

**Chatham Run and Fishing Creek
Act 167 Stormwater Management Plan Update
Watershed Planning Advisory Committee Meeting:
May 30, 2006**

Meeting started at 7:00 PM

Mary Ann Bower, Clinton County Conservation District, welcomed everyone and introduced County Officials and key people involved in the process of updating the Chatham Run and the Fishing Creek Stormwater Management (SWM) Plans. She introduced Todd Pysher, of Pysher and Associates who is the Project Engineer.

Todd Pysher reviewed the official comments received in writing. Comments received regarding the recommendation to adopt the Model Ordinance municipal-wide was discussed. It was noted that the Model Ordinance is written so that it could be adopted municipal-wide, if a Municipality chooses to do so. Act 167 states it is a watershed based Storm Water Management Plan; therefore, it is the Municipality's decision to adopt the ordinance as they choose.

Some of the reasons to consider adopting the Ordinance municipal-wide are:

- Some development projects can span two different watersheds in your municipality and therefore the ordinances would not be consistent
- Developers, being aware of the difference in ordinances, would be more inclined to develop in the areas not covered by these ordinances.
- Department of Environmental Protection is recommending that the Model Ordinance be enforced Municipal-wide, and plan to enforce a similar ordinance on all counties and municipalities in the future. This is due to the number of complaints and problems created by increased runoff from development occurring in areas with no coverage.
- This model ordinance establishes municipal authority to administer and enforce proper implementation and maintenance of Best Management Practices that would meet several state regulations.

Chuck Rine, Woodward Township stated that he would like to encourage the County to do a County-wide Stormwater Management Plan. He felt that would make ordinances consistent throughout the county. He felt that with Chatham Run being only a very small portion of his township, and adopting it township wide would be unfair. But if all the county was covered he would agree with that.

Tahmina Parvin from Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Stormwater Planning and Management Section, explained to the County Commissioners that it would be possible to extend their present agreement to include a county-wide plan. Chris Dwyer, Bald Eagle Township also encouraged the County to pursue this type of a plan. Although everyone present agreed that County-wide would be an ideal situation, the County is not prepared to pursue that at this time. County Commissioner Bud Yost requested that Tahmina or Barry Newman send a letter to the County regarding the County pursuing a County-wide Plan and Ordinance.

The original update was only planned for Chatham Run, since it was originally done in 1989. SWM plans should be reviewed every ten years. The process started in 2002, but was extended due to changes in soils information. In November, DEP asked if the County would be interested in also updating the Fishing Creek SWM Plan and Ordinance done in 1995.

Dan Eckley, Pine Creek, Greene, Lamar and Porter Townships, stated that he felt that the Appendix D Area of Influence calculation was too difficult for most people to follow, even for a Zoning Officer to determine if someone would need to develop a SWM Plan. It also appeared to him that most would need a plan to build a house or garage. He stated that he would like the County to consider providing assistance to townships on making these determinations. It was stated that the exemption chart shows most projects under 1,000 square feet could be exempt.

Todd Pysher stated that perhaps the Area of Influence calculation could be simplified.

Larry Coploff, Solicitor for Loganton Borough, asked if any changes could be made to the Model Ordinance. It was explained that as long as the intent of the ordinance was not changed, that would be acceptable.

In order for Municipalities to get reimbursement, they must complete the DEP Reimbursement application form.

The Public Hearing will be held on Thursday, June 15, 2006, at 9:00 AM at the Garden Building, Commissioners Meeting Room.

Meeting ended at 8:15 p.m.

Submitted by:
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