

City of Fairmont MS4 Permit

Annual Update
August 26, 2013

2013 Annual Public Meeting

- Fairmont is an MS4 Community
Municipal **S**eparate **S**torm **S**ewer **S**ystem
- Designated by Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) under federal Clean Water Act (CWA)
- Received National Pollution Discharge Elimination System Permit (NPDES) in 2006.
- Current permit expired May 31, 2011.
- The MPCA developed new permit requirements that became effective August 1, 2013. Permit cycle is 5 years.

Acronyms of the NPDES Permit

- SWPPP - Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan
 - Primary Component of Permit
- BMP - Best Management Practices
 - Specific SWPPP Action Items
- MCM - Minimum Control Measures
 - 6 MCM's are defined in the SWPPP with specific BMP's for each
- TMDL – Total Maximum Daily Load
 - Maximum nutrient and contaminant levels that will maintain a healthy ecosystem
- WLA – Waste Load Allocation
 - Specific amount of nutrient or contaminant that a source is allowed to discharge to meet the TMDL requirements

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Process of Reapplication

- Fairmont has been placed in Group 3, which means our application and SWPPP document must be submitted within 150 days of the effective permit date or December 27, 2013.
- After review and approval by the MPCA, our SWPPP document will be put out for public notice, review, and comment for 30 days.
- The MPCA will review and process comments received about the SWPPP document and discuss any changes with the City.
- The City will be permitted to discharge stormwater under the 2013 MS4 General Permit after receiving written notification of final approval from the MPCA Commissioner.

Major Changes in New Permit

- The MPCA will now review all SWPPP documents.
- The SWPPP document will become an enforceable part of the General Permit.
- The SWPPP is required to include information regarding
 - Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)'s in or near City of Fairmont,
 - Waste Load Allocation (WLA),
 - Type of WLA,
 - Pollutant of concern,
 - Applicable flow data,
 - BMP compliance schedule.

Major Changes in New Permit (cont.)

- Many new specific requirements were developed for MCM 4, Construction Sites, as well as MCM 5, Post Construction.
 - Must identify who is responsible for the site,
 - Must document site inspections,
 - Must have enforcement response plans,
 - Must meet new effluent limits for TSS and TP,
 - Must maintain discharge volumes for new development and redevelopment.
- Several of the other changes throughout the permit are relatively small and will require minimal changes.

TMDL Impacts

- Total Maximum Daily Limits (TMDL) set by MPCA for various pollutants by watersheds
- Apply to storm water discharges from MS4
- Fairmont is within the watershed of the Blue Earth and Upper Minnesota Rivers
- Current TMDL's for MN River;
 - Phosphorus – Approved
 - TSS – Total Suspended Solids – Pending approval
- Current TMDL's for Blue Earth River;
 - Fecal Coliform - Approved
- Eventually Fairmont will receive a WLA that will set specific discharge requirements for the community

Permit & SWPPP Obligations

- Annual meeting seeks public comment
- Annual reports on measurable goals are required each June
- BMP's in each of the MCM's must be implemented over the course of the permit cycle

MCM 1 – Public Education & Outreach on SW Impacts

- Distribution of educational materials focusing on high priority stormwater related issues.
- Maintain a program implementation plan and work with other local organizations, i.e. Martin County Soil & Water Conservation District on outreach
- Document educational goals, audiences, schedules, annual evaluations

MCM 2 – Public Participation & Involvement

- Annual public meeting
- Allow and encourage the public to participate in the on-going development, implementation and review of the SWPPP document.
- Provide SWPPP document, annual reports, and other documentation for public review.
- Develop standard operating procedures for the review and consideration of public input.

MCM 3 – Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination

- Maintain City Storm Sewer Mapping and Storm Water Database Development (GIS)
- Upgrade City Ordinances to address illicit discharge elimination and MPCA minimum standards (Chap 25-1002 Stormwater Management ordinance)
- Conduct on-going inspections for the purpose of detecting and eliminating illicit discharges.
- Training of public & staff about illicit discharges, conditions that cause illicit discharges and how to report or respond to illicit discharges (on-going)

MCM 4 – Construction Site Storm Water Runoff Control

- Conform City programs and ordinance to MPCA state requirements (complete)
- Upgrade site development plan review & site inspection processes, current ordinances (Chap 25-1002 Stormwater Management ordinance)
- City becomes primary entity to enforce current State NPDES permit processes (developing a plan)

MCM 5- Post-Construction Storm Water Management

- Update City master plans for long range storm water management needs
- Update zoning and subdivision ordinances to improve permanent storm water management controls & coordinate with master plans (part of Comprehensive Plan)
- Assure proper operation of private storm water controls (establish legal mechanisms between the City of Fairmont and the owners or operators responsible for the long-term maintenance of structural stormwater BMPs not owned or operated by the City, that have been implemented to meet the conditions for post-construction stormwater management to insure long term maintenance of the BMP)

MCM 6 – Good Housekeeping for Municipal Operations

- Maintain a list of facilities owned or operated by the city.
- Develop and implement BMP's that divert, treat, infiltrate, reuse, contain, or otherwise reduce pollutants in stormwater discharges from the city and all inventoried facilities.
- Develop and implement SOP's for municipal operations that may contribute pollutants to stormwater.
- Assessment, inspection and maintenance of ponds for the collection and treatment of stormwater.

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QUESTIONS

