and workshops will address water infrastructure, workforce development and the new economy, and new California land use policies. In California, the Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) has proposed that 17 MPOs in the state integrate land use and transportation plans to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. California has more challenges with air quality than most of the rest of the nation, but the state's planning is watched by the rest of the nation.

Save the Date

2009 Ohio Conference on Freight

Sponsored by:

Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments

Tuesday & Wednesday, September 22-23, 2009

Hilton Hotel Toledo and Dana Conference Center

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