New Publications

- Mississippi NEMO (a.k.a. Community Growth Readiness-NEMO), in partnership with the Mississippi Forestry Commission and Mississippi State University, has developed a package of educational materials designed to help communities use urban forest management plans to manage stormwater and heat effects in urban areas. The package includes a manual on developing urban forestry management plans and several related presentations. For more information or to request a copy, contact James MacLellan at james.maclellan@doq.state.ms.us.

- Texas NEMO recently released Choices for Growth, a primer on urban growth. The primer seeks to help Texas communities consider open space, smart growth principles, best management practices (BMPs) and low impact development techniques as they grow. The report has been released as the National NEMO Network Newsletter.

New NEMO Network Newsletter

- The National NEMO Network Newsletter, Volume 7, Issue 2, Summer/Fall 2005, is now available. The newsletter includes updates on NEMO initiatives, project spotlight, and news sections for additional information & articles throughout the year.

New & Noteworthy

- Relive Old Times on the List
- Welcome New NEMOids!
- Kudos and Awards
- New Publications
- NEMO: the New TV Show
- Around the Network
- New & Noteworthy

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- After the U4ia Subsides continued from pg 1 . . .
- Well, it took a while, but the U4ia has subsided. This fourth iteration of the Network’s national conference was certainly the largest, with participation from 53 existing and potential NEMOids and an equal number of NEMO partners from federal agencies and national organizations. In its wake, U4ia has left a pleasant hang-over in the form of new ideas and energy that is guiding the Network forward.

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National NEMO Network

- Version 7, Issue 2
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Charting a Course for Better Land Use

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In compiling this report, we at the Network “Hut” were delighted and impressed by all that our colleagues around the country have accomplished and the wide range of local actions that they have helped set into motion. From changes to community plans to improved land use regulations to on the ground changes, it is clear that education is working in communities across the country.

The report has been distributed far and wide within the Extension and Sea Grant networks, to our many federal and state partners, to a few folks in Congress, and all members of the Network Coordinator’s extended family over age 3. Nevertheless, there are still plenty available in the catacombs beneath the Hut’s Humble Haddam home for anyone interested.

Contact Kara Bonsack at 860-345-5227 or kara.bonsack@uconn.edu to request copies of the report.

After the U4ia Subsides

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First, U4ia has helped regional networking take hold. The Great Lakes/Midwest folks have been meeting regularly via conference call and are considering a face-to-face conflation later this year. The Northeast NEMO programs are participating in a regional Stormwater/LID Training Workshop in early November. In the South, NEMO programs are meeting at the USDA Regional Water Quality Conference to discuss bringing the NEMO message to the rural south.

Second, we are in the process of revising the National NEMO Network website to better highlight the great things NEMO programs are doing, while also bulking up and streamlining (if that is possible) the member resources section. We welcome any and all ideas you may have for improving the site, but let us know soon as the ball has already started rolling.

Third, since U4, we have been in discussions with the NOAA Coastal Services Center and Center for Watershed Protection to find new ways to bring their resources to the Network. One idea is to
The New York Sea Grant NEMO Program (NYSG NEMO) is based on Long Island, where vast aquatic resources fringe the nearly 1000 miles of Long Island coastline. Long Island Sound, the South Shore Estuary Reserve and the Peconic Estuary sustain economic, recreational, cultural and environmental resources that are integral to the quality of life for Long Islanders. However vast these resources are, the threats to them are equally great. Spreading east from New York City with a population topping 2.8 million, land use regulations on the island are carried out by over 100 independent cities, towns and villages. After decades of rapid growth, Long Islanders now face impaired surface water quality, restricted or closed bathing beaches, closed shellfish beds, reduced navigability, declining shoreline aesthetics and degraded wetlands and wildlife habitats. Not surprisingly, nonpoint source pollution, which is often identified as a primary cause.

Initiated in May 2000, NYSG NEMO started in support of two intermunicipal watershed management programs to reduce the impacts of runoff on Hempstead Harbor and Manhasset Bay. Using presentations and fact sheets adapted from CT NEMO materials, NYSG NEMO illustrated the regional context of local land use decisions. A three-tiered strategy of watershed-based planning, site design and BMPs were recommended, and several villages responded by making changes to village laws and pollution prevention practices. In 2001 when EPA Phase II stormwater regulations came on the scene, the Hempstead Harbor and Manhasset Bay Protection Committees’ municipal officials recognized NYSG NEMO’s ability to synthesize Phase II implementation with existing resource protection initiatives, and in 2001 they requested NYSG NEMO’s help again. Comprehensive in scope and applying to nearly all localities on the Island, these new regulations dovetailed nicely with existing NEMO themes. Perhaps most importantly, the New York Phase II program, like the federal program from which it originates, encourages watershed-based intermunicipal implementation.

Spinning off from these experiences, NYSG NEMO began to work with the New York Department of Environmental Conservation to assist in the development and dissemination of State-specific municipal Phase II guidance information. NYSG NEMO has also spoken at conferences, seminars and workshops at the state and local level and has provided Phase II presentations to the Suffolk County Planning Commission, the Nassau and Suffolk County Legislatures and the Long Island Regional Planning Board. NYSG NEMO was also a primary sponsor of the 2002 Long Island stormwater conference, which was endorsed by both county executives and attended by over 130 officials.

In addition to the overlap between the “classic NEMO” message and the EPA Phase II regulations, NYSG NEMO identified similar cross-initiative overlaps with the three estuary programs on Long Island. NYSG NEMO now advances a proactive watershed-based management strategy that leverages the objectives of a flexible Phase II program alongside the objectives of the Estuary programs in order to better respond to local concerns about funding, staffing, expertise and generating practical results. Specifically, NYSG NEMO demonstrated that watershed-based intermunicipal delivery of Phase II activities could extend Phase II budgets, promote consistent intermunicipal approaches to land use planning and maximize resource protection.

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NYSG NEMO is now progressing with the "Web Page" category. Link to Susan’s NEMO fact sheets in the Publications section of the National website (nemonet.uconn.edu) and the CCL site can be found in the Projects section of the CLEAR website (clear.uconn.edu).

After years of hard work and stunning academic achievement, Ohio NEMO’s Tim Lawrence has earned his PhD from The Ohio State University. The ceremony was even broadcast live over the internet, certainly due to his national reputation Dr. Lawrence has received as a result of his illustrious work as coordinator of Ohio NEMO. Seriously, Tim, congratulations!

Relive Old Times on the List

We recently discovered that UConn has been keeping an archive of the NEMO Network listserv. So if you remember seeing something on the listserv, but have long since deleted it from your inbox, you can go to the archive, look at all the postings for any particular month, search them, and even post a new message from there. The archive can be found at: listserv.uconn.edu/nemo-l.html.

Welcome New NEMOds!

Several new NEMO coordinators and staff have joined the Network over the past few months. Many of you met Steven Mikuilenca and Christy Witters of NY NEMO at NEMO U4. While Christy has since moved to Vermont, Steven continues to work with Eileen Keenan to expand NY NEMO’s work on Long Island.

Michael Dietz has joined the CT NEMO team in the unofficial position of Dr. Stormwater (officially he is an Extension Educator specializing in low impact development (LID) stormwater practices). Mike earned all of his degrees at UConn, including his recently completed PhD from the Natural Resources Management and Engineering Department.

The GA NEMO program has tapped Katie Hoover Alvaredo to take over the reigns from Lee Sutton. Katie is a Duke alumn (which we at UConn will try not to hold against her) who grew up in Virginia, and has a background in environmental management.

Kudos and Awards

The Nevada and Connecticut NEMO programs have been honored with “Outstanding Educational Materials Awards” from the Association of Natural Resource Extension Professionals (ANREP). Susan Donaldson with NV NEMO won a Silver award for her adaptation of the NEMO Fact Sheet series in the “Long Publication” category (she also copped a Gold award for her Are Invasive Weeds Ruining Your Neighborhood? publication). The CT NEMO Team received a Bronze award for the Connecticut’s Changing Landscape (CCL) website in, appropriately enough, the "Web Page" category.
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- NEMO: the New TV Show

  Minnesota’s Lakes at Risk is a brand new television program about the impacts of development on lakes and the importance of long-term investments to protect our valuable lake resources. The program talks about how increasing development, on the shoreline and in the watershed, impacts habitat and water quality. It goes on to discuss what citizens and local officials can do to restore and protect lakes. The program (which debuted October 30 on PBS’s Minnesota Channel in the Twin Cities) is based on Northland NEMO’s Linking Land Use to Lake Quality presentation.

    The Northland NEMO Program will be making DVDs of the video and distributing them to lake associations and local officials in Minnesota in early 2006. They are also happy to share with the Network. For more information or to receive a copy, contact Julie Westerlund at jwesterlund@minnehahacreek.org.

    After the U4ia Subsidies continued from pg 1...

    institute a NEMO Training Academy, that would serve as a complement/counterpoint to the more networking-focused NEMO U conference and help infuse the Network with new tools, ideas, skills and resources. Thanks to all the Coordinators who filled out our web survey on training needs. We are currently in the process of evaluating your feedback and hope to get started on some form of Network-wide training by the spring.

    Finally, we have already begun casting our sights on Cinco de NEMO (a.k.a. NEMO U5), coming to a location near you in the fall of 2006. Look for a “Save the Date” announcement soon!

    Don’t forget to check out the NEMO and National Network websites’ News sections for additional information & articles throughout the year.

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    The first Network progress report, issued in 2003, focused on how the various NEMO programs developed, how they were structured and what they had begun to accomplish.

    Now that the Network and many of its programs have been around for a few years, those accomplishments have grown into what we feel is a truly impressive body of work. Therefore, this report focuses on “impacts”—the local actions that have been catalyzed, initiated, supported by or in some other way set into motion by NEMO programs.

    In compiling this report, we at the Network “Hub” were delighted and impressed by all that our colleagues around the country have accomplished and the wide range of local actions that they have helped set into motion. From changes to community plans to improved land use regulations to on the ground changes, it is clear that education is working in communities across the country.

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