Update on Wisconsin DNR MS4 Permit Program

Wisconsin Towns Association
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What is an MS4?

- MS4 = “Municipal separate storm sewer system”
- Roads with drainage systems, municipal streets, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, constructed channels or storm drains
- Owned/operated by a municipality
- Collects or conveys storm water
- Not combined with a sanitary sewer system
dnr.wi.gov, enter “stormwater” in search box
Storm water runoff permits

Urban storm water runoff contains pollutants from roads, parking lots, construction sites, industrial storage yards and lawns. The Storm Water Program regulates storm water discharges from construction sites, industrial facilities and municipalities. These web pages provide program news, permit forms, permit data and technical assistance.

Contact Information
For information on this page, contact:

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Topics for Today

• Overview of storm water program

• Chapter NR 216 MS4 requirements

• Reissuance of MS4 general permit

• Next round of MS4 permitting
Why?
Wisconsin’s Waters

- 44,000 miles of streams
- 15,000 lakes
- 100 warm water fish species
- 59 cold water fish species
- 5 million wetland acres
- 1.2 quadrillion gallons of ground water
- Many Wisconsin waters are listed as impaired for not meeting intended use (streams, stream segments, lakes, beaches)
Urban Storm Water Quality Impacts

- Increases delivery
  - Sediment
  - Nutrients
  - Heavy metals
  - Pathogens
  - Other pollutants
- Depletes oxygen
- Increases water temperature
Background on Storm Water Regulation

- Certain storm water discharges require a permit under Federal Clean Water Act

- Wisconsin law authorizes DNR to promulgate rules for storm water discharges

- Storm water permits administered under NR 216, Wis. Adm. Code

- Performance standards of NR 151, Wis. Adm. Code, implemented through permit program
NR 216
(Storm Water Discharge Permits)

Subchapter I - Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4)

Subchapter II - Industrial Facilities

Subchapter III - Construction Sites
MS4 Permit Program
(Subch. I of NR 216)

• Permits required for certain Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems or MS4 based on population and location in a federally identified urban area

• Population and urban area data determined by US census every 10 years

• USEPA expects states to base permitting decisions on census data

• Wisconsin currently has 218 MS4 permittees
  • 76 individual permittees (two Phase 1 MS4s)
  • 142 general permittees
MS4 Permit requirements

• Implement 6 minimum control measures:
  • Public education and outreach
  • Public involvement and participation
  • Illicit discharge detection and elimination
  • Construction site pollutant control
  • Post-construction storm water management
  • Pollution prevention

• Implement storm water quality management program to meet the developed urban area performance standards in NR 151

• Storm sewer system map

• Annual report
Reissuance of MS4 General Permit

- Propose two permit approach
  - Reissue current general permit for existing MS4 permittees
  - Issue new general permit for future MS4 permittees

- Drafts currently under review by USEPA

- Anticipate public release after USEPA review (mid-May?)

- DNR will notify potentially affect municipalities and provide outreach
Next Round of MS4 Permitting

- New MS4 permittees will be added nationwide based on 2010 census
- DNR still in the process of evaluating Wisconsin census data
- After permits issued, DNR will focus on permitting MS4s
2010 Wisconsin UAs (18)

- Appleton, WI
- Beloit, WI--IL
- Duluth, MN--WI
- Eau Claire, WI
- Fond du Lac, WI
- Green Bay, WI
- Janesville, WI
- Kenosha, WI--IL
- La Crosse, WI--MN
- Madison, WI
- Milwaukee, WI
- Minneapolis--St. Paul, MN--WI
- Oshkosh, WI
- Racine, WI
- Round Lake Beach--McHenry--Grayslake, IL--WI
- Sheboygan, WI
- Wausau, WI
- West Bend, WI
Other Information

- Ms4s identified for permitting will be notified of need to apply for permit

- After notification, exemptions possible under NR 216.023

- Date of permit coverage dictates schedule for compliance

- Urban Storm Water and Nonpoint Source Grants program may assist with costs
Questions?