

2019 NPDES Phase 1 Permit

Clark County Stormwater Management Program Areas

Clark County Clean Water Commission

Rod Swanson

January 31, 2024



NPDES Phase 1 Municipal Stormwater Permit

Main Permit Conditions

- S1 – Permit Coverage/Permittees**
- S2 – Authorized Discharges**
- S3 – Responsibilities of Permittees**
- S4 – Compliance with Standards**
- S5 – Stormwater Management Program**
- S6 – For Secondary Permittees –
Not Cities or Counties**
- S7 – Compliance with TMDLs**
- S8 – Stormwater-Related Monitoring**
- S9 – Annual Reporting Requirements**

S5 - Stormwater Management Program

1. Legal Authority (Code)
2. MS4 Mapping & Documentation
3. Coordination
4. Public Involvement & Participation
5. Development Regulation
6. Stormwater Planning
7. Structural Stormwater Controls
8. Source Control
9. IDDE (removing non-stormwater discharges)
10. Operations & Maintenance
11. Education & Outreach

S9. Annual Reporting

Other phase I Permittees

- Seattle, Tacoma
- King, Pierce and Snohomish counties
- WSDOT



1. Legal Authority to Control Discharges to the MS4

What's an MS4?

- **Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System**
- **Separate means not part of a combined sanitary and storm sewer**

Chapter 13.26A Water Quality (since 1998)

- **Prohibits the discharge of contaminants to the MS4 and waters in Clark County**
- **Requires all stormwater control facilities to be maintained to county standards (since 2000)**



2. MS4 Mapping in StormwaterClk GIS db

Required by permit

- Conveyance system mapping
- Outfall points to receiving waters
- County stormwater control facilities
- Regulated non-county stormwater control facilities

Critical for Stormwater Management

- County and non-county facility maintenance compliance
- IDDE screening and spill and complaint response
- Stormwater Planning for various purposes



3. Coordination

Internal Coordination

- **Community Development for construction project approval requirements**
- **Internal Services Department for stormwater controls and pollution control on county properties**
- **Public Works for much of the program, SW facility maintenance, pollution controls during operations, development project inspection**

Inter-permittee Coordination

- **With local cities because our systems are interconnected**



4. Public Involvement

Clean Water Commission

- Public meetings and report to Council

Clark County Council Public Process

- Budget approval
- Code updates
- Approve Stormwater Capital Plan

Stormwater Management Plan

- Describes permit compliance program
- Updated on Web each year



5. Stormwater Controls for Development

Apply Development Standards

- Equivalent Manual to Ecology standards
- Process to review and approve stormwater plans for small projects (2000 sf to 5000 sf impervious) and larger projects (>5000 sf impervious surface)
- Process to ensure maintenance will be performed on non-county facilities
- 2-year maintenance requirements

Apply Construction Standards

- Process to inspect for erosion controls
- Process to ensure stormwater controls are built to design



6. Stormwater Planning

Ongoing LID Implementation Barrier Review

- None are found

Reporting on Stormwater Management in Long-Range Plans

- Limited connection to other planning programs due to plan purposes
- Working to bring SW capital planning into the plan

Catchment-Scale Stormwater Planning

- 6-year and 20-year plans for a developing drainage catchment
- Set Goal - Maintain existing stream hydrology for habitat protection
- Propose actions to maintain current stream habitat considering available tools



7. Stormwater Structural Controls

Includes the Stormwater Capital Plan Work

Intended to retrofit deficiencies compared to current standards

- **Enormous need compared to current standards**
- **Identify projects to meet high priority needs**
 - **High pollutant roads**
 - **Habitat restoration on county lands**
 - **Habitat acquisitions**



8. Stormwater Pollution Source Controls

Stops Pollutants at the Source

Mainly site visits to businesses that may have activities that pollute

- About 600 connected to MS 4 and another 600 not connected
- Bob Patterson does about 160 visits a year
- Provides technical assistance at several levels
 - BMPs for outdoor activities
 - Replace leaky dumpsters
 - Help with managing hazardous or toxic materials at businesses



9. Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE)

Find and remove non-stormwater discharges

- Look at Outfalls
- Perform source control visits (where we find most)
- Remove non-stormwater connections
 - Sanitary sewer
 - Floor drains
 - Outdoor work areas
- Respond to Complaints
- Report spills to MS4 to Ecology



10. Operation and Maintenance

- **Inspect and maintain 2000 county facilities**
- **Inspect and gain maintenance compliance for 1800 non-county facilities**
- **Inspect 13,000 county catch basins each year, about 1/3 are cleaned**
- **Use pollution controls at maintenance yards**
- **Use pollution control BMPs for county road maintenance**



11. Education and Outreach

- **Raise awareness about stormwater pollution**
- **Cause behavior change for activities that contribute to stormwater impacts**
- **Provide stewardship opportunities**
- **Evaluate program effectiveness for one activity**



S9. Reporting

- **Annual report to Ecology**
- **Responses from multiple departments compiled for submittal each March**
- **Answers compliance questions**
- **Includes numerous reports**
- **Certified by County Manager**
- **Posted on Stormwater Web page**



Thanks for the Opportunity to Talk to You

Any Remaining Thoughts and Questions?

Clark County Public Works
Clean Water Division
1300 Franklin Street
Vancouver, WA 98666
cleanwater@clark.wa.gov

