

Executive Summary
2015-2016 Annual Report for Phase II SPDES General Permit for
Stormwater Discharges from Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s)
Village of Lansing, May 2, 2016 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, 2014 through March 9, 2015. 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. The Village also provides an article about stormwater in their Village newsletter which is sent to businesses and residents twice yearly. The Village is a member of the Southern Tier Building Officials Association which provided one training, to the public and the membership, about Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination during the last reporting year.

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 Stormwater Management Officer and Village Engineer review. The Village also requires sites that disturb less than one acre provide and implement soil and erosion control measures. Licensed engineers, who are trained in stormwater management, are required to monitor construction sites which require a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan. Village staff made numerous site visits this past year to active construction sites for both commercial and residential development. Staff conducted visits to projects in the Lansing Trails II subdivision, the Millcroft subdivision, 2435 North Triphammer road, 720 Warren Road, the Crossmore subdivision, among others.

MCM 5: Post-Construction Stormwater Management

Some developers are required to build Stormwater facilities as part of the finished development such as stormwater ponds, rain gardens, swales, and bio-retention basins/filters. Within newly approved subdivisions

the stormwater facilities are typically offered to the Village for ownership. By the Village owning the stormwater facility this guarantees that it will be maintained appropriately. In the event that the Village will not be the owner of the stormwater facility, the Village requires that owner of the stormwater facility implement a maintenance agreement. The maintenance agreement typically ensures that the stormwater facility is being inspected and maintained in accordance with original design. The Village has completed a storm sewer shed map, which includes various private and public stormwater facilities. The Village anticipates further mapping and analyzing of the existing stormwater facilities in the coming year and further mapping to enhance the existing storm sewer shed mapping (which will be covered by a grant achieved by the Tompkins County Stormwater Coalition).

MCM 6: Stormwater Management 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 to remove debris. DPW staff is 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. During the last reporting year, the Village swept and removed debris from approximately 1 acre of municipal parking area and 11 road miles and performed maintenance on an existing stormwater facility in the Lansing Trails I subdivision.

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, but as a result the Village now has created and implemented various policies in place such as, a Stormwater Management Plan, an Illicit Discharge Elimination and Detection Manual, and a MS4 self-inspection checklist for Municipal Operations, among others. These new policies outline how the Village inspects, maintains, and documents various systems, operations, and facilities such as, but not limited to, street sweeping, outfall inspections, stormwater system maintenance, and Municipal Buildings. These policies provide the Village staff with guidance and various checklists for documentation purposes.

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.