



Chagrin River Watershed Partners, Inc.

P.O. Box 229 Willoughby, Ohio 44096-0229 Phone: 440.975.3870 www.crwp.org

Comprehensive Stormwater Management Model Ordinance Adoption Process

CRWP has developed and maintains a Comprehensive Storm Water Management Model Regulation for adoption by county, village and municipal governments. The regulation:

- Includes provisions for low impact development post construction stormwater management best management practices (BMPs),
- Recommends open channels and open drainage systems,
- Incorporates Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA) approved stormwater BMPs, and
- Reflects the requirements of the Ohio EPA National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Construction General Permit (CGP) to address the requirements of the Ohio EPAs Phase II stormwater management program for municipal separate storm sewer system communities (MS4).

Steps Toward Adoption

Tailor Model Regulation to the Community: Typically the regulation adoption process is initiated by the community's engineering department or stormwater committee, but can be initiated by council, the mayor, commissioner, trustee, or planning/zoning commission. Upon request a draft regulation is provided for review with initial tailoring to the community's current procedure.

Initial Review of Regulation: The initial review and meeting will include a complete review of the regulation and address background and any questions, and typically includes staff and the planning/zoning commission.

Review by Law Director: The final draft regulation must be reviewed by the community law director or county prosecutor.

Recommend for Adoption: The regulation in its final draft is then recommended for adoption to the governing legislative body, such as city council, county commissioners, or township trustees.

Presentation to Legislative Body: A presentation on the draft regulation may be given to the legislative body.

Ongoing Implementation Support: Provide continued education to the community on the implementation of the regulation and address questions as they arise. Support ranges from answering implementation questions over the phone, providing on-site assistance, and additional plan review upon request.



More Information

Using the process outlined above, CRWP successfully assisted 23 Members with the adoption and implementation of the Comprehensive Stormwater Management from 2004-2009. These CRWP Members represents 72% of the watershed. More detailed information on the model ordinance, adoption process and supporting resources can be found on the CRWP website.



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Evaluate Existing Zoning and Building Codes for Potential Barriers to Innovative Stormwater Management

Off-Street Parking Code that Requires:

- Asphalt or concrete paving materials
- Minimum number of required parking spaces
- Oversized parking stalls and aisles

Or Does Not Allow for:

- Shared parking and land banking
- Landscaping to be used as stormwater BMPs
- Alternative parking arrangements
- Compact car parking

See *Review National Trends in Parking Requirements: CRWP Low Impact Development Land Use Planning*, on CRWP's website

Storm Water Management that Requires:

- Connection of downspouts to storm sewer
 - Curb and gutter drainage over open swale
- Or does not allow for the use of floodplain restoration, bioretention, or infiltration practices

Development Site Design Codes that Do Not Include:

- Planned Unit Developments, Conservation Developments, or Compact Development
- Riparian and wetland setbacks



Lessons Learned

- Political support of the regulation is necessary for adoption. If the support from elected officials and community staff is not present, it may indicate that more education is necessary before moving forward with adoption.
- Those tasked with implementing the regulation must be involved in the regulation review, revision and adoption. If the implementers are not comfortable with the regulation language or how it is to be carried out, additional education or implementation support is needed.
- Identify who will be available to provide technical support to the implementation staff. This can be support from within or through outside technical staff such as the local soil and water conservation district.
- Scientific justification for standards must be available. Providing the scientific background for proposed standards will strengthen the argument for adoption and provide answers to community, developer and resident questions.