The Sedimentation and Pollution Control Act (SPCA) of 1973 mandated that all land disturbing activities in North Carolina control erosion and off-site sedimentation. In North Carolina, the NC Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Land Quality Section administers this program. The SPCA also established the option for delegated authority to local governments and other State agencies, such as the NC Department of Transportation (NCDOT). The largest non-point source pollutant in NC is sediment.

NCDOT in cooperation with North Carolina State University's Departments of Biological and Agricultural Engineering and Soil Science developed a series of certification workshops. The purpose of these workshops are to improve compliance with erosion and sedimentation control/stormwater provisions on NCDOT projects and to provide comprehensive training to inspectors, project managers, contractors, and designers. This, in turn, helps protect the aquatic environment near these projects.

This training has reached over 5,000 people statewide and also some personnel from neighboring states such as South Carolina, Virginia, Georgia, Tennessee, and Kentucky. This program is targeted at four independent audiences typically performing different duties on a NCDOT project:

- Level I: Inspector/Installer
- Level II: Site Management
- Level III-A: Designer of E&SC Plans
- Level III-B: Designer of E&SC Plans for Reclamation Sites

These one day workshops include instruction on the fundamentals of rainfall/runoff, erosion processes, best management practices (BMPs), and ground covers and vegetation. Additional topics are covered that are tailored to the specific audience and their job responsibilities. Certification is obtained by passing an exam after the in-class instruction is complete.

The poster will explore each individual Level of the certification program and its impact on NCDOT operations and maintenance projects over the past four years.

Category: Conservation and Resource Management
Type of Presentation: Poster Presentation