

## GCSA Goals:

- Provide employee training on a variety of topics, including technical data, resources, regulatory issues, and permit compliance.
- Assist members with preparation and updating of stormwater maps.
- Prepare area-wide and local maps of and technical data about 303(d) impaired waterbodies within GCSA areas.
- Provide time-sensitive updates on topical issues of concern via newsletters and bulletins.
- Support local city councils and county commissions with timely information about the regulatory stormwater program and GCSA.
- Provide regional public education assistance, including GCSA web-site, brochures, logo items, and outreach to professional organizations.
- Perform regional water quality sampling programs and TMDL studies.
- Host regional workshops on LID and other stormwater topics.

## Additional Resources:

Visit the Green Country Stormwater Alliance website listed below for more details about stormwater protection, including pollutant best management practices (BMPs), recycling and reuse, and more.



**Green Country Stormwater Alliance**  
[www.stormwaterok.net](http://www.stormwaterok.net)

## Contact Information:

*For local information*, contact your city or county stormwater coordinator.

*For more information about the stormwater regulatory program*, contact the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ) Water Quality Division at 405-702-8100, or visit the ODEQ web site at:  
[www.deq.state.ok.us/WQDnew/stormwater/index.html](http://www.deq.state.ok.us/WQDnew/stormwater/index.html)

*For questions about INCOG's GCSA program*, its membership, resources for controlling local pollution, and public education, contact INCOG's Environmental and Engineering Services Division at (918) 584-7526.

*For general information about water quality* within the INCOG area, visit the Environmental & Energy Planning page at [www.incog.org](http://www.incog.org).

# Green Country Stormwater Alliance



## GCSA





## A Closer Look at INCOG's:

# Green Country Stormwater Alliance



### History - Who We Are

In 1998, EPA proposed new stormwater permit regulations that would require permits on stormwater discharges from thousands of cities and counties across the nation. Most of these new permittees had populations under 20,000.

INCOG's member cities and counties listed in these draft EPA "Phase II" regulations requested help from INCOG in understanding these new EPA mandates and to look for possible assistance from INCOG in meeting these new requirements.



From the time the Phase II regulations were finalized in December 1999, INCOG had obtained several grants to develop a suite of activities to assist its membership. Eventually additional permitted cities joined in what became the Green Country Stormwater Alliance (GCSA).



Now that grant funding is gone, INCOG's GCSA program is self-sustaining by modest local dues. As of FY2011, GCSA has 20 of the 44 Phase II stormwater permittees in Oklahoma as members.

### INCOG Services to GCSA

From 1999 to 2005, INCOG developed strategies and resources to help Phase II stormwater permittees obtain permit coverage, define their program activities and requirements, and jump-start their public education programs.

Since 2005, INCOG has turned towards more technically difficult tasks of developing employee education programs and supporting GCSA members with resources and information on a multitude of policy and regulatory issues relating to permit compliance. INCOG continues to conduct water quality studies in its service area that directly benefits its Phase II members and other GCSA members:

- Mapping and Data Services
- Water Quality Sampling & Issues
- Stormwater Management Plan Template
- Annual Report Template & Issues
- Program Audits by ODEQ
- Employee Training
- Researching Technical & Regulatory Issues
- Hosting Workshops & Conferences
- Representing GCSA on State Work Groups
- General Permit Revision Committees
- Regional Public Education Programs

### Why GCSA Is Important

- Frequent changes in **EPA policies and regulations** and in State General Permits require constant vigilance.
- New **technically difficult initiatives**, such as Low Impact Development (LID) or BMP Effectiveness Monitoring, must be implemented by permittees.
- **Regional programs** such as Employee Training and Public Education are cost-effective and more efficient.
- **Technical resources** are not usually available for smaller cities, such as water quality chemistry and biology, how to perform sampling, exposures to hazardous chemicals, and environmental rules.
- **Changes in city staff and Councils** require refreshing of knowledge about the stormwater program.

This brochure describes the many benefits that GCSA Members have enjoyed by banding together as GCSA, sharing resources, finding common ground, and having comprehensive technical assistance from INCOG. Contact INCOG for more information about GCSA services.