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From: [The Stormwater Report](#)

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To: sboynton@pwea.org

Subject: Soaring to new heights for stormwater management

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Unique Seawall Design Provides Rain-or-Shine Benefits

Building seawalls around high-traffic coastal areas such as piers, boardwalks, and beachfronts often can provide suitable protection from storm surges, but this added security can entail a social cost. In many cases, seawalls obstruct ocean views. Even worse, while seawalls may confine floodwaters to the beach, they also can restrict convenient ocean access by pedestrians when storm-surge risks are low. Coastal flood managers considering seawalls often must balance the value of flood protection with the recreational and economic value of beach tourism. Ongoing research by Princeton University engineers may offer a solution. [Designs for a new type of seawall would enhance the pedestrian experience while protecting against storm surges.](#)

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WEF readers
lead the way in
addressing
stormwater
issues.

A Statement from the WEF Board of Trustees

As WEF leaders, we promise to continue doing all that we can within our membership and activities to challenge and change systems of inequity that perpetuate racism and bias.

[Read the full statement](#)

WEF Helps EPA Select Eighth-Annual Campus RainWorks Challenge Winners

In March, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced the winners of its eighth-annual Campus RainWorks Challenge, which tasks teams of college students with devising green infrastructure implementation plans that make their campus community more resilient. This year's RainWorks Challenge attracted entries from 50 student teams representing institutions in 20 states, the agency said. Each year, EPA collaborates with stormwater experts from WEF, the American Society of Landscape Architects, and the

American Society of Civil Engineers to judge the entries. For this year's competition, six volunteers from the WEF Stormwater Committee participated as judges. [Learn more about how this year's winning projects can help improve resilience at U.S. schools.](#)

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Airports Embrace Stormwater Management To Protect Water Quality

Often containing miles of impervious runways, ubiquitous chemical demands for sanitation and safety purposes, and enormous fleets of vehicles with the potential to drip fuels, airports face unique stormwater management challenges. In recent months, several large airports have undertaken expansive, multimillion-dollar projects aimed at protecting local water quality and mitigating stormwater-flooding risks. [Read more about recent efforts to improve stormwater management at airports in Texas, Wyoming, and California in the U.S. as well as in Alberta, Canada.](#)

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USGS Updates SPARROW Streamflow Modeling Tool

The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) has released new interactive mapping and modeling capabilities for its online SPATIally Referenced Regression On Watershed attributes (SPARROW) tool. The new models estimate streamflow and the concurrent yields of total nitrogen, total phosphorus, and suspended sediment in both monitored and unmonitored inland stream reaches across the country as they feed into larger water bodies. Through SPARROW's regionalized models, land and resource managers can better prioritize water-quality improvement efforts based on historical hydrological data in their specific area, the agency said in a release. [Updates to the tool enhance users' ability to protect the health of their local watersheds.](#)

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