Webinar Announcement

2026 CSWEA Stormwater and Watershed Committee Webinar:

Building Resilient Landscapes

12:00 Noon to 2:00 pm
Thursday, January 22, 2026

Please join the Central States Water Environment Association for a Webinar offering a discussion of stormwater in the Midwest focused on restoring our natural world and innovative stormwater initiatives. This Webinar series is hosted in conjunction with the Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Illinois Stormwater Committees. Advanced registration required. Up to 2.4 PDHs and 2 CEUs will be offered.

Register online by January 21 https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7492121060921612632

Fees for attendance are as follows.

Member	$30 (Discount Code: CSWEA)
Non-Member	$35
Student	$10 (Discount Code: Student)
International	$10 (Discount Code: International)

Webinar Agenda. See Pages 2 and 3 for detailed descriptions:

- 11:55am – Introduction
- 12:00 pm – The Effects of Toxic Pavement Sealers on Green Infrastructure, Receiving Streams, and Humans (Tom Ennis, SEH)
- 12:30pm – Mapping the Wabash River Floodplain: Whence This Historic Valley? (Zoe Zaloudek, Illinois State Water Survey)
- 1:00pm – Solving an Ongoing County Road Flooding Problem in Ramsey County, MN (Delaney Moberly and Jacques DuVal, SRF Consulting Group)
- 1:30pm – Cooperative Stormwater System Maintenance Approaches: A (Flow)path to Resilient Infrastructure (Leah Gifford, SRF Consulting Group)
- 2:00pm – Adjourn

A webinar link will be emailed prior to the webinar for those who register.

Direct questions to Anna Sadowski (Anna.Sadowski@strand.com) or Ashley Leisgang (ashley.leisgang@aecom.com).

Presentation Topics

The Effects of Toxic Pavement Sealers on Green Infrastructure, Receiving Streams, and Humans

Tom Ennis, SEH

This presentation will review the state of the science and regulations concerning toxic coal tar sealants in pavement products with a focus on the status in the Central States. Tom will highlight the danger of these sealants, explaining how they can expose people to harmful chemicals through skin contact and indoor dust, green infrastructure and receiving stream impacts and the increased cancer risk and negative health impacts on children. Through collective efforts including research, legislation, and public education, there have been over 100 local bans and 6 statewide bans in the U.S., protecting close to 100 million people. The presentation will also cover the nationwide ban in Canada which started in October 2025 and the recent discontinuation of the last retail sales of these toxic sealants in North America. This work demonstrates how a large group of people collaborating can bring about significant positive change in environmental health, but much work remains.

Tom is a senior project engineer with a diverse background in civil engineering, environmental management, and sustainable design. He has incorporated sustainable design principles and natural systems into a wide array of projects including highways, water and wastewater treatment plants, parks, schools, green roofs, ecosystem restoration initiatives, brownfield development projects, sustainable stormwater management practices, and site developments. As a certified trainer for the Envision sustainability rating system, Tom educates on environmental, social, and economic aspects of sustainability. He has spent decades directing, designing, and building superior infrastructure projects for both the public and private sectors. He is also the founder of Coal Tar Free America, an advocacy group focused on eliminating toxic paving products for more than a decade.

Mapping the Wabash River Floodplain: Whence This Historic Valley?

Zoe Zaloudek, Illinois State Water Survey

The Wabash River forms the southern 185 miles of the Illinois-Indiana boundary (more or less). Its floodplains on FEMA's effective Flood Insurance Rate Maps are based on a physical model that was completed in 1966. A new model made using modern methods has been in the works for years by a consortium of state and federal partners – and just like the Wabash River itself, it's complicated! This talk will describe the Wabash River valley with a focus on the GIS data that came out of the new model. Then it will explain how the different outputs apply in different spatial locations, and the geoprocessing utilized to create the final seamless floodplain layer.

Zoe Zaloudek, GISP, CFM, is a Geospatial Application Developer at the Illinois State Water Survey (ISWS). She has worked with GIS at ISWS for 20 years. Currently she works on the Coordinated Hazard Assessment and Mapping Program (CHAMP), a team that develops FEMA Flood Risk Products and works on hazard mitigation plans. Her tasks include generating a variety of spatial data and maps using ArcGIS and Python, in addition to creating web mapping applications using ArcGIS Server and the ArcGIS API for JavaScript. She earned her B.A. in Geography at the University of Illinois-Urbana in 2005, and her M.S. in Geographic Information Systems at the Johns Hopkins University in 2016.

Solving an Ongoing County Road Flooding Problem in Ramsey County, MN

Delaney Moberly and Jacques DuVal, SRF Consulting Group

May 12, 2022, was a day that created a tipping point for the intersection of Edgerton Street (County Road 59) and Centerville Road in Ramsey County, Minnesota. On the evening of May 12, significant flooding occurred after a 2-inch storm event, requiring drivers to be rescued from flooded cars. Ramsey County led a partnership with Vadnais Lakes Area Watershed Management Organization (VLAWMO), City of Vadnais Heights, and the Saint Paul Regional Water Services (SPRWS) to find a solution to eliminate flooding at this intersection. A secondary objective was to include water quality improvements where possible to provide additional protection of East Vadnais Lake and water supply for the City of Saint Paul and other eastside communities. This presentation will cover the feasibility study process, selection of a preferred alternative, development of the construction documents, and ultimately, construction of the new facility.

Jacques has 16 years of water resources engineering experience, including storm sewer design, stormwater management, and stormwater permitting. Jacques is proficient in drainage design, hydrologic design, hydraulic analysis, streambank stabilization, floodplain mitigation, wetland restoration, BMP design, and water quality analysis as well as construction plan preparation and review. Jacques has a B.S. in Civil Engineering from the University of Minnesota and holds a PE license in MN.

Delaney has 10 years of experience in Water Resources Engineering. She has experience with hydrologic and hydraulic modeling and has worked extensively on the design of storm sewer and BMPs in urban areas. Delaney has a B.S. and M.S. in Civil Engineering from the University of Minnesota and holds a PE license in MN.

Cooperative Stormwater System Maintenance Approaches: A (Flow)path to Resilient Infrastructure

Leah Gifford, SRF Consulting Group

Stormwater infrastructure is critical for climate resilience because it reduces flood risk, protects public safety and investment, encourages groundwater recharge, and improves water quality. However, without proper maintenance, flow can be disrupted and stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs) can stop working as intended and even cause damage. Forward-thinking and cooperative approaches to maintenance can enhance long-term stormwater system performance and resilience. SRF Consulting Group's EcoTeam has been supporting various clients and partners with cooperative maintenance models and cost-sharing agreements between Counties, LGUs and watershed organizations. Drawing from case studies including pooled maintenance programs, regional facility partnerships, and defined maintenance roles, we examine how responsibility for inspection, maintenance, and capital infrastructure repair helps address gaps in funding, data, and expertise. The presentation will share what we have learned during the literature reviews and expert interviews regarding this topic including approaches used by various watershed organizations, cities and counties around the country. Leah will also summarize the findings from surveys of system managers regarding the challenges they face and highlight the administrative and legal frameworks that support successful implementation, including intergovernmental agreements and equitable cost apportionment strategies.

Leah has 18 years of experience in Water Resources Engineering. She leads projects ranging from planning to final design projects, hydrologic and hydraulic modeling, infrastructure resiliency, asset management, and GIS mapping. She holds a B.S. in Civil Engineering from Southern Illinois Edwardsville and an MS of Water Resource Science from University of Minnesota. She holds a PE license in IL, MN, and WI.