

MARYLAND SECTION NEWS

Vol. 102 No. 3

March, 2002

Message from the President



Special thanks to **Johns Hopkins University** and **Nick Jones** (arranging our speaker), **Will Aasen** (Program Chair) and all those who attended our meeting on February 13th. More than 180 members attended, making this our best attended meeting in two years. We also had companies set up their displays for networking with the college students on student night. Everything was great. I appreciate the great student turnout, especially the 20+ students from Hopkins. Dr. Gene Corley gave a fascinating talk on the ASCE investigation of the World Trade Center Towers collapse and the Pentagon damage resulting from the September 11th terrorist attacks.

Upcoming Programs:

On Wednesday, March 13th, we will hold our meeting at the **Maryland Historical Society** (201 West Monument Street), only a few blocks away from the Engineer's Club. We will be able to wander through this museum from 5 pm to 11 pm. We will have an open-bar and

appetizers beginning at 6 pm, a buffet dinner beginning at 7 pm and a talk on the History of Railroads in Baltimore by Mr. Courtney Wilson, Executive Director of the B&O Railroad Museum. This is appropriate for celebrating ASCE's 150th Anniversary. The cost is \$27 for members and guests and \$14 for students.

In June, we are considering some new ideas. One possibility is a dinner at the Baltimore Zoo for our members and their families. As details are finalized, we will let you know.

Indoor Miniature Golf Outing:

Do not miss our Annual Indoor Miniature Golf Outing. The date will be Saturday, March 23rd. For those who have never attended, we have a buffet dinner and open bar at a motel and then play 18 holes of miniature golf in the motel. We go through rooms, through the exercise room, up the elevator, down the stairs and all around. It is especially fun to see the faces of the motel guests as we go putting down the hallway in front of their rooms. The best part of this is all proceeds go to the Maryland Section, ASCE Scholarship Fund. **Ray Streib** and **Ed Meehan** do a great job organizing this event. Those younger members (and even older members) who help set up Saturday morning or unload the truck Sunday morning will get a discount for the event. Touch base with Ray for details (410-647-2727).

Door Prize Sponsoring Companies:

I would like to give special thanks to the companies that have been making contributions to our successful door prize drawings. The door prizes have become a fun and integral part of closing our meetings. Moreover the grand door prizes have not been trivial. Therefore, I would like to thank the following companies and individuals from those companies who made it possible to give away our "grand" raffle ticket drawing prizes. Many thanks to:

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January

Wilbur Smith & Associates
(John Malinowski)

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Outback Steakhouse

December

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Tio Pepe's

November

KCI Technologies

\$100 Gift Certificate to
Cheesecake Factory

October

Sverdrup Civil, Inc

2 Tickets to the Ravens/
Cleveland Browns Game

Special September Celebration:

In honor of ASCE's 150th Anniversary, the Maryland Section is beginning planning for a "Celebration of Civil Engineering in Maryland" Gala Evening in

September. We hope to invite as our guests, all of the surviving former Presidents of the ASCE Maryland Section. We hope to show some of the great engineering achievements and ASCE Section award winners throughout the years. More details will follow as we solidify our plans.

I hope to see you March 13th at the **Maryland Historical Museum!**

Joel

March Meeting at the Maryland Historical Society

Come enjoy the museum, dinner and presentation.

RSVP by March 7th!

No Tickets will be available at the door!

Contact:
Mr. Will Aasen at
410-585-1470 or
waasen@gfnet.com

Buffet Dinner & Open Bar

National Stormwater BMP Database Doubles

by the Urban Water Resources Research Council of the American Society of Civil Engineers

The National Stormwater Best Management Practices (BMP) Database is expected to contain over 160 BMPs as of the end of 2001. This represents substantial growth of the standardized BMP information contained in the database since the initial 71-BMP release to the stormwater management community in June 1999. The Urban Water Resources Research Council of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), under a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), continues to focus on compilation and entry of high quality BMP data into the national database. The significantly expanded database can now be searched on-line or downloaded through the project web site at <http://www.bmpdatabase.org>.

The concept of developing a national database arose in the mid-1990s out of the realization that although there was a plethora of published information on BMP performance, the studies did not follow standardized data collection, reporting and performance evaluation protocols, making a scientific and consistent evaluation of these data difficult. The need for BMP performance information is particularly critical now since the EPA has mandated that most municipalities in the United States with populations larger than 10,000 must obtain a stormwater runoff discharge permit by 2003. One of the key requirements of this permit program is implementation of non-structural and structural best management practices (BMPs) appropriate to local conditions. Communities need to know which types of BMPs are appropriate for them (e.g., which BMPs function best in cold climates or in areas of heavy rainfall) and how to monitor the performance of the BMPs they select to ensure they function properly. The National Stormwater BMP Database and data analyses that are being enabled as a result of this database will permit, in the long term, improvement of the BMP selection and design process so that local stormwater management can be much more effective than it is today.

Thus far, key project tasks have included: (1) collecting and evaluating existing BMP design and performance data, (2) designing and creating the national BMP database, (3) developing BMP performance evaluation protocols, and (4) evaluating the data collected and reporting initial findings. A companion project to develop stormwater BMP monitoring guidance was completed when it became apparent that much of the available BMP data was of limited value due to inconsistent BMP monitoring and reporting protocols used in the past, making evaluation of data and transferability of findings difficult and often impossible. The monitoring guidance manual provides practical and comprehensive guidance and is available as of December 2001 through the project web site.

The database can be used both to track BMP performance, as

well as to research performance of BMPs. Key categories of data requested in the database include (1) test site location characteristics, (2) sponsoring and testing agencies, (3) watershed characteristics, (4) BMP design parameters and cost data, (5) monitoring locations and instrumentation, (6) monitoring costs, (7) precipitation data, (8) flow data, and (9) water quality data. The types of structural BMPs currently accepted in the data entry module are various types of detention basins, retention basins, infiltration basins, wetland basins, wetland channels, biofilters/grass strips, filter media, hydrodynamic devices, percolation trenches/dry wells, and porous pavement. Types of nonstructural BMPs accepted in the data entry module include education, recycling, maintenance practices and source controls. The requested data sets were developed with peer review and input from an international group of experts in the stormwater management field. Based on data received to date, the greatest challenge is to ensure the reporting of accurate precipitation, flow and water quality data. The National Stormwater BMP Clearinghouse reviews new BMP data sets prior to posting to the master database to ensure that required data (e.g., design parameters, flows, water quality data) have been provided and to ensure that the data are technically reasonable (e.g., relationships between peak flows and flow volumes relative to the tributary watershed and precipitation events are evaluated).

Several large data sets received in the last year include multiple BMPs from Dr. Shaw Yu at University of Virginia and Dr. Robert Pitt at University of Alabama-Tuscaloosa, as well as 36 BMPs from the California Department of Transportation. These data are undergoing quality assurance (QA) review and will be posted to the project web site upon completion of the QA reviews. Table 1 summarizes the BMPs according to BMP type currently in the database or expected to be included in the database as of the end of 2001. Table 2 summarizes the types of BMPs currently contained in the database by geographic distribution.

The ASCE Engineering News is a monthly publication, except July and August, published by the Maryland Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers and is provided free to Section, life and student members. Comments or questions should be directed to the Editor.

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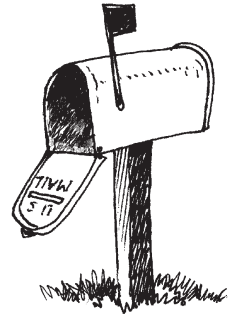
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March MD Section ASCE Newsletter

Younger Member News



by Kelly Brennan, Younger Member Co-Chair
<http://www.asce.org/gsd/sections/mdasce/ym.htm>

Hello Younger Members! We have several exciting outreach opportunities available next month. Since many of you were interested in learning about specific ways to get involved, now is your chance to participate. If you have any questions or suggestions for outreach opportunities, please contact Kelly Brennan at brennank@pbworld.com.

Zoom Into Engineering Brown Bag Lunches

Mandy Cody, Kelly Brennan and Victor Albers attended an exciting new outreach training seminar last month at the Northeast Regional Young Members Meeting in Hartford, Connecticut. It's a "hands-on" introduction to engineering activities for 6 to 11 year olds based on the PBS television series "Zoom." We thought this program would be a great way to get students interested in engineering at an early age. The added benefit is that this program can be taken anywhere such as girl/boy scout meetings, church groups, and even mall events. This gives volunteers the flexibility to either go directly to the students schools during the normal school day or volunteer when we typically have more free time such as evenings/weekends. Two brown bag luncheons will be held on Thursday, March 28th.

Northern Brown Bag

KCI Technologies, Thursday, March 28th from 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM, contact

Mandy Cody to register and for more details at acody@kci.com. Pizza lunch will be served. RSVP by Wednesday, March 26th.

City Brown Bag

Parsons Brinckerhoff (100 South Charles St, Tower 1, 10th floor), Thursday, March 28th from 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM, contact Kelly Brennan to register and for more details at brennank@pbworld.com. Pizza lunch will be served. RSVP by Wednesday, March 26th.

If you would like to participate in the "Zoom Into Engineering" program but can not attend one of these events, please contact Kelly Brennan at brennank@pbworld.com for more details.

Consulting Engineers Council of MD School Visitation Program

March 20th

The CEC is sponsoring a school visit on Wednesday, March 20th at Eastern Tech in Essex. The program involves setting up booths at the high school to show the students a little bit about all of the engineering disciplines. The goal is to make the presentations hands-on so that the students are excited about the engineering profession and will want to learn more. The school visits are typically held every other month at different schools throughout the city/county. We're trying to increase participation so that

volunteers only have to attend events once or twice a year or as their schedule permits. The next school visitation will likely be held in May. If you're interested in participating in this program, please contact Shirley Neale, Chair of the PR Committee, CEC/MD at Henry Adams, Inc. at (410) 296-6500.

Other Upcoming Events:

BWI Tour

April 2002, Date to be announced. Stay tuned to the ASCE YM web page for more details. This will be a great opportunity to tour BWI's construction site and learn about the upcoming airport expansion.

Happy Hour - Late March/Early April

Date to be announced. Its time again for the ASCE YM happy hour. If you have an idea for a happy hour location, please let us know. Contact Mandy Cody at acody@kci.com.

Boy Scouts Volunteer Day - May 2002

Check the website for more details. Volunteers typically help out the local boy scout camp by painting, doing repairs, pouring concrete, etc. Stay tuned for more details!

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National Stormwater BMP Database Doubles

Continued from page 2

The expanded data set will be analyzed in the summer of 2002 to determine whether new trends regarding BMP performance can be identified. This data analysis effort will build upon the initial findings of the data analysis conducted in 1999, which can be downloaded from the project web site. Some of the preliminary findings include:

- BMP performance should not be based on comparisons using percent removal alone. It may be appropriate to use this measure only on carefully chosen data subsets; for example, sites that have similar stormwater runoff water quality.
- The chosen performance evaluation method can affect reported pollutant removal efficiencies. For example, some BMP types may have been mischaracterized as less effective because of cleaner

influent. Most BMPs and biochemical processes will exhibit lower percent removals when the concentrations are low in the influent.

- Retention ponds and wetland basins are not well represented by individual storm-by-storm comparisons because paired inflow and outflow data often are not from the same event.
- Effluent quality is useful for characterizing the effectiveness of the BMP; however, it is still important to determine if the BMP had a statistically significant effect on water quality at each test site.
- Downstream geomorphic and biological responses and aquatic habitat assessment may be better gauges of long-term BMP effectiveness than pollutant removal effi-

ciencies alone, but there is insufficient information at this time to clearly suggest which BMPs may best mitigate the effects of urbanization on receiving waters.

- More BMP performance data are needed for sound statistical analysis of their effectiveness and what design parameters most influence their performance.

For more information, please contact the National Stormwater BMP Databases Clearinghouse operated by Wright Water Engineers on behalf of the project team (303-480-1700 or clary@wrightwater.com) or visit the project web site at www.bmpdatabase.org. The Clearinghouse is available to help facilitate electronic transfer of BMP data into the database and welcomes submissions of BMP data to the master database.

	Version 1.0 June 1999	New Studies Anticipated to Be Added to Web Site Winter 2001/2002	Total Anticipated Winter 2001/2002
Detention Basin	7	11	18
Media Filter	5	12	17
Grass Filter/Swale	7	10	17
Hydrodynamic Device	2	14	16
Infiltration Basin	0	0	0
Non-structural (e.g., Street Cleaning, Maintenance)	8	2	10
Percolation Trench/Dry Well	1	0	1
Porous Pavement	5	0	5
Retention Pond	21	18	39
Wetland Basin	7	11	18
Wetland Channel	8	3	11
Other (Inlet Filter/Trap)		4	4
Total	71	85	156

Table 1. Summary of National Stormwater BMP Database Data Sets

State	Number of BMPs
AL	8
CA	5
FL	24
GA	2
IL	5
MD	4
MI	5
MN	7
NC	6
NJ	3
OH	1
ON, CAN	1
OR	3
TX	19
VA	11
WA	9
Total	113

Table 2. Geographic Distribution of BMPs Posted to Web Site as of November 2001.

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VA
NC
PA
WV
ME

- ☐ Transportation / Transit Systems
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- ☐ Natural Environmental Assessments
- ☐ Hazardous Waste Assessment / Remediation
- ☐ Geographic Information Systems

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SECTION ANNOUNCEMENTS

KCI Technologies, Inc., has appointed Carl E. Canatella, PE, vice president and head of the company's Mechanical & Electrical Division. Canatella has managed several of the region's most notable and innovative projects. He's designed electrical systems for large water and wastewater treatment plants in Delaware and Maryland as well as systems for educational, military, industrial, transportation, and medical facilities, including surgical suites at the University of Maryland Medical Center.

Canatella recently served as president of the Consulting Engineers Council of Maryland. In his new role at KCI, he will oversee the company's mechanical and electrical operations throughout the Mid-Atlantic Region.

Canatella is a 1975 graduate of The Johns Hopkins University and an active member in several professional societies, including the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers and the Society of American Military Engineers. He lives in Essex, MD.

Mr. Rogers has over thirty years of experience in the design, construction, operations and maintenance of water, wastewater and industrial treatment plants. Prior to joining JMT, he served as an independent consultant for projects throughout the Eastern Seaboard. His expertise includes process, instrumentation and controls, mechanical and electrical systems, and energy management. He has trained hundreds of operations and maintenance staff personnel.

Alan is a registered professional engineer in Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and New Jersey. His credentials include a Master's degree in Environmental Engineering and a Bachelors' degree in Mechanical Engineering. He is a senior member of the Instrumentation Society of America, and he has been a presenter on SCADA at several American Water Works Association conferences.



Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson (JMT) is please to announce that Alan J. Rogers, PE, has joined JMT as a Vice President for our Environmental and Facilities Engineering Division. he will oversee our Water/Wastewater and Mechanical/Electrical sections and promote these lines of business throughout the Mid-Atlantic region.



Sabra, Wang & Associates, Inc. (SWA) is pleased to announce the hiring of R. David Henry, PE, in our Alexandria, VA office.

David will lead SWA's ITS design and research activities and will serve as ITS Technical Director. Prior to joining SWA, he worked for several ITS and traffic control systems consultants including BI Tran Systems, PB Farradyne and JHK & Associates. Prior to becoming a consultant, David started his career with the West Virginia State Road Commission and later was Assistant Director of Transportation for Newport News, Virginia. As a consultant, David designed many computerized signal systems throughout the USA and abroad. He has experience and knowledge gained over 35 years in engineering.

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DATED MATERIAL INSIDE

– MEETING NOTICE – AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS

Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2002
Time: 5:00 P.M. — Reception/Visit Museum
6:00 P.M. — Cocktails
7:00 P.M. — Buffet Dinner
8:00 P.M. — Presentation
8:30 P.M. — Visit Museum
11:00 P.M. — Doors Close

Place: **Maryland Historical Society**
201 West Monument Street (2 blocks west of Engineers Club) Baltimore, Maryland

Speaker: Mr. Courtney Wilson, Executive Director
B&O Railroad Museum

Program: History of Railroad in Baltimore

Abstract: For over 150 years, the Maryland Historical Society has served as the largest single repository of the state's cultural heritage. The Museum and Library collect as well as maintain art objects, artifacts and manuscripts from all periods of Maryland History, including the original manuscript of the "Star Spangled Banner." Mr. Wilson will present a memorable discussion of the history of railroad transportation in Baltimore.

Come enjoy the museum (full museum available from 5 pm to 11 pm), dinner, and presentation.

Buffet Dinner and Open Bar provided by Glenmore Caterers.

Member, Spouses, Guests, Non-Members \$27.00
Students: \$14.00

Reservations: _____ (Total Members & Guests)

- **RSVP by March 7th.**
- **No exceptions will be made after the 7th**
- No Tickets will be available at the door
- Individuals will be responsible for the cost of the reservations they place whether they attend or not.
- All reservations should be sent to:

Fax (410) 585-1470
email: waasen@gfnet.com
Attention: Mr. Will Aasen

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Guests: _____

Fax or email by: March 7, 2002, 12:00 noon

FUTURE MEETING DATES:
April 10, 2002
May 8, 2002