



## 2015-2016 Accomplishment Summary

The Marin County Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program (MCSTOPPP) is a joint effort of the County of Marin and Marin's 11 cities and towns to protect and enhance local creeks and watersheds by preventing stormwater pollution. MCSTOPPP's creek-focused approach provides for coordination and consistency in meeting regulatory requirements and leveraging resources across the county. MCSTOPPP's key accomplishments for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 (FY 15-16) highlight the continued success of MCSTOPPP as a resource for Marin's municipalities and watersheds.

### COUNTYWIDE COORDINATION

MCSTOPPP helps Marin's municipalities meet their regulatory obligations by completing compliance tasks, developing guidance and tools, and by representing interests through local, regional and state partnerships.

#### MCSTOPPP Represents Marin's Interests

- North Bay Watershed Association (NBWA)
- Bay Area Stormwater Management Agencies Association (BASMAA)
- California Stormwater Quality Association (CASQA)

### Website and Training

MCSTOPPP maintains a website ([www.mcstoppp.org](http://www.mcstoppp.org)) to provide general public outreach materials, as well as information for specific target audiences, activities, and pollutants. The website's "[For Municipal Staff Only](#)" page provides permit compliance tools and guidance to member agencies.

MCSTOPPP also provides technical guidance, educational materials and training opportunities to construction site operators, development professionals and municipal staff to ensure delivery of consistent information throughout the county. Best Management Practice (BMP) information is available on the MCSTOPPP website, is provided to each municipality to distribute at permit/planning counters, and was mailed to 300+ Marin-based construction contractors. MCSTOPPP also invited contractors and municipal staff to a free workshop on erosion and sediment control requirements, held in November 2015. More staff and professional training accomplishments are covered below.

### Our Water, Our World Program

Our Water, Our World (OWOW) raises awareness of the connection between pesticide use and water quality and provides information to consumers at the point-of-purchase about managing pests using eco-friendly and effective products. MCSTOPPP implements the OWOW Program locally with the help of a specially trained consultant and works with regional partners to develop outreach materials and maintain the OWOW website.



In FY 15-16, MCSTOPPP partnered with 17 local nurseries and garden stores to provide seasonally appropriate materials and information, including working with store staff to answer customers' questions on eco-friendly and effective pest management. MCSTOPPP conducted 44 store visits, eight outreach events, and five staff training events reaching more than 250 individuals.

#### Eco-Friendly Pest Management Outreach in Marin

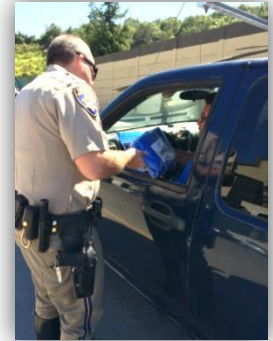
- MCSTOPPP Website ([www.mcstoppp.org](http://www.mcstoppp.org))
- OWOW Website (<http://ourwaterourworld.org>)
- Marin's Master Gardeners: MCSTOPPP provides materials for distribution at the Marin County Civic Center farmer's market

In FY 15-16 the County of Marin Board of Supervisors (BOS) authorized funding for a Pesticide Reduction Outreach Campaign. A group of community stakeholders is helping to develop the countywide campaign. MCSTOPPP is contributing to this effort that will be rolled out in spring 2017.

## Community Involvement

Through a robust public education, outreach, involvement and participation program MCSTOPPP provided the following opportunities to protect Marin creeks and learn about watersheds:

- **Protect Marin's Creeks Hands-On Workshops** – In collaboration with regulators and local partners, including Point Blue Conservation Science (PBCS) and the Marin County Resource Conservation District, MCSTOPPP held two field days to teach local residents about protecting creeks banks using native plants. The workshops also covered eco-friendly pest control products, rain gardens, and how to report illegal discharges.
- **Secured Loads Events** – Teaching drivers to secure loads prevents trash from reaching Marin's streets and creeks. MCSTOPPP partnered with Marin Clean Highways, Marin Sanitary Service, Caltrans, CHP, City of San Rafael, and local volunteers and businesses, providing tarps and educational materials at two events.
- **Wetlands Days** – Using an interactive watershed model, MCSTOPPP taught 328 students and 39 adults about creek protection, watersheds, and the storm drain system at this 2-day environmental education event at the Sewerage Agency of Southern Marin.
- **My Earth Day Marin** – In FY 15-16, MCSTOPPP collaborated with several agencies to promote 12 Earth Day volunteer service projects. Projects were posted to the *My Earth Day Marin* page on the Center for Volunteer and Non-Profit Leadership website and at least 400 volunteers removed more than 3500 gallons of trash from local watersheds. Throughout the year, creek and neighborhood cleanup events were promoted with the *My Earth Day Marin* Facebook page.
- **Students and Teachers Restoring Watersheds** – MCSTOPPP continued this successful partnership with PBCS that engages students and teachers directly in restoring creeks in their communities. Instructors weave stormwater pollution prevention education into the program.
- **Watershed Outreach** – MCSTOPPP held interactive demonstrations at ten public events to show how pollutants can reach waterways through the storm drain system.
- **Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC)** – The MCSTOPPP CAC provided review and advice to MCSTOPPP. Eight CAC members assisted with workshops and attended quarterly meetings.
- **Flood Awareness Fair** – MCSTOPPP developed and distributed fliers at a Marin County Flood Preparedness Fair on preparing homes and businesses for floods. The flier provides tips for removing hazardous materials from flood prone areas and other ways to protect waters.



## DIRECT SUPPORT FOR PHASE II PERMIT COMPLIANCE

MCSTOPPP assists each municipality in meeting specific Phase II Permit requirements, supports municipal staff, and leverages resources for countywide tools, where consistency and coordination better serve the local jurisdictions.

### Preventing Illegal Discharges

- By June 30, 2015, mapped and photographed 2,350 outfalls and uploaded geospatial data to MarinMap. In FY 15-16, MCSTOPPP inspected a subset of the outfalls considered priorities and notified municipal staff if illegal discharges were found.
- Updated the countywide list of ~350 businesses developed and uploaded to MarinMap by MCSTOPPP in 2015. To satisfy business



inspection requirements, MCSTOPPP coordinates with existing countywide inspection programs to identify stormwater issues during inspections.

### Preventing Sediment Discharges and Protecting Soil

- Developed templates to assist municipalities in communicating erosion and sediment control requirements to project applicants, and developed tools for municipalities to track plan reviews and inspections of regulated projects.



### Keeping Municipal Operations Clean

- Created detailed inventory and map of municipally owned and operated facilities via Marin Map.
- Provided municipal staff trainings and ongoing support for required municipal facility inspections.
- Developed and revised the [MCSTOPPP Municipal Field Operations and Maintenance Activities Best Management Practices Guidelines](#) manual and trained more than 100 staff at five trainings.

### Navigating Stormwater Management Requirements for Private Development

- Worked with Marin municipalities and BASMAA to gain regulatory approval of [two options for verifying ongoing operation and maintenance](#) of stormwater treatment facilities at completed development projects (e.g. bioretention facilities).
- More than 40 municipal staff and development professionals attended MCSTOPPP’s workshop on Marin’s Low Impact Development guidance, [BASMAA Post-Construction Manual: Design Guidance for Stormwater Treatment and Control for Projects in Marin, Sonoma, Napa, and Solano Counties](#), in January 2016.

### CREEK MONITORING

On behalf of all member agencies, MCSTOPPP monitored for pesticides in local creeks to meet the Year 1 *Pesticide-Related Toxicity Total Maximum Daily Load* requirements. Collaborative monitoring is more efficient because it involves fewer overall sampling locations and less coordination for field crew mobilization, and it streamlines plans and reports. This monitoring effort will also provide a more robust study to inform future pesticide management and outreach programs. MCSTOPPP reduced project costs by partnering with City of Petaluma. The [Year 1 report](#) was completed and Year 2 monitoring is underway.

**What is a Total Maximum Daily Load?**  
A TMDL is a pollution budget for a water body, such as a creek. The budget is used as a planning tool for protection activities, such as permit requirements, to restore the full beneficial uses of the water, including recreation, fishing, and habitat.

### ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING

MCSTOPPP developed a required [Program Effectiveness Assessment and Improvement Plan](#) (PEAIP) and completed the required annual PEAIP report.

- Collaborated with BASMAA partners to complete the PEAIP with funding from NBWA. The document serves all North Bay municipalities and describes the strategy used to track stormwater program effectiveness and identify necessary improvements and modifications.
- MCSTOPPP efficiently combined required effectiveness assessment and TMDL reporting into one report: [2015-2016 TMDL Implementation Status and Effectiveness Assessment Report](#). To develop this report, MCSTOPPP shared consultant planning costs with the Napa Countywide Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program.

## PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

### Trash

Through collaboration with BASMAA municipalities in Southern Sonoma County, Napa County, and the City of Benicia, and with partial funding from NBWA, MCSTOPPP is helping Marin's municipalities proactively plan for the State's new trash control requirements. The State will require each municipality to prevent trash 5mm and greater (5mm = 1 cigarette butt) from entering waterways from municipally owned storm drain systems in priority areas (i.e., industrial, commercial, high density residential and around bus stops and stations). MCSTOPPP led the effort in FY 15-16 to release a Request for Proposals, select a consultant, negotiate a scope of work, and secure NBWA funding. The project is underway in FY 16-17 and will provide essential planning and regulatory tools that will help estimate compliance costs and provide clear compliance pathways.

The expected timeline for municipal implementation of the trash control requirements is provided below.



**New trash reduction requirements will require Trash Capture Devices in high trash generating areas.**



### Stormwater Resource Planning

A new MCSTOPPP project kicking off in early 2017 is to develop a Stormwater Resource Plan (SWRP). This plan will position Marin's municipalities and partners to seek grant funding for stormwater capture and reuse projects under Proposition 1 and future state grant opportunities. The SWRP will prioritize multiple benefit projects that capture, treat, and increase stormwater infiltration and use. This project will require full participation from member agencies to identify green infrastructure and other stormwater infiltration/capture and reuse projects.

### CONTACT

For more information, refer to our web page at [www.mcstoppp.org](http://www.mcstoppp.org), or contact MCSTOPPP staff:

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