



USDA-CSREES 2006 National Water Quality Conference

[Creation of a Stormwater Management Documentary with National Partners](#)

When asked to produce a satellite conference on stormwater management from the point of view of the entire nation, the team felt inadequate and somewhat overwhelmed. Producing programs based on topics pertinent to the Pacific Northwest had been successful and well received. Could we follow up these successes with a program covering a national problem? Did we know enough about stormwater regulations to produce a coherent and worthwhile program? Were stormwater regulations similar state to state? These were but a few of the questions that plagued the minds of the program designers.

Several visits to Google sites to research stormwater management strategies, a myriad of phone calls to contacts around the country soon gave hope that this program could be tackled and achieved. Now, a plan of action began to materialize. Appreciating the diversity of stormwater problems across the nation, three distinctly different areas were chosen as case studies. Suburban and metropolitan areas were the most obvious and the easiest case studies to set up.

A colleague in North Carolina offered a short list of County Extension offices and watershed groups who were working on this challenge in his state. A watershed in the southern Appalachian Mountains was chosen because of its apparent remoteness and rural qualities that might belie the need for concern about stormwater management.

This presentation will portray that even small mountain hamlets have problems with too much stormwater, and what the citizenry can do to manage the flows that lead to floods and watershed damage.

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