



2008 Annual Report

Stormwater Management in the South Metro Area

The Southeast Metro Stormwater Authority (SEMSWA) is an independent governmental entity formed by an Intergovernmental Agreement among two local governments and three special districts to provide stormwater management for the south metro area. SEMSWA charges a stormwater management fee for individual and business property owners based on the amount of impervious surface (rooftops, driveways, and parking lots) on each property. The formation of SEMSWA provides necessary funds to help protect people and property from flooding, and to protect water quality. SEMSWA has six program areas providing stormwater management services, and the 2008 accomplishments are highlighted in this Annual Report excerpt. For a complete 2008 Annual Report, see the website or contact SEMSWA @ 303-858-8844.



Maintenance Program...

The Maintenance Program is responsible for maintaining culverts, pipes and other stormwater Infrastructure to effectively convey stormwater to the major drainageway. During 2008, **330** tons of trash and debris, and **over 9,000** tons of sediment, were removed from stormwater infrastructure, including pipes, inlets, ponds, drainageway channels, and culverts during maintenance activities and taken to the landfill.

During 2008, over **1,800** storm grates, **145** manholes, almost **500** vaults, and over **1,800** feet of storm sewer pipe were cleaned and flushed. In addition, **125,000** feet of storm sewer lines were inspected, **3,500** lineal feet of channel ditches were reconstructed, and over **350** lineal feet of storm pipe were replaced or rehabbed. Also during 2008, **27** detention ponds were maintained by SEMSWA.



The goal of SEMSWA's Water Quality Program is to reduce the amount of pollutants in stormwater runoff entering streams, lakes and rivers from residential, commercial, and industrial areas. SEMSWA implements stormwater management best management practices (BMPs) to reduce pollutant discharges into our valuable waterways to the maximum extent possible. The following are highlights of the water quality program activities conducted during 2008:

- More than **20** education and outreach events, including booths at public events, judging at science fairs, inlet labeling, volunteer cleanup and planting events, and teacher training
- **4** Eagle Scout projects, including storm sewer inlet labeling and drainageway restorations
- More than **10** school and teacher education and training events
- **16** events enabling participants to 'get to know their watershed' & expand stewardship efforts
- **12** Colorado Community Newspaper 1/2-page water quality messages
- Over **150** active construction sites in SEMSWA Service Area
- Over **2,000** inspections performed by Water Quality Program staff
- Enforcement actions include **34** follow-up Re-inspection Fees, **2** Warning Letters, **2** Pre-Notice of Violation (NOV) Warnings, **1** NOV Stop Work Order
- Over **25** Permanent Water Quality BMPs annually inspected
- **51** potential improper discharge concerns investigated
- **520** residential curb-side collections for recycling by Curbside, Inc.
- **42,000** pounds of waste collected during curb-side collections



Water Quality Program...

Floodplain Program...

During 2008, SEMSWA participated in acquiring 2-foot contour topography from Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) data that greatly increases the resolution for floodplain mapping applications. Also an important project in 2008 was the initial review of the new digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps (DFIRMS) from FEMA. DFIRMS are a critical component of floodplain management, assisting the evaluation of the impact of development on the floodplain. FEMA grants the citizens and businesses in SEMSWA's Service Area access to affordable flood insurance as long as SEMSWA manages the floodplain, and the DFIRMS are a valuable tool. An estimated 107 properties in the SEMSWA Service Area have a floodplain insurance policy, 59 in the City and 48 in the County.

2008 Floodplain Program statistics:

- 57 floodplain inquiries from the public/Building staff
- 31 Floodplain Permits reviewed/approved
- 3 floodplain modeling studies reviewed
- 4 Map Revisions reviewed

Master Planning Program...

During 2008, the Dutch, Lilley, & Coon Creeks and 3-Lakes Tributary Phase B Major Drainageway Planning study and Murphy Creek Outfall Systems Plan (OSP) were completed, and five extensive master plans were started, to be completed in 2009, including:

- Lower Cottonwood Creek OSP
- Lone Tree, Windmill, and Dove Creek Major Drainageway Plan & Flood Hazard Area Delineation (FHAD)
- Willow & Little Dry creeks and Greenwood Gulch Major Drainageway Plan & FHAD
- First Creek Gulch Major Drainageway Plan & FHAD
- East Toll Gate Gulch Major Drainageway Plan & FHAD

The Land Development

Land Development Program...

Program staff continued the coordination of land development with the City and County to meet objectives of comprehensive, efficient, and effective stormwater management. During 2008, development referrals included 51 County referrals and 62 City referrals. Also during 2008, SEMSWA staff reviewed 3 City capital projects, 5 County capital projects, and 18 SEMSWA capital/maintenance infrastructure projects.

SEMSWA Capital Improvement Program...

