

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 1 • JANUARY 2024

The CW Tea



Quarterly Environmental Compliance and Training Newsletter
from CWT Training Academy

Spilling the Tea with CWT - 2023 Year in Review

2023 was a rollercoaster of a second year for the Academy. We have grown in staff and affiliates, and have expanded our topics, geographies, services. In 2023 alone we had over 1,500 new enrollments for courses, created over a dozen new portals, and have expanded the capability of the Educational Reporting System (ERS). We released the PSCICTM certification and a popular new progressive learning model. Our crew has been busy capturing and creating entity-specific content for clients for internal or external trainings.

We are really looking forward to Academy developments in 2024, when much of our industrial stormwater, leadership, career growth, safety, and environmental water treatment content will be released. The two most exciting things that are right around the corner are the improvements to our website and the opportunity for master certifications. We have taken the comments and feedback from our Learners to: make the content more searchable and the enrollment process more streamlined; include more features such as a Resource Library, and; provide more tracking and reporting features. Our master certification program will be topic or geography specific so that a Learner can have multiple certifications in multiple states or disciplines as needed.

The PUDLE Gear family is getting an overhaul as well in early 2024. New artwork will be available, including the Stormwater Defender villains. See page 7 for a sneak peek at the Degradars!

We are going to attending several events in 2024 to introduce people to our educational programs and service support - check out page 8 to see where we'll be - we hope to meet you and get to know you in the coming year.

Happy Holidays, and a Happy New Year to you and yours!

Nathan Hardebeck, Owner of CWT and CWT Training Academy

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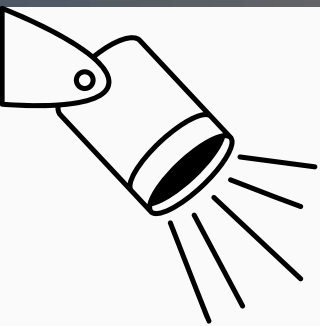
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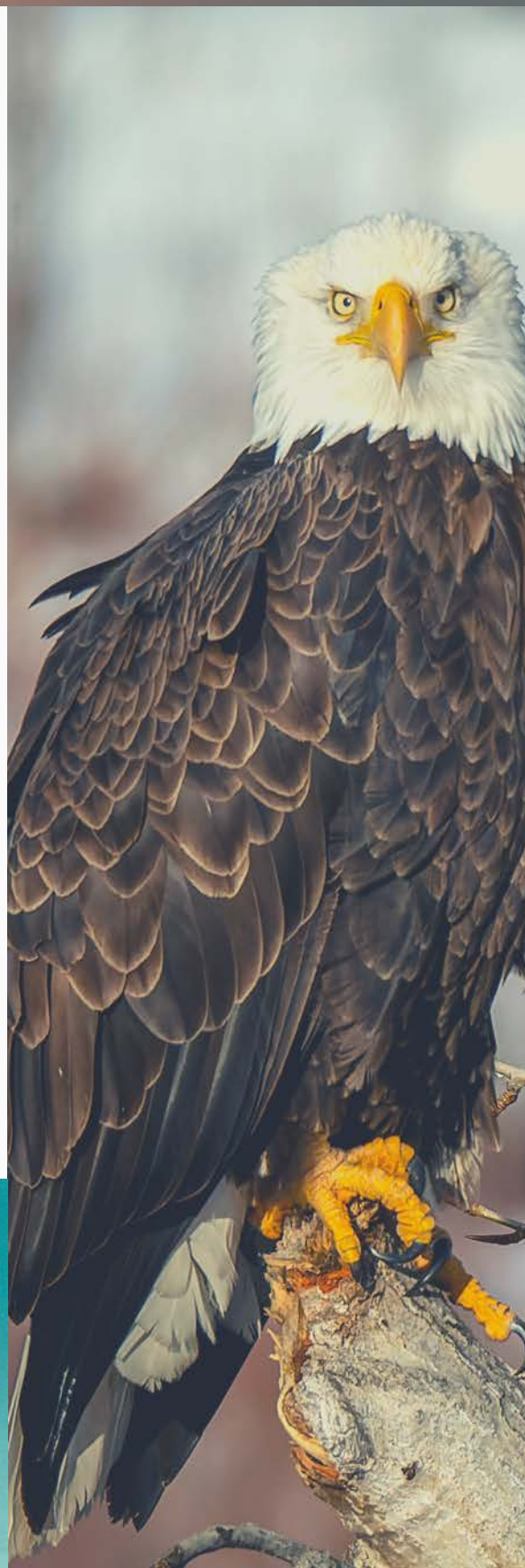




POLICY DRIVER SPOTLIGHT ON: The Endangered Species Act (ESA)

The federal Endangered Species Act (ESA), which names threatened and endangered species in the United States, turned **50 years old in 2023!** When the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) added wolverines to the list in November it brought the total listed animals to 724 (another 939 plants are also listed). It is one of the most far-reaching and influential pieces of environmental legislation ever passed in this country, and the impacts of the ESA continue to drive policy today. There have been roughly 600 proposed changes to try to reduce the reach of the ESA that have not passed to date; however, additional pieces of legislation are continuously being brought forward hoping to dismantle or undermine this important Act.

Since it was signed by President Richard Nixon in Dec. 28, 1973, the Endangered Species Act has included 1,663 animals and plants, of which about 100 have gone extinct and 54 have been de-listed due to recovery and/or reintroduction. **In the past 50 years the ESA has helped keep numerous species from disappearing forever!**





National Regulation and Policy Updates

Changes to Washington State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Regulations

Numerous Revisions to Washington SEPA Regulations Passed within House and Senate Bills in 2023

During the 2023 Legislative session, several bills were enacted related to the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), including HB1181, SB5412, HB110, HB1216, HB1173, HB5165, HB1042, and HB1337.

Included are revisions to regulations governing climate change and land use planning, infill housing, middle housing, accessory dwelling units, existing buildings, clean energy projects, transmission projects, and light pollution. These changes may have significant ramifications for both private and public developers as well as consultants, permit writers, and others managing SEPA projects. CWT Academy will be releasing a training on these changes and what they may mean for your projects in early 2024.

[Read the full overview of SEPA changes here.](#)

States Move to Outlaw Synthetic Landscaping

Artificial turfs and other similar products have become popular across the country for their ease of maintenance and reduction of water usage during periods of drought or water restrictions; however, these products contain a myriad of potential stormwater pollutants that enter our environment when the materials degrade over time and through use and wear. These include microplastics, PFAS 'forever chemicals', and tire breakdown materials. Some states are beginning to take action against synthetic landscaping products, including California, where Governor Newsom [recently signed into law](#) legislation that allows local governments to choose to ban these products within their jurisdictions. Other states may follow suit as these pollutants gain more attention with the public and lawmakers.

Attempts to Ban Artificial Turf Products



Need to Satisfy your Education and Outreach Requirements? PUDLE Gear Customs Can Help!

Sometimes, wearing your mission on your sleeve is the way to reach your community! Our mission is: improving water quality, raising awareness and promoting environmental stewardship through outreach and education (O&E) materials, services and apparel. We know many of you have various O&E requirements through your environmental permits - have you ever thought about creating a custom merchandise line for your staff, your colleagues, or your constituents? PUDLE Gear Customs can help you design an effective outreach campaign while also outfitting your crew and the public!

Whether you want communications for a special outreach event, or you want to promote water quality awareness and education through apparel on the job - PUDLE Gear Customs has a variety of options for you to choose from.

Want Customized PUDLE Gear?

We can create apparel, posters, BMP guides and other communications with your logo, add unique slogans or artwork to your purchased apparel, design your own storm drain artwork with a marker or painted mural.

Check out www.pudlegearcustom.com and reach out to us with your ideas!





Feedback from our new PSCIC Certification!

Last quarter, CWT Academy launched the new **P**rofessional **S**ource **C**ontrol **I**nspector **C**ertification (**PSCIC**), which prepares an inspector for being able to identify tools and practices in fulfilling a municipal Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE) or Source Control Program, be able to identify pollution-generating sources across different activities, and determine appropriate follow up actions and BMP solutions for different types of practices. We've received some amazing feedback thus far!

“As a municipal employee who has been working with Surface Water for nearly 25 years, it is always hard to invest time in another training. But when you do and find a gem it is always exciting. I have taken many classes thru vendors across the state and usually find myself bored and just counting down the moments till it is over. Now fast forward to CWT training I always find myself interested in the ability for Nathan to be so interactive and each module building upon the next. He has a way of making even the most boring career development education interesting for me to stay engaged. Thru the modules there is always some new tools or content to help even a long time Surface Water employee take a little away or gain some new tools for their tool box. The most recent training I have gone thru is the PSCIC and it hits every one of these bullets. Thank you again Nathan and the CWT team for your dedication to water quality and the education of the professionals that are out there daily doing what they love.”

~Kirkland Public Works Employee



Whether performing inspections on private property or of municipal operations, a PSCIC on your team will need the proper tools, reporting and approach to achieve and demonstrate change in an IDDE or Source Control program.

[Check out more and register for PSCIC here!](#)

“The use of videos demonstrating real source control issues was highly beneficial. These examples provided great insight into the types of situations you might encounter, and how to handle such situations, bridging the gap between theory and practice.”

**BRANDON BOYD,
WASHINGTON STORMWATER CENTER**



A Course for Everyone!

Check out the list of our current and upcoming courses; we are always developing new content and are growing this list every day!

State	Course Title	Course #
Any State	Professional Source Control Inspector Certification (PSCIC)	WUS0115
Idaho	IPDES Construction Stormwater Inspector Certification (ICSI)	WID0100
Montana	SWPPP Administrator and Preparer Certification	WMT0100
Oregon	State CESCL Full Certification	WOR0100
Oregon	State CESCL Re-Certification	WOR0101
Oregon	1200Z Certified Industrial Stormwater Lead (CISL)-OR**	WOR0106
Washington	State CESCL Full Certification	WWA0100
Washington	State CESCL Re-Certification	WWA0101
Washington	ISGP Certified Industrial Stormwater Lead (CISL)-WA **	WWA0105
State	Course Title	Course #
Any State	Environmental Water Treatment (EWT) Overview	WUN0109
Any State	Source Control Program Overview	WUS0103
Any State	STORM-E School Bundle	WUS0111
Any State	Fundamentals of Industrial Stormwater Management **	WUS0114
State	Course Title	Course #
Idaho	IDR1000 Permit Overview	WID0101
Montana	MPDES MTR100000 Permit Overview	WMT0101
Oregon	1200Z Permit Overview *NEW*	WOR0107
Washington	ISGP Permit Overview *NEW*	WWA0106
Any State	Erosion and Sediment Control BMPs - Bundle	WUN0100
Any State	Perimeter Controls for Construction Activity	WUN0101
Any State	Covering Controls for Construction Activity	WUN0102
Any State	Conveyance and Final Stabilization BMPs for Construction	WUN0103
Any State	Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE) Overview	WUS0101
Any State	Spill Control and Response	WUS0102
Any State	Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Program	WUS0106
Any State	Stormwater Regulations Overview	WUS0107
Any State	Introduction to Stormwater Plan	WUS0109
Any State	IDDE/Spill Control Bundle	WUS0112
Any State	Clean Water Act Lawsuits	WUS0113
Any State	Public Education and Outreach **	WUS0104
**Course is in development and will be available soon		



CWTACADEMY.COM
INFO@CWTACADEMY.COM



Interested in Teaching or Training?

CWT Academy is seeking new instructors for current and prospective certifications, trainings, and workshops, both virtual and live, across the country. If you are a subject matter expert in water management, environmental, or safety-related topics, please reach out to us using the contact info or QR code above!



**DEFENDERS
DIGEST**
Fun and Games

Introducing the **Degraders:** **STORMWATER VILLIANS!**

Earlier this year you met the Stormwater Defenders, including a special spotlight on Super Sampler! Now, get a sneak peek at the villains working to pollute our stormwater and degrade our environment. **The Defenders vs the Degraders: Stormwater Showdown!**

The Eroder

Scattershot

Ion-X



Baron

Tox-ick



CWT Training Academy **In the Wild**



Mid-Willamette Stormwater Outreach Group Erosion Control and Stormwater Management Summit

Virtual!



Oregon Concrete & Aggregate Producers Association (OCAPA) 1200A Permit Overview Meeting

Salem, OR



International Erosion Control Association (IECA) Annual Conference and Expo

Spokane, WA



Northwest Environmental Business Council (NEBC) Managing Stormwater in Washington Annual Conference

Tacoma, WA

Come See the Academy!

CWT Academy staff will be presenting, exhibiting, and/or attending several conferences around the Pacific Northwest. If you'll be there too, please reach out and say hello! We're excited to talk about the Academy's trainings, courses, and certifications for **Safety**, **Water**, and **Environmental** topics in both **live and virtual** formats.



Attending an event and want to chat in person? Reach out to us!

info@cwtacademy.com
www.cwtacademy.com



UPCOMING EVENTS

Trainings, conferences, fun, and other happenings to keep you in the know

In-person Events



- [Cleantech Forum North America](#) - January 22-24, San Diego, CA
- [WWETT Water and Wastewater Expo](#) - January 24-26, Indianapolis, IN
- [Clean Fuels Conference](#) - February 5-8, Fort Worth, TX
- [Rural Water of Washington Conference](#) - February 6-8, Centralia, WA
- [WEF/AWWA Utility Management Conference](#) - February 13-16, Portland, OR
- [Energy, Utility, Environment Conference \(EUEC\)](#) - February 13-15, Irving, TX
- [IECA Annual Conference & Expo](#) - February 25-28, Spokane, WA
- [American Liquid Natural Gas Forum](#) - February 26-27, Houston, TX
- [Water REuse Symposium](#) - March 11-14, Denver, CO
- [NACWA Clean Water Week](#) - April 7-13, Washington, DC
- [Center for Watershed Protection Conference](#) - April 8-11, Kansas City, MO
- [WEF Collection Systems & Stormwater Conference](#) - April 9-12, Harford, CT
- [Design-Build for Water/Wastewater Conference](#) - April 15-17, Cincinnati, OH
- [AWWA Pacific Northwest Chapter Conference](#) - May 1-3, Spokane, WA
- [NEBC Northwest Remediation Conference](#) - May 2, Tacoma, WA
- [NAEP Annual Conference and Training](#) - May 5-8, Minneapolis, MN
- [Ohio Stormwater Conference](#) - May 8-10, Sandusky, OH
- [Choose Clean Water Coalition Conference](#) - May 20-22, Ellicott City, MD

Virtual Events



- [Intersection of Green and Gray Stormwater Infrastructure: Hybrid Solutions Improve Water Quality and Reduce Flooding](#) - January 19
- [AWWA Artificial Intelligence Series Part 1: AI/ML Applications & Implementations in the Water Sector](#) - February 7
- [USEPA Webinar: PFAS Treatment Using In Situ Groundwater Remediation Techniques](#) - February 28
- [AWWA AI Series Part 2: Safeguarding Tomorrow](#) - April 3
- [AWWA AI Series Part 3: Intelligent Water Systems](#) - June 5

