



Ontario County Public Works

William C. Wright, P.E.
Commissioner of
Public Works
Office: (585) 396-4000

2962 County Road 48
Canandaigua, New York 14424-9553
www.co.ontario.ny.us
email: dpw@co.ontario.ny.us

John E. Berry, P.E.
Deputy Commissioner
of Public Works
Facsimile: (585) 396-4283

HIGHWAYS ~ ENGINEERING ~ WASTEWATER SYSTEMS & SEWERS ~ BUILDINGS & GROUNDS ~ PARKS ~ PUBLIC WORKS FINANCE

MS4 Stormwater Management Program Annual Report Year 4: March 10, 2006 – March 9, 2007

Stormwater problem identified:

- Polluted stormwater runoff is often transported through storm sewer systems and ultimately discharged into surface waters without treatment.
- Polluted stormwater discharged into surface waters can impair water quality, discourage recreational use of the resource, contaminate drinking water supplies and interfere with the suitability of habitat for fish, other aquatic organisms, and wildlife.

Stormwater management program background:

- In 1990, United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) promulgated rules establishing Phase I of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) stormwater program.
- The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) acts as the NPDES permit issuing authority for the state and has issued requirements for two State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) general permits for stormwater runoff.
- Owners of small Municipal Separate Stormwater Sewer Systems in urban areas (more commonly known as MS4) must obtain coverage under a SPDES general permit for stormwater discharges to local surface waters.
- EPA Phase II regulations establish a stormwater management program for MS4s that is intended to improve the Nation's waterways by reducing the quantity of pollutants that stormwater picks up and carries into storm sewer systems and surface waters during storm events.

What does this mean to Ontario County?

- Parts of Ontario County were identified by the EPA as an "urbanized" area that must implement a stormwater management program as a means to control polluted discharges to surface waters.
- In accordance with the SPDES general permit, Ontario County must design and implement a stormwater management program consisting of six minimum measures including:

1. **Public Education and Outreach:** Distributing educational materials and conducting outreach to inform citizens about the impacts polluted stormwater discharges can have on water quality.
2. **Public Participation/Involvement:** Providing opportunities for citizens to participate in program development and implementation, including effectively publicizing public hearings and/or encouraging citizen representatives on a stormwater management panel.
3. **Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination:** Developing and implementing a plan to detect and eliminate illicit discharges to the storm sewer systems or surface waters (includes developing a system map and informing the community about hazards associated with illegal discharges and improper disposal of waste).
4. **Construction Site Runoff Control:** Developing, implementing, and enforcing an erosion and sediment control program for construction activities that disturb one or more acres of land (controls could include silt fences and temporary stormwater detention ponds).
5. **Post-Construction Runoff Control:** Developing, implementing, and enforcing a program to address discharges of post-construction stormwater runoff from new development and redevelopment areas. Applicable controls could include preventative actions such as protecting sensitive areas (i.e., wetlands) or the use of structural best management practices (BMPs) such as grassed swales or porous pavement.
6. **Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping:** Developing and implementing a program with the goal of preventing or reducing pollutant runoff from municipal operations. The program must include municipal staff training on pollution prevention measures and techniques (e.g., regular street sweeping, reduction in the use of pesticides or street salt, or frequent catch-basin cleaning).

What's in an Annual Report?

- The MS4 Stormwater Management Program Annual Report contains information about the permit requirements and the development of Ontario County's stormwater management program.

How can I obtain a copy of Ontario County's MS4 Annual Report?

- The Annual Report can be viewed on Ontario County's website at www.co.ontario.ny.us. Click on Departments/Infrastructure/Department of Public Works.

Who can I call with questions about Ontario County's Stormwater Management Program or the Annual Report?

- Questions and comments about the stormwater management program or the annual report can be directed to John Berry, Stormwater Management Program Coordinator by calling (585) 396-4990.