



Virtual Regional Forum: *Updating Ohio Precipitation Data for Stormwater and Flooding Planning*

May 11, 2021 | 1pm-5pm

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Description:

As 50-year and 100-year precipitation events occur more often in some of our communities, there is a need for updated, local scale information to support water infrastructure planning across Ohio. This includes precipitation statistics that use the most current hourly and sub-hourly observational data. State and local codes often do not reflect the most recent precipitation data that is available, resulting in the use of outdated information by engineers and planners. Engineers and planners are less likely to use updated information or future projections in system design until they are incorporated into state and local code and standards.

Currently, the needed intensity-duration-frequency statistics are available through NOAA Atlas 14 (https://toolkit.climate.gov/dashboard-noaa-atlas-14-precipitation-frequency-data-server). However, Volume 2 of the Atlas which covers a region including Ohio along with 13 other Midwestern and Mid-Atlantic states, has not been updated since 2004 and relies on data from 2002 and earlier. Recent observational data show an increase in the number of extreme precipitation events in Ohio since 2000.

There are multiple potential paths for creation of updated precipitation data for Ohio. These may include creation of a statewide dataset in partnership with the State Climate Office of Ohio, forging a multi-state effort to fund an update of Volume 2 of NOAA Atlas 14, or updating Atlas 14 for a subset of the Volume 2 region.

Purpose:

This free virtual forum is designed to provide information on existing precipitation data resources, perspectives on the need for updated data for Ohio, and potential avenues for creating the needed data.

Presenting Organizations:

City of Columbus, Division of Sewers and Drains Rob Priestas/Matt Repasky

NOAA, Water Prediction Office Michael St. Laurent Mark Glaudemans Sandra Pavlovic State Climate Office of Ohio Aaron Wilson

Illinois State Climatologist Jim Angel

Questions:

Event-specific questions should be directed to Brooke White with MORPC at bwhite@morpc.org.