

# Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on State Wetland Programs and Early Adaptations: Site Inspections and Other Modifications

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**ASWM Hot Topics Webinar** 

June 10, 2020

## **Overview**

- Status in Missouri
- Site Inspections
  - Missouri's Policy
  - Alternatives
  - Mitigation Milestones
- Travel & Budget
- Training
- Advice
- Questions





## Status in Missouri



- Working from home & transition
  - Central & regional offices (7)
  - §401 Staff (3, ~2 FTE)
- Personalities
- Offices re-opened May 1
  - Public by appointment only
- §401 Workload
  - High Medium High
- New processes
  - SharePoint
  - Trello
  - WebEx Teams
- Mapping
  - DHSS
  - Show Me Strong Recovery Plan



# Site Inspections: Missouri's Policy

- On hold from March 18 to May 1
- New policy & Field Work Guidance
- Disinfection kits
- One person per vehicle
  - Clean vehicle before and after
  - Not used for 3 days after inspection
  - Designate certain staff per vehicle
- No overnights
  - or if absolutely necessary, upper mgmt. approval
- Encouraged to bring own lunch





## Site Inspections: Alternatives

- Virtual meetings
  - One agency person leads
  - Project sponsor leads
- Visuals
  - Photos
  - Video
  - Drone











Webex Teams
Continuous teamwork in one place.



## Site Inspections: Mitigation Milestones



- Pre-approval visits
  - Development of new sites
  - Verify as-builts
- Compliance visits
  - Annual report verifications or concerns
  - Mitigation bank or ILF site credit releases



## **Travel & Budget**

- Governor withholding spending
- No out-of-state travel
- Limited in-state travel
- No new equipment
- Alternative suppliers
  - Missouri Vocational Enterprises
- Reduce admin purchases
  - Limit printing
  - More electronic processes
- Other states
  - Furloughs
  - Salary cuts
  - Layoffs?

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

[TRULY AGREED TO AND FINALLY PASSED] CONFERENCE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR

SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR

#### HOUSE BILL NO. 6

100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

000081-057

2019

#### AN ACT

To appropriate money for the expenses, grants, refunds, and distributions of the Department of Agriculture, Department of Natural Resources, Department of Conservation, and the several divisions and programs thereof and for the expenses, grants, refunds, distributions, and capital improvements projects involving the repair, replacement, and maintenance of state buildings and facilities of the Department of Natural Resources and the several divisions and programs thereof to be expended only as provided in Article IV, Section 28 of the Constitution of Missouri, and to transfer money among certain fands, for the period beginning July 1, 2019, and ending June 30, 2020.

#### **Budget-Related Documents**

- Governor's Amendments to the FY 2020 Supplemental Budget
- Expenditure Restrictions June 1, 2020 🙆
- Expenditure Restrictions April 20, 2020 🙆
- Expenditure Restrictions April 1, 2020 🛂



# **Training**

- All virtual so far
  - Internal
    - Technical
    - Administrative
    - WebEx, recorded
  - External
    - LinkedIn Learning
    - ASWM, ACWA, and similar associations
- Tuition reimbursement suspended after summer semester





## **Advice**

- Communicate with management, other agencies, citizens, applicants, permitees
- If you feel uncomfortable ask questions, suggest alternatives, discuss with supervisor
- Ask for help from applicants or agencies
- Prioritize and postpone (if allowed)
- Use technology
- Be aware of limitations





# **Questions?**





### Contact

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