

Applicants are now able to check the status of plans being reviewed by DOEE and submit supporting documentation online.

The public uses the database to:

- Submit compliance calculations and other information to support an application for DOEE approval of a Stormwater Management Plan, Erosion and Sediment Control plan, or Green Area Ratio plan
- Comply with an off-site retention obligation by applying to use SRCs or notifying DOEE of an in-lieu fee payment
- Apply to certify, transfer, or retire SRCs
- View the SRC registry
- Apply for a RiverSmart Rewards discount on the District's impervious surface-based fees

After completing applications, public users submit them electronically to DOEE. The database notifies DOEE of new applications. Staff review and make a decision to approve or disapprove each application and the database notifies public users of DOEE's decision.

More information about the Stormwater Database can be found at: <http://DOEE.dc.gov/swdb>

FY 2016 Goals: DOEE will continue to migrate historic data into the database. Updates about the operation and implementation of the BMP tracking database will be included in future Annual Reports.

4.1.3 Off-Site Mitigation and/or Fee-in-Lieu

The 2013 Stormwater Rule provides regulated sites with flexible options for meeting regulatory requirements. Under the rule, each major regulated project faces a stormwater retention volume (SWRv) based on either the 0.8 or 1.2 inch storm. A regulated site may meet a portion of its SWRv through Stormwater Retention Credits (SRCs) that are purchased in a private market or through payment of in-lieu fee (ILF) to the District Government. Program details are contained in Section 527 and Sections 530 through 534 of the 2013 Stormwater Rule and Chapters 6 and 7 of the 2013 Stormwater Management Guidebook. The regulations and trading program meet the requirements of Section 4.1.3 of the MS4 Permit.

Several factors affected development of the SRC trading program in FY 2015. First, transition period 2A for major land disturbing activities ended on January 15th and transition period 2B for major substantial improvement activities ended on July 14th. During these transition periods, regulated sites could achieve their entire SWRv offsite with SRCs or through payment of ILF. Once the periods ended, sites had to achieve half of their SWRv onsite before becoming eligible to meet the remainder offsite. This change affects regulated sites' decisions about whether to meet their retention volume onsite or offsite.

Further, the Stormwater Database made more information available to potential SRC market participants, allowing them to make better decisions about whether SRCs provide them with a good compliance option. In particular, new reports on SRCs for Sale, Expected SRCs, and the prices of completed trades, help potential market participants to understand the availability of SRCs and the potential costs of SRC purchases.

Finally, as the first full fiscal year with retention requirements in place and applicable to all regulated sites, FY 2015 resulted in larger numbers of engineers and developers becoming aware of the stormwater rule. DOEE's efforts at training, providing outreach materials, and support during plan review processes further helped to make the regulated community aware of retention requirements under the new rule.

These factors contributed to the growth of the SRC trading program in FY 2015. This year, DOEE certified SRC from five sites, which is an increase from one site in FY2014. Further, in FY 2015, a site paid ILF to meet its retention requirement and a second transfer of SRCs occurred (one had also occurred in FY2014).

The Registry, as well as other analyses and information on the SRC trading program, are available at <http://DOEE.dc.gov/src>.

FY 2016 Goals: DOEE expects SRC trades to increase throughout FY2016. In addition, DOEE plans to stimulate transactions through several projects. For example, a purchase guarantee program will provide some sellers with a guaranteed price for their SRCs in order to stimulate supply and then demand. DOEE also continues to provide trainings, assist participants with their SRC applications, and will publish reports on the status of the program and other issues in FY 2016.

4.1.4 Green Landscaping Incentives Program

The District is using a series of stormwater incentive programs to help single-family residents and commercial properties, multi-family residences, schools and churches plan and implement stormwater retrofit projects and increase planted areas. The GAR and DOEE's RiverSmart programs fulfill the requirements of section 4.1.4. RiverSmart programs are fully funded from local sources, Enterprise Fund or Anacostia Clean Up and Protection Fund. Additional information about DOEE's incentive programs can be found at: <http://DOEE.dc.gov/riversmart>