



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

Department of Environmental Protection

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Governor

Matthew A. Beaton
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Lieutenant Governor

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MS4 Permit: Summary of Major Requirements

Updated September 2018

July 1, 2018 – Effective Date of the MS4 permit

October 1, 2018 - 90 days after effective date

- Notice of Intent (NOI) is due
- Public review of the NOIs (at least 30 days)
- Then U.S. EPA/MassDEP sends authorization letter, extends public review period or denies authorization

June 30, 2019 - One Year after effective date

- Submit Stormwater Management Plan
 - Describes how permittee will meet requirements of the permit
 - Includes names of persons responsible for every action required for the 6 minimum control measures¹
- Sanitary Sewer Overflow inventory and report
- Written Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE) program description and procedures
- Written procedures for construction project sediment and erosion control actions
 - This may include changing local bylaws to enact this requirement

June 30, 2020 - Two Years after effective date

- Report on receiving waters, including impairments, pollutants of concern, TMDL status and number of outfalls that discharge to each waterbody
- Written procedures for as-built drawings and long-term O&M for developments and redevelopments
- Local ordinance or equivalent to enact new stormwater retention requirements for developments and redevelopments
 - This will include changing local bylaws

¹ The Six Minimum Control Measures are:

- 1- Public Education and Outreach
- 2- Public Involvement and Participation
- 3- Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE)
- 4- Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control
- 5- Stormwater Management for New Developments and Redevelopments (Post Construction Stormwater Management)
- 6- Good Housekeeping and Pollution Prevention for Permittee Owned Operations

This information is available in alternate format. Call Michelle Waters-Ekanem, Diversity Director, at 617-292-5751. TTY# MassRelay Service 1-800-439-2370
MassDEP Website www.mass.gov/dep

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- Written O&M procedures for municipal properties and activities
 - Includes parks and open spaces; police, fire, school and other municipal buildings
 - Vehicle and equipment operations
- Written procedures for maintaining the Town storm drain infrastructure
 - Street sweeping, catch basin inspection and cleaning
 - Winter road salt storage and use
 - O&M of all stormwater BMPs (e.g., detention basins; water quality swales, and the like)
- Develop and implement a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan for waste-handling facilities
- Complete initial map of the stormwater system
- Towns must start IDDE work on the highest priority catchments (“Problem Outfalls”)

June 30, 2021 - Three Years after effective date

- Towns must have completed all dry weather field sampling at all outfalls

June 30, 2022 – Four Years after effective date

- Report assessing current street design and parking lot guidelines that affect the creation of impervious cover
- Report assessing local regulations to allow green roofs, green infrastructure and stormwater harvesting
- Identify a minimum of 5 Town-owned sites suitable for retrofitting with stormwater BMPs

June 30, 2023 - Five Years after effective Date

- All requirements of the Six Minimum Control Measures to be completed
- MS4 Towns subject to the Charles River Watershed Phosphorus TMDL complete Phase I of their Phosphorus Control Plan
 - Includes plan for achieving reductions, analysis of how to fund it and implementation schedule
- MS4 Towns subject to the Lake and Pond Phosphorus TMDL complete their Lake and Pond Control Plan
 - Includes plan for achieving reductions, analysis of how to fund it and implementation schedule
- MS4 Towns subject to the Bacteria and Pathogen TMDL complete their Enhanced BMPs
 - Includes additional Public Education requirements
- MS4 Towns subject to the Cape Cod Nitrogen TMDL complete their Enhanced BMPs
 - Includes enhanced Public Education, Post-Construction and Good Housekeeping requirements
- MS4 Towns subject to the Assabet River Phosphorus TMDL complete their Enhanced BMPs
 - Includes enhanced Public Education, Post-Construction and Good Housekeeping
- MS4 Towns subject to Out-of-State TMDLs – includes Long Island Sound for Nitrogen and Rhode Island for Phosphorus – complete their Enhanced BMPs, Source Identification and Structural BMP requirements
 - Includes enhanced Public Education, Post-Construction, Good Housekeeping, Source Report and potential structural BMPs
- MS4 Towns subject to impaired waters requirements for Nitrogen or Phosphorus
 - Includes enhanced Public Education, Post-Construction, Good Housekeeping, Nitrogen and/or Phosphorus Source Report and potential structural BMPs
- Towns must complete all highest priority IDDE field investigations (for “Problem Outfalls”)
- Public Outreach Program must already have been completed
 - 2 messages to each of four audiences (Residents; Business/Commercial/Institutional; Developers and Construction; Industrial)
 - Effectiveness of messages evaluated and modified

Detailed Information about the 2016 MS4 permit:

- Final Permit Documents: https://www3.epa.gov/region1/npdes/stormwater/MS4_MA.html
- Maps of Urbanized Area for each MA town: <https://www3.epa.gov/region1/npdes/stormwater/ma.html>
- MassDEP’s MS4 Public Education Documents: <https://goo.gl/XwdcVF>

For additional information contact MassDEP’s Stormwater Coordinator
617-292-5821 Frederick.Civian@state.ma.us