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From: The Stormwater Report

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**To:** sboynton@pwea.org

Subject: The Stormwater Report: Digital stormwater management puts valuable information in the cloud

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## Digital stormwater management puts valuable information in the cloud

Starting in early 2017, citizens curious about how Chicago's bioswales and porous asphalt handled storms could log on and watch real-time data upload to their screens. Though the portal is no longer being updated, the test project it represented was a success. This May, UI Labs (Chicago), a nonprofit research center that tests urban technological services, announced that they had spent the last 18 months gathering live data on several green infrastructure stormwater solutions in Chicago.

<u>Learn how this project proved the ability to keep real-time tabs on green infrastructure performance.</u>

EPA/WEF Webinar: Success with Stormwater Fees

Hear about leading-edge examples of successful stormwater fee programs.

Sept. 12, 2 to 3:30 p.m. EDT



# University of Arizona researchers take a fresh look at an age-old agricultural myth

A theory in debate since the mid-1800s holds that disturbing the soil in dry regions through agriculture allows rain to seep into the ground, raising moisture in the area, and, eventually, coaxing more rain to fall. In other words, according to the University of Nebraska–Lincoln Center for Great Plains Studies, "rain follows the plow." Support for the theory plummeted in the 1890s when severe droughts affected the U.S. Great Plains region, where the notion was used to help justify westward expansion into what was then known as "The Great American Desert."

But in the modern age, climatologists are finding that human land use actually may affect precipitation, at least at a local level.

### 2018 U.S. EPA Campus RainWorks Challenge now open for registration

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) annual Campus RainWorks Challenge now is accepting registrants until Sept. 30. This annual competition seeks to engage with the next generation of environmental professionals; foster a dialogue about effective stormwater management; and showcase the environmental, economic, and social benefits of green infrastructure practices.

Teams must register by Sept. 30 to participate.

#### First-ever NMSA State of Stormwater report highlights common challenges for U.S. MS4 permittees

The National Municipal Stormwater Alliance (NMSA; Alexandria, Va.), a group of municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) permittees from around the U.S., released its first annual state-by-state review of MS4 program updates, challenges, and needs.

The 2018 NMSA State of Stormwater report analyzes the effectiveness of MS4 programs in 14 states and discusses potential changes — regulatory, social, technical — each state can make to better protect the health of urban waterways.

Read the full NMSA report.

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#### Biofiltration scores big in sports stadium runoff treatment

From the summer issue of World Water: Stormwater Management — A self-sustaining biofiltration system prevents flooding in San Francisco's sport stadium and protects the nearby San Francisco Bay and freshwater resources from stormwater pollutants.

Find out how a venue capable of seating nearly 70,000 people handled its impervious surfaces.

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