



**FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

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March 12, 2014

Letter to the MS4 Permit Community:

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) has worked with the Florida Stormwater Association (FSA) Training Center's programs for stormwater operators since its inception – beginning with a 319 grant that was awarded by FDEP to FSA in 2003 to help launch the program.

FSA's pledge to FDEP has been to keep the content of its training and certification programs current and up-to-date as new developments in stormwater practices and policies occur. When new guidance for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit conditions was issued by Region 4 of the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) about three years ago, some of the changes concerned training/refresher training of stormwater personnel and FSA began to update its programs.

FSA has recently completed the revisions to the curriculum of its Level 1 and Level 2 Certified Stormwater Operator classes. We have reviewed the training materials for both classes and wanted to let you know that they meet the MS4 permit requirements for training and refresher training for appropriate stormwater management personnel (e.g. field crew, fleet maintenance staff, heavy equipment operators, inspectors, supervisors, etc.) in the following areas:

- Erosion and Sedimentation Control
- Good Housekeeping Practices
- Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination

- High Risk Facilities
- Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures

Of course, there are many other options available (including in-house programs) to comply with the new training requirements that have been added to MS4 permits.

However, we wanted to let you know that FDEP recognizes the successful completion of either FSA's Level 1 or Level 2 Certified Stormwater Operator classes as fulfilling the requirements for training and refresher training in the above areas for appropriate stormwater personnel.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Edward C. Smith". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Edward C. Smith
Program Administrator
NPDES Stormwater Program