## **NPDES MS4 Basics**





## What Do You Need To Do?

The 2016 Massachusetts Small MS4 General Permit was signed April 4, 2016 and will become effective on July 1, 2017. This starts the clock for compliance deadlines outlined in the permit.

Following is a summary of the basic requirements of the permit:

- Notice of Intent (NOI) Submit NOI to Region 1 of EPA within 90 days of the effective date of the permit (September 29, 2017). This is the first item required under the new permit and documents MS4 discharges, receiving waters, proposed Best Management Practices (BMPs) to be implemented, and eligibility determination based on endangered species and historic properties review.
- 2. Stormwater Management Program (SWMP) – Prepare a written SWMP within 1 year of the effective date of the permit. This program details the implementation activities and measures to meet the terms and conditions of the permit. The SWMP Plan is a living document and must be updated and modified as activities are performed, modified, or updated.
- **3.** Six Minimum Measures Permittees must reduce pollutant discharges to the maximum extent practicable using the following control measures:

Six Minimum Measures	<b>1. Public Education &amp; Outreach</b> - distribute a minimum of 2 educational messages over the permit term to residential, commercial, industrial, & construction audiences.
	<b>2. Public Participation</b> - provide community members with the opportunity to participate in the review & implementation of the MS4 program.
	<b>3. Illicit Discharge Detection &amp; Elimination (IDDE)</b> - map the stormwater system; develop & implement a program to find & reduce pollution from illicit discharges - requires detailed field investigation of infrastructure.
	<b>4. Construction Site Stormwater Controls</b> - establish regulation that mandates the use of erosion and sediment controls during construction; develop site plan review, inspection & enforcement procedures.
	<b>5. Post-Construction Site Stormwater Controls</b> - incorporate stormwater design standards into regulations; assess for low impact development (LID) barriers & opportunities; identify 5 municipal properties for BMP retrofits.
	<b>6. Good Housekeeping &amp; Pollution Prevention</b> - establish operation and maintenance procedures for municipal activities; develop Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans (SWPPPs) for specific facilities.



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- 4. Training Annual training is required. General topics include IDDE, spill prevention and response, material handling, and training specific to facility SWPPPs.
- 5. Annual Report Prepare and submit an annual self-assessment that documents progress towards measureable goals as outlined in the MS4's SWMP. Reports track a variety of information and are submitted to EPA on September 29th of each year.
- 6. Impaired Waters In most cases, MS4s that discharge to certain waterbodies with nutrient impairments or Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) must prepare plans that address water quality impacts from nutrient sources such as nitrogen and phosphorus. These plans are highly specific to the waterbody, surrounding area, and pollutant in question. Discharges to waterbodies with other impairments, such as bacteria require "enhanced BMPs" which generally consist of public outreach, regulation requirements and good housekeeping measures that can readily be incorporated into the six minimum measures.

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