
CALUMET STORMWATER COLLABORATIVE



2016 Work Group Summary Sheet

Following is a current snapshot of the 2016 work groups of the Calumet Stormwater Collaborative (CSC). The beneficial impacts of the CSC are accomplished within these active working groups, which focus on initiatives that would not occur but for the existence of this coordinated and collaborative planning effort.

Work Group: Data and Modeling

Work Group Lead(s): Mason Throneburg (CH2M)

Work Group Purpose: The Data and Modeling work group focuses on how models, tools and data can be developed, shared and applied to support the overall objectives of the CSC. This work group focuses on connections between systems (e.g., surface and sub-surface systems, community systems and regional interceptors and/or tunnel systems) that may exceed the purview of any one agency or community. The working group facilitates stormwater planning informed by its system-wide context, as well as developing a technical basis for the prioritization and selection of stormwater solutions.

Work Group 2016 Impact Statement: Facilitate access to stormwater data and feasible monitoring approaches in order to improve knowledge sharing and decision making across the region.

Initiatives:

- Produce a stormwater regional mapping viewer
- Develop a modeling extents data layer
- Create a data sharing portal
- Act as a resource for the CSC.
- Expand the gap analysis performed in early 2015 to new members of the CSC and to the other work groups.

Work Group: Education and Engagement

Work Group Lead(s): Molly Oshun (CNT), Lisa Cotner (IDNR) and Melissa Custic (The Morton Arboretum)

Work Group Purpose: Increase local capacity to address stormwater challenges in the Calumet through practical education of residents, agencies, organizations and landowners.

Work Group 2016 Impact Statement: The Education and Engagement work group will actively engage the residents, agencies, organizations and land owners of the Millennium Reserve to identify priority areas and determine effective strategies to meet stormwater and green infrastructure needs with CSC resources. We will also work with residents to raise public awareness of the challenges and opportunities for improved on-site stormwater management.

Initiatives:

- Engage 6 new community groups and/or local government officials regularly in the CSC process.
- Leverage the social media bandwidth of CSC E&E members to share success stories from the MR region and pause to celebrate through emails, written case studies, public events and/or green infrastructure fieldtrips in Calumet region.
- Increase awareness of flooding issues and solutions by engaging decision makers and community groups in meetings and workshops.
- Leverage the CSC expertise to host 4 CFM accredited workshops for public officials on key green infrastructure topics (e.g., transportation resurfacing, green infrastructure maintenance).
- Leverage the CSC expertise to host 2 workshops for public works staff on tree planting and maintenance and tree benefits regarding stormwater.
- Produce CSC “pitch” materials for different audiences to share with other work group and members (boilerplate language, PowerPoint slides for engagement, internal CSC speaker’s bureau with lists of expertise and interests to help E&E members in shaping future engagement opportunities).

Work Group: Planning and Policy

Work Group Lead(s): Danielle Gallet (MPC) and Nora Beck (CMAP)

Work Group Purpose: The Planning and Policy work group will focus on creating and implementing effective planning practices and policies that advance the integration of stormwater best management practices in the region.

Work Group 2016 Impact Statement: Develop guidance on the integration of stormwater best management practices into various community planning and project work, and explore policy avenues to advance improved stormwater management.

Initiatives:

- Develop a repository of resources on best practices and key considerations for communities on how to implement stormwater management into their community planning and capital improvement projects.
 - Review the Urban Flooding and Awareness Act report and identify possible policy recommendations to pursue.
 - Provide input to CMAP on its development of a white paper for communities in how to incorporate stormwater management into land use plans.
 - Support the piloting of UIC's participatory planning tool for green infrastructure in communities.
 - Weigh-in on the exploration research being done about the use of vacant land as a stormwater management opportunity.
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Work Group: Training and Maintenance

Work Group Lead(s): Margaret Schneemann (IISG) and Mollie Dowling (OAI)

Work Group Purpose: The Training and Maintenance work group strives to ensure long-term functionality/cost-effectiveness of and commitment to GI by aligning workforce development, training, installation & maintenance capacity with regional demand drivers.

Work Group 2016 Impact Statement: Better understand training and maintenance demand, ability to meet this demand, performance standards and policy barriers in order to identify actions necessary to build capacity for workforce training, volunteer training, and related economic development in the GI sector of the CSC regional economy. This work group will foster collaborations and partnerships to advance actions to achieve these efforts.

Initiative:

- Conduct a needs assessment/market analysis to ensure that training and workforce development efforts are a) in alignment with the Calumet coastal zone region's occupational and employment needs, b) effectively leveraging partnerships and trainings and c) in accordance with demand drivers for green infrastructure, skills gaps, design standards, municipal regulations and the regional policy environment.