



**DUPAGE
COUNTY**

Watershed
Management

Water
Quality

Floodplain
Mapping

Regulatory
Services

Flood Operations
& Maintenance

Shared
Services



STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

TECHNICAL GUIDANCE MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 16, 2019

TO: Municipal Engineer's Group
Clayton Heffter, Stormwater Permitting Manager, EDP

FROM: Anthony J. Charlton, P.E. – Director of Stormwater Management

RE: Utilization of Updated Bulletin 70 Rainfall Distribution

Background:

The DuPage County Countywide Stormwater and Floodplain Ordinance (CSFO) effective May 14, 2019, establishes criteria for utilizing the Illinois State Water Survey (ISWS) Bulletin 70 northeast sectional rainfall statistics, as amended from time to time in accordance with state regulations, for any design runoff rate method. The Bulletin 70 rainfall distribution currently used for regulation was released in 1989. In March of 2019, the ISWS released an updated Bulletin 70 report entitled "Frequency Distributions of Heavy Precipitation in Illinois: Updated Bulletin 70." The new report will supersede the previous Bulletin 70 utilized for regulation in DuPage County. It is necessary to establish guidance regarding the use of the updated Bulletin 70 rainfall distribution.

Guidance:

The topic of the updated rainfall distribution was first discussed in the Municipal Engineer's Group meeting held April 16, 2019. Some communities within DuPage County have already begun utilizing the amended rainfall data. The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) will require using the new data on January 1, 2020 with few exceptions. It is the technical interpretation of the Director that all communities that fall within the jurisdiction of the CSFO commence utilizing the updated Bulletin 70 prepared by ISWS in accordance with the following criteria:

- Any community in DuPage County that is not already enforcing the updated Bulletin 70 rainfall may elect to do so immediately.
- Any development requiring a stormwater certification that utilizes the original Bulletin 70 from 1989 in the design must secure the stormwater certification no later than December 31, 2019 or the application must utilize the updated Bulletin 70 rainfall distribution as the basis of regulation. *

- Applicants that secure a valid certification from a municipality in accordance with this technical guidance memorandum utilizing the original Bulletin 70 rainfall must secure and maintain a valid building permit to perform all work covered by the stormwater certification no later than March 31, 2020, or the applicant must obtain a new stormwater certification utilizing the updated Bulletin 70 rainfall distribution as the basis of regulation.
- Once a valid building permit is obtained for a development, the actual start of construction must occur within 180 days from the date of the permit issuance to remain a valid permit. Each community may be more restrictive than 180 days. If the building permit expires at any time, the stormwater certification utilizing the original Bulletin 70 data will be considered void and the updated Bulletin 70 rainfall distribution will need to be utilized to obtain a new stormwater certification.

* Any community within DuPage County may request an extension from the Director of Stormwater Management. A complete application form in addition to the written request for extension must be submitted to the Director no later than December 15, 2019. Upon receipt, the Director of Stormwater Management may extend the deadline for obtaining a valid certification utilizing the original Bulletin 70 data to January 31, 2020. If the extension is granted, the building permit will still need to be acquired no later than March 31, 2020.

In summation, any stormwater certification issued on or after January 1, 2020 must utilize the updated Bulletin 70 rainfall as the basis of regulation unless an extension is granted by the Director of Stormwater Management. A valid building permit will need to be acquired prior to April 1, 2020 in order to maintain the certification as valid.