Clear Water Alabama:
A Construction Stormwater Educational Program

AL Soil and Water Conservation Committee and Partners

NACD Urban Conservation Committee Webinar
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Clear Water AL began as Red Water Blues Days in 2004

- *Program developed to show and tell erosion and sediment control industry how to install best management practices*
- *Five field days (5 Thursdays in September)*

**Construction Exit Pad**

**Mulching w/ wheat straw**

Demonstrated BMPs on non-agricultural sites on a Variety of Site Categories each year

- residential
- commercial
- roadways
- community services land

- Steep slope and channel stabilization - *hydraulic mulches, erosion control blanket, rock rip-rap*
- Inlet protection in subdivisions and commercial sites - *various Inlet protection devices*
- Sediment control at site perimeters using *silt fence*
2008 - changed names
Red Water Blues became Clear Water AL
Program became a 2-day event:
all-day seminar followed by all-day field day

Topics included improved sediment basin technology and turbidity control from the “experts”
Dr. Al Jarrett (Penn State) & Dr. Rich McLaughlin (NC State)

Learned that gravel packs not effective in removing fine particles and reducing turbidity

Need Chemical treatment with baffles & skimmer
2009 Clear Water Alabama - Bessemer

Seminar

- Sediment basin design – Perry Oakes
- More on ESC strategies - Dr. McLaughlin
- Added low impact development (LID)

2 of 29 field sites visited during Field Day

Retaining Wall

Drill Seeding
2010 Clear Water Alabama - Auburn

Seminar provided
Sediment basins on linear projects – Ted Sherrod from NCDOT
Streambank restoration - Dr. Eve Brantley from AU
Turbidity sampling – Dr. Jim Spotts, consultant from GA

Field Day

Streambank Restoration
Turbidity Sampling
LI D
2011 Clear Water Alabama
Partnered with IECA for 3-day event at Birmingham

(IECA Roadshow)

**Seminars 2 days** + **Field Day**

- Update from EPA rep
- Research updates from Auburn University
- LID basics – NC State representative
- Turbidity control and other topics – Dr. Rich McLaughlin, NC State
- MS4 responsibilities in stormwater – Rod Long of City Engineer, City of Hoover
- Introduced place of ESC in LEED
- Project installation successes – TN, GA, AL
- Turbidity Sampling – Dr. Spotts and Beth Chesson
2011 Clear Water Alabama
2011 Partnered with IECA for 3-day event

Shades Creek Stream Restoration

Mined Land Reclamation

Field Day

LID at RR Park

Corridor X (Interstate -22)
2012 Clear Water Alabama – 2 locations
Huntsville and Spanish Fort

Seminars provided
Wetlands regulations - ArmyCOE
Turbidity sampling – Dr. Jim Spotts, John Carlton
ESC Case Studies
LID

Field Days

Joe’s Branch
Gully Stabilization

DOT & Wetlands
Vulcan Quarry
Clear Water AL Supporters Over The Years

**Industry – with Products**
Sunshine Supplies
American Excelsior
Hanes Geo
Pennington Seed Co
Silt Saver, Inc. Erosion Pros, L.L.C.
W. J. Faircloth and Son, Inc.
Applied Polymer Systems, Inc.
Thompson Engineering
Spread Rite Environmental
Twin Oaks Environmental
Southern Pipe and Supply, Inc.
Southeast Environmental Consultants
Clear Water AL Supporters over the Years

Industry w/o products: **with members, staff, funds**
- Associated General Contractors – Alabama
- Home Builders Association of Alabama
- CPESC and EnviroCert International, Inc.
- IECA – Southeast Chapter
- Alabama Power Company

Agencies and Organizations – **provide staff support**
- ADEM and ALDOT
- NRCS
- Soil and Water Conservation Society
- Auburn University and AL Cooperative Ext. System
- Local soil and water conservation districts
- Host cities
Other Related Stormwater Activities

- Handbook for Erosion Control, Sediment Control and Stormwater Management
- Field Guide for Erosion and Sediment Control on Construction Sites
- Seminars in addition to Clear Water AL
- Brochure “Let’s Look at Sediment”
Handbook for Erosion Control, Sediment Control, and Stormwater Management


Field Guide for Erosion and Sediment Control on Construction Sites

19,000+ copies

Brochure “Let’s Look at Sediment”

25,000 Copies

24 Clear Water Alabama Seminar and Field Days

33 other Seminars

25,000 Copies
SWCS Chapter spawned and nurtured the AL Statewide Erosion and Sediment Control Program

- AL Chapter SWCS developed vision plan and signed MOU with AL Soil and Water Conservation Committee in early 2001
- 16-yr. program began in September 2001
- SWCS AL Chapter provides Coordinator; AL Soil and Water Conservation Committee supervises Coordinator
- Funds Administered by SWCS AL Chapter
  - 319 grant funds 2001-2011 = $455,500
  - State funding since 2012, currently $70,000
  - Revolving funds support Clear Water AL, Handbooks, Field Guides (i.e. Sales)
Latest Accomplishment:
Coordination of Training Calendar

Soil and Water Conservation Committee
AL Clean Water Partnership
AL Chapter - Soil & Water Conservation Society
AL Department of Environmental Management
AL Department of Transportation
Auburn University and AL Cooperative Extension System
AL Association of Conservation Districts
Associated General Contractors - AL
Home Builders Association of AL
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Thompson Engineering
Weeks Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

Website for events: provided by Auburn University Erosion Control Test Facility
http://eng.auburn.edu/research/centers/auesctf/al-stormwater/upcoming-events.html
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Benefitting the environment and the citizens of Alabama

Thank you! Questions?

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