

## **IDEM Report**

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**Section Chief - Wetlands and Storm Water**

**September 21, 2018**

- **Audits:** Staff continues to conduct MS4 audits of the Construction Site Run-off and Post-construction Minimum Control Measures (MCMs). These are being conducted by the Regional Stormwater Specialists. I am currently assessing the schedule for next year to determine how we will approach audits of these two MCMs as several of the staff have a considerable number of MS4s in their region and others only have a small number. There will be the possibility that I will assigning staff to complete these activities outside their assigned regions.
  
- **Transition of General Permit Rules:** Rule making is currently under way in preparation for the transition. The status of the permits are as follows:
  - **Construction Site Run-off:** The advisory group has completed their meetings. IDEM has received a non-objection letter from EPA. Next step will be to public notice the permit and take comments.
  - **MS4 Permit:** EPA has given their initial comments on the draft permit. The advisory group has met once and is scheduled to convene in early October for the second meeting.  
*Note: at this time, IDEM plans to public notice the construction and MS4 permit concurrently, but a date has not been set.*
  
  - **Industrial Stormwater Permit:** Staff is working on a draft of the industrial Stormwater permit.
  
- **Permit Renewals for MS4s and Newly Designated MS4s:** MS4 permits are in their fifth year and renewal of coverage is required. NOIs are being received and processed at this time. The addition of new MS4s are planned will require those newly designated MS4s to obtain permit coverage. A list is being finalized which will result in notification to each entity. A schedule for notification is not in place at this time.
  
- **Staffing Update:**  
Heather Parsons, Wetland Project Manager has accepted a new position within the agency and will focus on specials project activities within the Office of Water Quality. Several of these duties at this time include low head dam removal and assumption of the 404 Program. Heather covered northeast Indiana and her region is now being covered by several staff members until her vacated position can be filled.