

Archived: Thursday, March 7, 2019 2:25:06 PM

From: [The Stormwater Report](#)

Sent: Thursday, March 7, 2019 2:20:17 PM

To: sboynton@pwea.org

Subject: [The Stormwater Report](#): Report suggests revamped guidelines for U.S. EPA industrial stormwater permit

Sensitivity: Normal



WEB VIEW • VOL. 9, NO. 3



Report suggests revamped guidelines for U.S. EPA industrial stormwater permit

More than 2000 industrial facilities nationwide are subject to stormwater monitoring and control requirements under the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Multi-Sector General Permit (MSGP). Ahead of an update to the permitting program expected in 2020, EPA enlisted researchers from the National Academies for Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine to highlight weak points in the existing MSGP program and suggest ways to strengthen them. [Read the research committee's recommendations.](#)

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Passing planes pull added precipitation from clouds

From releasing greenhouse gases while in the air to discharging fuels, lubricants, and other potentially toxic chemicals before takeoff, countless studies have determined that air travel has an undeniable effect on the environment.

Now, a newly published study, led by University of Helsinki (Finland) researchers, finds that planes flying above clouds during precipitation events can cause far more rain or snow to fall from those clouds – totaling up to 14 times more precipitation, under the right conditions. [Find out how planes make it rain.](#)

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City of Hampton, Va., considers ‘pay-for-success’

funding strategy to enhance resilience

In coastal Hampton, Va., city planners are considering an innovative financing strategy to support new green stormwater infrastructure (GSI) projects. This aims to turn the tide against the severe weather and rising sea levels that have led to increased flooding.

The city hopes that by issuing “environmental impact bonds” (EIBs) to investors who seek financial, social, and environmental returns on their investments — sometimes called impact investors — it can gain the financial flexibility to build GSI that traditional investors may find too risky to support. [Learn about the EIB strategy.](#)

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Researchers read tea leaves to study precipitation across millennia

The 12-year “Millennium Drought” that parched parts of Australia beginning in the late 1990s often is considered the most severe drought ever experienced by the island nation. But according to results from a first-of-its-kind survey by University of Adelaide (Australia) researchers, the Millennium Drought was far from unique.

New evidence, obtained by studying preserved tea tree leaves that span more than 7000 years, suggests that many droughts of at least similar intensity took place in Australia thousands of years before the continent was settled by Europeans in the 19th century. [Leaves from the paper-bark tea tree, *Melaleuca quinquenervia*, are prompting authorities to re-examine drought predictions.](#)

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