

WATERSHED SCIENCE BULLETIN



Journal of the Association of Watershed & Stormwater Professionals

A program of the Center for Watershed Protection, Inc.

The *Bulletin* Fall 2012 Issue: Watershed Planning

Announcement Date: July 15, 2011

Watershed Science Bulletin (The Bulletin) is the journal of the recently launched **Association of Watershed and Stormwater Professionals** (www.awsp.org), a program of the Center for Watershed Protection. This peer-reviewed journal is published semiannually and features practical, science-based solutions to important watershed and stormwater management issues. *The Bulletin* is the first publication to directly serve the watershed management professional community. These busy professionals typically do not have access to academic research databases for the numerous disciplines that inform watershed management. The journal's mission is to synthesize both research and experience from these disciplines and transmit this valuable information to those who need it to protect and restore their watersheds. Therefore, the information provided in *The Bulletin* is vital to the continuing education of watershed management professionals.

AWSPs is currently soliciting short articles (5,000 words or less) for the Fall 2012 issue of *The Bulletin* that will feature watershed planning. Development and implementation of watershed-based plans have been a popular approach to water resources management since they were first promoted by EPA and other agencies in the late 1980s. While some plans were initially described as "dust-collectors," in time, a rapid and simple approach has been adopted by many communities conducting watershed planning, allowing more resources to be devoted to implementation of the plan recommendations. So, how well is the watershed-based approach working? How many plans have been developed and how many recommendations implemented? Have there been any recent innovations in watershed planning and implementation?

These questions have not been answered since there is no regulatory mandate for watershed planning that would motivate such tracking and because of the sheer scope of compiling this information at a national level. With this issue of *The Bulletin*, we hope to elicit some research on the current status of these plans and their effectiveness in protecting water resources, and to highlight innovative watershed-based policies, tools, funding mechanisms, or new data that can assist communities developing watershed plans. Some suggested topics are provided below.

- Innovative funding mechanisms for watershed plan implementation
- Successful incentive programs for implementation of watershed plan recommendations by residents/ businesses
- Watershed-based land use planning
- Watershed-specific policies (e.g., stormwater rules, buffer ordinances)
- State or regional summary of watershed plan data to identify trends/discrepancies, lessons learned
- Compilations and analysis of cost data for implementation of watershed plan recommendations
- Use of watershed plans to meet state or federal regulations
- Critical review of the effectiveness of watershed planning to protect water resources
- Research on barriers to watershed plan implementation
- Research on the extent of watershed planning and implementation nationally

Articles will be selected for publishing based on their quality, reflection of the mission and goals of the journal, and representation of suggested topics related to the issue. Each author will receive a complimentary copy of *The Bulletin* issue in which their article is published.

The deadline for article submission is **Friday April 6, 2012**. All selected articles will undergo a peer-review prior to final approval for publication. Important deadlines for this issue are as follows:

- April 6, 2012 – Deadline for article submission
- May 11, 2012 – Authors notified of publication decision
- May 25, 2012 – Article revisions due
- August 1, 2012 – Article proofs sent to authors for final approval
- October 2012 – Issue publication

For article submission guidelines and additional information about the *Watershed Science Bulletin*, please refer to www.awsps.org.

