

Executive Summary
2013-2014 Annual Report for Phase II SPDES General Permit for
Stormwater Discharges from Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s)
Village of Lansing, May 5, 2014 Public Presentation

This Annual Report has been prepared in compliance with the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation permitting requirements for small (Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s), which includes the Village of Lansing. The Village has been required to meet the new EPA Phase II Stormwater regulations since 2003 and has been working toward full permit compliance. This Report documents the progress that the Village made toward compliance, covering the period from March 10, 2013 through March 9, 2014. Below is a summary of the six Minimum Control Measures (MCMs), which include:

- Public Education and Outreach on Stormwater Impacts
- Public Involvement/Participation
- Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination
- Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control
- Post-Construction Stormwater Management
- Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping for Municipal Operations

MCM 1: Public Education/Outreach on Stormwater Impacts

The Village is represented on the Stormwater Coalition of Tompkins County, which has coordinated many public education and outreach opportunities for stormwater education. Efforts include: providing trainings for local officials, contractors and others on controlling stormwater. Other entities, such as the Cayuga Lake Watershed Intermunicipal Organization, of which the Village is a member, Tompkins County Soil and Water Conservation District, and the Cayuga Lake Watershed Network, provide stormwater educational programs, such as the Floating Classroom, Lake Fest, training for local officials, contractors and builders.

MCM 2: Public Involvement/Participation

As with MCM 1, the Village has benefited from the efforts of many organizations and agencies to include public in stormwater activities, such as litter clean-ups, stream bank stabilizations, trash and hazardous waste management, pharmaceutical collections and volunteer monitoring of local streams and the Lake, Floating Classroom tours for school children and adults. Public events, such as Earth Day, Water Week and AgStravaganza promote protecting water quality through stormwater management and other activities.

MCM 3: Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination

The Village adopted legislation to control illicit discharges to Village waterways and storm sewers. Illicit discharges, such as dumping wastewater directly into the Village's storm sewers, are already prohibited under the Tompkins County Sanitary Code. Other discharges, such as dumping waste oil or other pollutants into the storm sewer system, ditches or streams, are prohibited by Village law. Department of Public Works staff routinely inspect and repair, if needed, stormwater conveyance and treatment systems within the Village. No violations were detected during the reporting period.

MCM 4: Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control

Developers in the Village must abide by the Stormwater law of 2007 when designing and implementing developments that disturb one acre of land or more. New developments must submit Stormwater Pollution Prevent Plans, which the Village Planning

Board/Engineer reviews. Licensed engineers who are trained in stormwater management must monitor construction sites. Village staff made dozens of site visits this past year to active construction sites for both commercial and residential development. Staff conducted visits to projects in Bolton Estates, Millcroft and Lansing Trails II, among others.

MCM 5: Post-Construction Stormwater Management

This requirement is much like the previous one, except that once the development is finished, the area must be monitored to ensure that stormwater does not cause erosion that will carry sediment off the site. These activities are covered under our local law.

MCM 6: Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping for Municipal Operations

The Village complies with stormwater regulations in its municipal operations, such as highway, bridge, park, rights-of-way and building maintenance. We already have many measures in place to ensure that pollutants are properly managed and kept out of our waterways. Examples: storing road salt in its own closed building, checking/cleaning retention basins and storm sewers, sweeping streets in spring to remove debris. DPW staff are responsible for inspecting and maintaining all Village stormwater conveyances and structures, as well as all outfalls, culverts and ditches. The new Village garage allows our highway staff to store vehicles and perform maintenance on them in an enclosed space, providing containment for vehicle fluids, thus protecting surface and groundwater.

Early in 2014, the Village of Lansing received its first stormwater audit. A DEC stormwater official came to review all relevant documents, including regulations, laws and those related to our various stormwater requirements as an MS4. Overall, the audit was a positive experience and reinforced the fact that the Village is keeping up with all its stormwater duties and expectations.

The point of this complex program is that the south end of Cayuga Lake is a 303 (d) listed waterbody of concern, according to the US EPA. Stormwater control efforts are meant to improve water quality by reducing sediment and pollution from entering the lake.

The current wisdom on managing stormwater is to keep it in place as long as possible to allow for natural infiltration into the ground, rather than trying to hasten it off to the nearest receiving stream or other water body. The slower stormwater is allowed to move over land, the more land will absorb it and prevent it from running off laden with sediment and pollutants. Further, allowing stormwater to rest in place longer helps with recharge of local aquifers.