

# Working on watersheds

BY BARRY TONNING

As federal and state lawmakers have shifted from focusing on narrow environmental issues to a more inclusive approach, state agencies have scrambled to integrate their management efforts. In the areas of water quality and quantity, states are developing cooperative, comprehensive programs that address human health, fish population, water supply and other issues.

These new approaches have created demands for new training. State agency staff, elected officials, environmental groups, business representatives and others need to know about assessing water resources, links between land use and water quality, management strategies for different situations and economic, social and cultural issues.

The Environmental Policy Group at CSG's Center for Leadership, Innovation and Policy has developed training programs to assist states with their watershed assessment, planning and management needs. *Working at a Watershed Level* is a comprehensive, one-week course that covers management components from basic watershed science to ways for involving all of those concerned and outreach processes. The course, developed by federal agencies with input from CSG, the International City-County Management Association and the Ecological Society of America, has been delivered in West Virginia, California, Washington, Kentucky, New Hampshire and Georgia. CSG will teach courses next year in southern California and Indiana. *Getting in Step* is the title of a workshop series that covers the processes of community involvement, outreach and

*Barry Tinning is a former senior policy analyst with CSG.*

education, partnering with the news media and basic watershed planning. More than two dozen of these workshops have been delivered nationwide over the past three years. Workshops are tailored for each audience, and usually include a mix of topics over a three to six hour period. CSG and Tetra Tech, Inc. developed the workshops, which feature guidebooks that outline the topic, case studies and additional resources. The guides, *A Pathway to Effective Outreach in Your Watershed* and *Engaging and Involving Stakeholders in Your Watershed*, will be available on CSG's World Wide Web site — [www.csg.org](http://www.csg.org) — in February.

All the training programs highlight how states can integrate the multitude of water-related programs into a comprehensive watershed assessment, planning and management program. The programs cover a laundry list of

potential controversies, such as the Clean Water Act, Endangered Species Act, Safe Drinking Water Act, National Environmental Policy Act, Coastal Management Act and an assortment of special programs, statutory initiatives and other projects. Discussing how to integrate these activities into a comprehensive, coordinated, cooperative approach is both a challenge and an opportunity for states. CSG's watershed training programs are designed to help states with both.

For more information, call Malissa McAlister at (606) 244-8243 or visit [www.csg.org/clip/policy/environment.htm](http://www.csg.org/clip/policy/environment.htm). McAlister is a member of CSG's CLIP, which promotes policy development, leadership training and innovative state programming. CLIP develops state problem-solving initiatives with intergovernmental, philanthropic and corporate partners. ★

## Seeking Executive Director

The duly elected Board of Directors acting on behalf of the National Conference of State Fleet Administrators (NCSFA), is soliciting proposals for an "Executive Director." NCSFA is a professional association whose membership primarily extends to public sector fleet management organizations. The purpose of this solicitation of bids is to obtain a private Contractor, individual and/or firm to represent NCSFA as their "Executive Director." The scope of this position shall be to manage the association's day-to-day business affairs, operations, marketing, member networking, and annual conference planning. All interested persons wishing to submit a proposal, please contact President Elect, Steven Saltzger during regular business hours to obtain a Request for Proposal (RFP) document. (8:00 am-5:00 pm MDT) Telephone: (801) 538-3452, Fax: (801) 538-1773, E-mail: [ssaltzgi@fo.state.ut.us](mailto:ssaltzgi@fo.state.ut.us).

Closing date: January 31, 2000.