

# STORMWATER UPDATE

## In This Issue

- ❖ When to do an Inspection and Payment
- ❖ Correcting a SWPPP Inspection

**CSW Training  
Upcoming Dates**  
*October 25 & 26*

**KSU CIT Program**  
<http://citksu.com>

*Registration for class begins 9/15/21.  
You must complete the online portion  
before signing up for the field lab and  
test!*

**Kansas Contractors  
Association**  
<http://www.kansascontractors.org/>  
*No Classes Scheduled*

All completed inspection reports must be submitted to the responsible Area Engineer and the contractor's WPCM within 24 hours of each inspection. The Area Engineer must sign within 3 calendar days and submit to [KDOT.stormwaterinspection@ks.gov](mailto:KDOT.stormwaterinspection@ks.gov). Failure to complete and submit inspection reports on time may result in disincentive assessment.

## When to Do a SWPPP Inspection and How to Get Paid

Four years after KDHE released their new Construction Stormwater Permit you would think all CSW certified personnel (including myself) would understand how much rain is needed to trigger a SWPPP inspection. My mind is like a #40 sieve though. A lot of stuff gets through, but at least the catch pan is at the bottom. This newsletter will act as your #100 sieve reminding you when an inspection is due and what is required to get paid for that inspection. The spec book is your catch pan.



Reading from a local rain gauge. Approximately 3/4" of rain during this monitoring event. This reading stands on its own and a SWPPP inspection must be completed by the end of the next business day.

First off, the easy one. A routine inspection is due once every 14 days.

Next, when the rain gauge reads a 1/2" of rain or more an inspection must be completed by the end of the next business day.

Now the tricky one, an inspection is due when 2 consecutive rain gauge readings are less than a 1/2" alone, but when combined they total a 1/2" or more. This inspection must be completed by the end of the next business day after the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading.



A nicely mulched area.

Look at the following example,  $\frac{1}{4}$ " rain on Monday and a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " rain on Tuesday. An inspection must be completed by the end of the day on Wednesday. Simple right? Now what happens when the rain gauge reads  $\frac{1}{4}$ " on Wednesday? Tuesday's reading is combined with Wednesday's and an inspection is due on Thursday. Currently 2 inspections are required this week, one on Wednesday and one on Thursday.

Can the Thursday inspection be combined with Wednesday to help save time? It sure can. Section 901 only requires that the inspection be completed by the end of the next business day. Document on the cover of the 247 form that the inspection covers rain event inspections due on Wednesday and Thursday.

Mervin, but it rained a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " on Monday and a  $\frac{1}{2}$ " on Tuesday, do I need to combine these events to do an inspection on Wednesday? No, you do not. A  $\frac{1}{2}$ " rain stands by itself and does not combine with other events. What about a  $\frac{1}{2}$ " on Monday and a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " on Tuesday? Again, the  $\frac{1}{2}$ " stands alone and does not combine with Tuesday event resulting in an inspection being done on Tuesday. Examples like these can go on and on. If you have a specific example, please send me an email for further explanation.

Let's talk about payment. Using our initial example, if the Wednesday and Thursday inspections are combined into 1 and completed on Wednesday the contractor only gets paid for 1 inspection. But shouldn't I get paid for 2 inspections if I turn in two reports? No. Two full inspections must be done to receive two separate payments. Technically, two inspections could be performed on Wednesday, one in the morning covering Monday and Tuesday and one in the afternoon covering Tuesday and Wednesday. I have never heard of this happening and I highly discourage Area Engineers or WPCMs from allowing this to happen. What if I want to do two separate inspections? One would need to happen on Wednesday and one on Thursday. 99% of the time the Wednesday inspection would exactly match the Thursday inspection. I see this as an inefficient use of time and money, and I discourage this practice also.

Like I said above, I can't cover all scenarios here or in the Stormwater class. Please email me with any questions or comments.

## Correcting a SWPPP Inspection



Over the last several months I have noticed a lot of reports getting turned in late to the stormwater email. I worried that inspections were missing the deadlines called out in section 901. What I found out is that Area Engineers are asking for corrections on the report that the SWPPP inspectors are missing. I'm pleased, but why are SWPPP inspections not 100% complete and correct when they are turned into the Area Engineer and WPCM?

Several Area Engineers have asked me how much time should be given to correct a report. Technically no changes should need to be made to the report once received by the

These pictures are from the same location a month apart. The top left shows a properly constructed de-watering area. The contractor decided to remove it and the SWPPP inspectors decided it was not a deficiency. As an Area Engineer, I would consider this a major modification to the report.

Area Engineer and WPCM. The Inspector Certification Statement on the cover of form 247 concisely states "the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete." Modifying the report after the inspection was complete could result in disincentive assessment.

Area Engineers and WPCMs, submit the report that needs minor or major modifications as usual. For major modifications immediately schedule an additional inspection to be attended by the Area Engineer and WPCM. Use this as a learning opportunity, so everyone's expectations are understood. This opportunity only happens once per project and disincentive will be assessed for all additional reports that need modifications.



Minor modifications can be fixed on the next report. If they are not fixed disincentive will be assessed. If disincentive is not enough, non-payment and/or decertification for both the Contractor and KDOT is possible.

### Stormwater Update Online

This issue and all past issues of this quarterly bulletin are available online at KDOT's Stormwater website:  
<http://www.ksdot.org/burconsmain/Connections/swppp.asp>

Contact Mervin Lare ([mervin.lare@ks.gov](mailto:mervin.lare@ks.gov)) for questions, comments or suggestions for future content.