

FACT SHEET
WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PROPOSED RE-ISSUANCE OF INDIVIDUAL PERMIT FOR THE CITY OF
SHEBOYGAN MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEM (MS4)
WPDES General Permit No. WI-S049867-2
June 2005

Purpose

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (the Department) is proposing to re-issue Wisconsin Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (WPDES) permit No. WI-S049867-2, for existing and new discharge of storm water to waters of the state from City of Sheboygan's municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) that is regulated under subch. I of ch. NR 216, Wis. Adm. Code. This proposed re-issued permit requires the permittee (the owner or operator of the MS4) to continue to implement and develop new storm water best management practices (BMPs) to reduce pollutants that are discharged by MS4s to waters of the state. Waters of the state includes surface waters, groundwater and wetlands.

Background

In 1976, the USEPA delegated the authority for issuing NPDES permits in Wisconsin to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The DNR exercises its storm water permitting authority through the Wisconsin Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (WPDES), authorized under ch. NR 216, Wis. Adm. Code and ch. 283, Wis. Stats. Except within Indian Country, storm water permits issued by the DNR are also recognized as federal permits.

DNR has the authority to issue two types of WPDES permits: 1) individual permits and 2) general permits. Individual permits can be tailored to include site-specific requirements that are applicable to an individual discharge situation. General permits can be just as restrictive as individual permits, however, the general permit is written to cover a broad classes of dischargers where environmental protection can be achieved through a set of general provisions that apply to all dischargers in a particular category.

Applicability

The City of Sheboygan was issued a MS4 individual permit #WI-S049867-1 in May 2000 which required the City to re-apply for continued permit coverage by September 30, 2004.

Overview of Permit Conditions

This proposed permit includes the conditions required by s. NR 216.07, Wis. Adm. Code, which consists of the following six categories:

- Public Education and Outreach
- Public Involvement and Participation
- Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination
- Construction Site Pollutant Control
- Post-Construction Storm Water Management
- Pollution Prevention

This permit follows federal and state requirements that provide some flexibility for the municipality to evaluate its MS4 system to help determine what type of programs are appropriate to meet the permit's requirements. This permit allows the permittees to comply with the permit requirements either individually or in collective arrangement with other municipalities. Each permittee is responsible for meeting all the applicable requirements for its own MS4. However, permittees may find that collectively pooling their resources will be a more efficient and cost-effective to comply with certain requirements. Here are a few examples:

- If a county is implementing erosion control and storm water management ordinances meeting DNR standards within a town, the town would not need to have its own ordinance.
- Public education programs, storm sewer system mapping and inspections might be financed jointly by multiple permittees.
- Storm water treatment systems might be financed collectively if the systems provide benefit to multiple permittees.

This proposed permit requires that a summary of the program and measurable goals be submitted to DNR for review. Reporting summarizing progress in meeting the permit requirements is required annually.

All of the six categories must be addressed and implemented with measures of compliance in accordance with the permit's compliance schedule.

This proposed permit also requires that the provisions of s. NR 151.13, Wis. Adm. Code, be achieved to the maximum extent practicable, which includes meeting a 20% reduction in the mass of total suspended solids (TSS) discharged to surface waters including wetlands from developed areas by March 10, 2008. Credit is given toward any existing TSS control that may already be in place. The TSS performance standard is raised to a 40% reduction by March 10, 2013.

Authorized Local Program

This proposed permit requires the permittee to implement erosion control and storm water management ordinances. However, landowners of construction sites with one acre or more of land disturbance within a permitted MS4's jurisdiction are still required to apply for construction site permit coverage from the DNR unless the municipality becomes an authorized local program (ALP) pursuant to s. NR 216.415, Wis. Adm. Code. Becoming an ALP is voluntary and is discussed in a separate DNR fact sheet.

Additional Information

The following web site links have information that may assist in complying with this permit:

DNR Storm Water Homepage:

<http://dnr.wi.gov/org/water/wm/nps/stormwater.htm>

EPA Program for Regulated Small MS4s:

<http://cfpub1.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater/phase2.cfm>

DNR erosion control and storm water management model ordinance of NR 152:

<http://dnr.wi.gov/org/water/wm/nps/admrules.htm#nr152>

EPA Illicit Discharge Model Ordinance:

<http://www.epa.gov/owow/nps/ordinance/mol5.htm>

EPA National Menu of BMPs for Stormwater Phase II:

<http://cfpub1.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater/menuofbmps/menu.cfm>

Public Notice and Public Informational Hearings

A 30-day public comment period and public informational hearings will be held on this proposed permit. A separate Hearing Notice describes the public comment period and the locations, times and dates of informational hearings.

For Further Information

Contact Susan Beaumier, Storm Water Specialist, at: Wisconsin DNR Milwaukee Service Center, 2300 N Dr Martin Luther King Jr Dr, Milwaukee, WI 53212 or at (414) 263-8682.