

ECSM NEWS 2026

EROSION CONTROL AND STORMWATER MANAGEMENT NEWSLETTER

DANE
COUNTY



LAND & WATER
RESOURCES
DEPARTMENT

This annual newsletter helps inform and update municipal partners, permit applicants, consultants, and contractors about the Dane County erosion control and stormwater management program.

WINSLAMM UPDATES

WinSLAMM, a software application used in stormwater management modeling, was updated to version 10.5.1 on April 1, 2026, with a subsequent update in July to 10.5.2. These updates include new parameter and runoff coefficient files resulting from recent calibration and validation efforts conducted by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and the U.S. Geological Survey.

To ensure consistency in modeling practices across Dane County, all stormwater permit applications that include WinSLAMM results, must now use version 10.5.2 and the associated parameter files.

Information about WinSLAMM and purchase details can be found here: [WinSLAMM](#).



Water Resource Engineering Staff were honored this year by NASECA of WI, for their contribution to their organization, and the stormwater and erosion control industry.

WISCONSIN STORMWATER WEEK

September 19th-27th is Wisconsin Stormwater Week. During this week, dedicated to all things stormwater, Dane County and the Madison Area Municipal Stormwater Partnership are joining municipalities and organizations across Wisconsin to help raise awareness about stormwater, what it is, the problems it can cause and actions people can take to prevent stormwater pollution to our waters.

Learn about local programs and resources that are available to help residents protect area waterways. Register for a free webinar or participate in one of the local events planned for WI Stormwater Week.

Visit www.ripple-effects.com/WI-stormwater-week for more information.

STORMWATER WEEK
Sept. 19th- 27th, 2026

12 SEPT	EARLY BIRD EVENT MONONA BAY SHORELINE CLEAN UP Saturday 10am-12pm
19 SEPT	UPPER YAHARA RIVER CLEAN-UP EVENT Saturday 10am-1pm
20 SEPT	NATIVE GARDEN LEARNING HUB - RAIN GARDENS/DOWNSPOUT GARDENS Sunday 2pm-4pm
26 SEPT	LAKE WINGRA COMMUNITY BIKE RIDE, RUN, WALK (WITH WATERSHED ED STATIONS) Saturday 2-4pm

PERMIT SUBMITTAL

As we move closer to full electronic submittal, how can you submit a permit request that is destined for success?

- **Submittals** should be in one pdf or zipped file, and uploaded as directed on the [County permit submittal webpage](#).
- **Project Name** should avoid starting with a number, or a common word like "Lot ____". Better choices include: starting with a last name, followed by the address or road "Johnson- 123 Apple Street" or "Johnson- Lot 3 of CSM 123". This makes it faster to search for in the system, and for getting your questions answered.
- Permit applications must reflect the **owners** as listed in [Access Dane](#). Any that are incorrect or incomplete- for example an individual instead of the entity in Access Dane, will be rejected. Include the [applicant authorization form](#) if the applicant is not the owner.
- Verify the **parcel numbers** and list all of them in this format XXXX-XXX-XXXX-X. In the future, we will display spatial boundaries of the site, as well as locations of permanent practices.
- Staff will verify that submittals are complete before **invoicing** fees. Card payment is the fastest option. Please avoid sending payment before receiving an invoice from staff.
- If the permit application is in response to a **violation**, please notify staff at the time of submission to avoid unnecessary delays.
- Include a **point of contact for on-site** matters, such as the contractor, superintendent, or field contact, including their email address and phone number when available.

AS-BUILT PLANS AND CERTIFICATION

As-built certification is required for stormwater management permits. What does this mean?

- Record drawings, including red-lined topographic information for all stormwater practices will be provided by the engineer. Pond outlets, bottoms, and safety shelves must be documented with survey information.
- Completed checklists will be filled out for each practice and notes added for discrepancies
- Include site photos during construction and afterwards, plant receipts, and load tickets.
- Some permits require verification or surveying of impervious surfaces.



For more information regarding Erosion Control and Stormwater Management in Dane County, scan the QR code or visit us at danecountystormwatermanual.com

BIORETENTION BASIN PRACTICES

Bioretention basins are commonly used since they can meet multiple stormwater requirements.

As staff, we have noticed time after time, that the landowner(s) do not understand the practices, both during/immediately after construction, and long-term into the future. This commonly holds up release of the financial security instrument, and we have owners contacting us wondering why they are not able to get their FSI released and permits closed.

If you are designing a stormwater management plan, please educate the landowners about these common issues:

- Weed removal is required until fully established (including the months right after planting)- who will be doing this? Does this person know that they are responsible?
- Watering is necessary until plants fully establish.
- The cleanout pipe needs to be flush with the bottom of the basin, and capped properly- does the landowner understand the reason for the cap and why they would take it off?
- Plants that have died need to be replaced.
- Species identification- have the owners been provided the planting list that was the final on-site version?
- Long-term maintenance, removal of woody species, and inspection after rain events is their responsibility.
- Do they have reliable experts to contact who can advise them or perform the maintenance?



Here is an example of a **compliant** bioretention basin. It has a diversity of planted native species, and it has been maintained continuously to allow it to get fully established and remain weed-free.



The bioretention basins in these photos are **non-compliant**. They are full of weeds and few of the planted species have survived. The photo on the right shows a cleanout pipe that is not flush with the bottom of the basin, and the cap is not watertight and removable.

