



Southeastern Connecticut Regional Stormwater Collaborative

The Southeastern Connecticut Regional Stormwater Collaborative (RSC) will hold its first meeting on Thursday, March 27th, 2025, at the SECOG Office (5 Connecticut Avenue, Norwich) from 8:30 – 10:00 AM.

Meeting registration is not required. However, if able, please assist SECOG staff in planning the meeting logistics by RSVP'ing at [this registration link](#).

AGENDA

- 1.) Call to Order
- 2.) Introductions
- 3.) Discussion of Stormwater Management Challenges
- 4.) Highlights of Local Success in Stormwater Management / MS4 Compliance
- 5.) Function of the Regional Stormwater Collaborative and Value Added
- 6.) Schedule of 2025 Quarterly Meetings and Next Meeting Topics
- 7.) Adjournment

If disability or language assistance is needed, contact SCCOG at 860-889-2324, office@seccog.org

Si necesita asistencia lingüística, por favor comuníquese a 860-889-2324, office@seccog.org

Rúguò nín xūyào cángzhàng huò yǔyán bāngzhù, qǐng liánxì SCCOG, diànhuà:860-889-2324, Diànzǐ



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Key Takeaways

1. The new MS4 permit is available online via [THIS LINK](#). There is an accompanying [FACT SHEET](#) that explains the changes. The main DEEP page containing these links is [HERE](#).
2. In addition to individual municipal response letters, SECOG will draft a comment letter. Please forward anything that you would like us to include by **4/17**. The DEEP Municipal Updates newsletter indicates that these are due by **4/21** to DEEP.StormwaterStaff@ct.gov
3. Links to helpful stormwater and MS4 resources hosted by UCONN CT NEMO [HERE](#).
4. We tallied responses on how SECOG staff can best support the RSC. Participants are most interested in assistance with grants, MS4 compliance, and shared equipment. The next meeting is on **6/26**, and we will build an agenda around these priorities.

SUPPORT TIERS
TOP Level
Grants Assistance w/ Compliance Shared Equipment
MID Level
Guest Speakers Stormwater Authority Nonprofits Collab
LOW Level
Legislative Tracking Deep Dives Site Visits Relationship Building
LITTLE to NONE
LID Reg. Review Newsletter

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如果需要残障或语言帮助，请联系 SECOG.

SECOG Next Steps and To-Dos

- 1.** Inquire with DEEP about setting up two training sessions:
 - a. New permittees / MS4 intro crash course (targeted toward anyone we want to provide a baseline of education on MS4, including municipal leadership/boards).
 - b. Deep dive into the new permit and changed procedures.
- 2.** In collaboration with interested partners, hold a stormwater utility workshop session.
- 3.** Engage with larger industry groups (NEIWPCC) and DEEP around larger policy questions – does the CT system allow for any regionalization in holding an MS4 permit?
- 4.** Explore [LISFF](#) grant opportunity with RSC membership (proposals due **5/29**).
- 5.** Establish a Stormwater/RSC webpage on SECOG's website to host materials.

Meeting Summary

The kickoff meeting of the Regional Stormwater Collaborative focused on MS4 compliance and general stormwater challenges, municipal success stories, and determining the greater functions of the collaborative.

General stormwater challenges discussed were lack of staff capacity, funding, guidance, and job training. Other specific issues were mentioned like narrow sampling parameters, expensive catch basin cleaning, high-cost street sweeping, and the need for updated municipal ordinances and regulations. Notably, the new MS4 Permit (currently out for public comment) was discussed.

Success stories highlighted included Stonington and Wequetequock Cove Clean Water Coalition's green infrastructure/public education grant award, the City of Groton's 5 Corners impervious surface work, and New London's stormwater utility, which collects \$1.8 million annually for maintenance and operations. The meeting emphasized the importance of updated zoning regulations, better public education/perception, and the potential benefits of establishing municipal stormwater utilities, coupled with the challenging political lift to create one. Possible future funding to the COGs for specific stormwater staffing was explored in reference to a proposed Governor's bill in the current legislative session.

SECOG staff proposed various functions to support and provide services for the RSC, including tracking grant opportunities, providing technical assistance, hosting guest speakers, and public engagement and relationship building resources. The feasibility of a regional approach to MS4 compliance was also touched upon. The group then individually ranked numerous functions for the RSC and outlined future meeting dates – June 26th is the next quarterly meeting. Lastly, a discussion was had on the upcoming deadline for commenting on the 2025 MS4 Update, which now includes two new towns in the SECOG region – Windham and Colchester. SECOG will work to prepare a regionwide statement on the new permit that reflects the sentiments of member municipalities.