

Executive Summary
2011-2012 Annual Report for Phase II SPDES General Permit for
Stormwater Discharges from Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s)
Village of Lansing, May 21, 2012 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 Annual Report documents the progress that the Village made toward compliance, covering the period from March 10, 2011 through March 9, 2012. 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. A list of these activities is in the Annual Report.

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. See the Annual Report for more detail.

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 now prohibited by Village law. Department of Public Works staff routinely inspect and repair, if needed, stormwater conveyance and treatment systems within the Village. In the past reporting period, 3 sewer breaks and one swimming pool discharge were detected and corrected.

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, chiefly at the BJ's wholesale warehouse site. Staff also conducted visits to the private home construction projects in Bolton Estate, Millcroft and Lansing Trails II.

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 own 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 not allowed to enter our waterways. Examples: road salt is stored in its own closed building, retention basins and storm sewers checked and cleaned annually, streets swept in spring to remove sand and grit. 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, which also provides containment for vehicle fluids, keeping them out of surface and groundwater systems.

In April, 2008, the DEC issued the new General SPDES Permits for stormwater [Construction Activities, GP-0-10-002 and the SPDES General Permit for Discharges from Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s), GP-0-10-002], which covers construction activities, from May 1, 2008—April 30, 2010. The following activities relevant to our area are covered under the new permit:

1. *Construction activities* involving soil disturbances of one (1) or more acres; including disturbances of less than one acre that are part of a *larger common plan of development or sale* that will ultimately disturb one or more acres of land; excluding *routine maintenance activity* that is performed to maintain the original line and grade, hydraulic capacity or original purpose of a facility;
2. *Construction activities* involving soil disturbances of less than one (1) acre where the Department has determined that a *SPDES* permit is required for stormwater discharges based on the potential for contribution to a violation of a *water quality standard* or for significant contribution of *pollutants* to *surface waters of the State*.

The point of this effort: 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 currently entering the lake.