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Dear Mary,

Message from the President:

In this issue we have another article about the new Wisconsin DNR guidance that can affect our projects. Recently more proposed guidance documents have been released for comment. One pertains to timelines for performance and review of wetland delineations. We talked about this in our last issue and we will continue to monitor it.

If passed, the new guideline would not allow for delineations or concurrences on wetlands to be made outside the growing season. The other more recent guidance relates to review of wetland on dormant development sites. This is in regards to development projects that began prior to the crash of the housing market and were left dormant for a period of time. Many of these sites can develop wetlands due to their unfinished status. This one is of particular interest to us, since we are involved in several projects that can benefit from this guidance. I have provided input to DNR on this proposed guidance and will continue to monitor it for you.

As always, we thank you for your business and we hope that you find our newsletter informative.

John R. Davel, P.E.
President

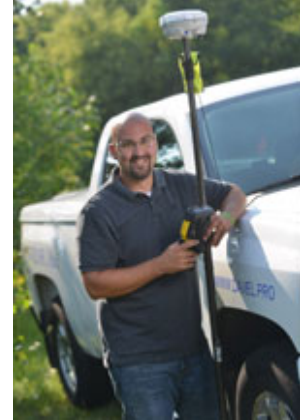
Congratulations -Tyler Thiry!

Congratulations to employee Tyler Thiry on becoming a Professional Land Surveyor!

Tyler joined Davel Engineering in June 2013 and has been an invaluable asset to our team. He is a 2010 graduate of Michigan Technological University with a Bachelor of Science degree in

Surveying Engineering. Tyler worked at Mi-Tech Services, Inc. from February 2011 to May 2013 based out of the Madison office. He is also a member of the Northeast Chapter of the Wisconsin Society of Land Surveyors.

Tyler's job is to collect accurate and reliable field data to be used in the creation of construction plans, subdivision plans, and site plans using GPS technology and robotic surveying equipment. Tyler said, "he enjoys seeing a project transform from field to finish as well as personally working with contractors on-site to make sure they have the information needed for construction in a timely manner. "



The next time you see Tyler on a job site or project, please congratulate him on his latest achievement.

Wetland Protective Areas/Setbacks

By Travis Stuck, B.S. Resource Mgt., PWS

In April 2015, The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) - Bureau of Watershed Management Program released Guidance for the Establishment of Protective Areas for Wetlands in Runoff Management Rules pertaining to Wisconsin Administrative Code NR 151. This guidance was intended to provide clarity for DNR staff and external partners in determining wetland protective areas (setbacks).

Specifically the guidance was developed to clarify requirements of ss NR 151.125 and 151.245, Wis. Adm. Code as it pertains to wetland protective areas. These protective areas (setbacks) are intended to minimize sensitive areas such as streams and wetlands from runoff. Generally these protective areas are setbacks to impervious surfaces that drain toward the resource.

There are three different protective area widths depending on susceptibility. The three types and separation distances to wetlands are:

Highly Susceptible: 75 feet (diverse plant communities, dominated by native plants)

Neither Highly or Less Susceptible: 50 feet (Not "highly" or "Less" susceptible)

Less Susceptible: 10-30 feet (communities making up of 90% or greater absolute vegetative cover of invasive species)

Generally speaking, the three different categories are a function of the plant community type and not directly related to functional value; though the wetlands with the larger setback do have more wetland functions and higher relative values.



The appropriate protective area width will be determined by the existing plant communities as determined in a Routine Wetland Delineation Report or with a supplement such as a "Plant Community Description Report". These protective areas must be determined according to field collected data by an acceptable scientific methodology such as the estimated percent cover routinely used in routine wetland delineations. There may be occasions where the information included in a Routine Wetland Delineation Report is not sufficient for the detail that would be needed for multiple protective area widths, especially on a site with diverse vegetative community types. In this case a supplement to the Routine Wetland Delineation Report such as a "Plant Community Description Report" may be needed.

Stormwater treatment facilities and management practices such as wet ponds, filter strips, and swales, constructed and maintained for conveyance or treatment purposes are not subject to protective area performance standards in NR 151. These specific practices may be located within the protective area. Those same protective area performance standards may not apply to an "artificial" wetland if the DNR makes an official determination that wetland is exempt per NR 103.06(4).

I hope this important news update is relevant to your business. If you'd like to learn more information about our firm or services, please give me a call at 920-560-6563, or visit our website at www.davel.pro.

Sincerely,

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