



**ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
ANNUAL FACILITY INSPECTION REPORT  
NPDES PHASE II PERMIT FOR STORMWATER DISCHARGES  
FROM  
MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEMS**

**CITY OF CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS  
NPDES Permit No. ILR 400313**

**DATE:** May 25, 2016

**REPORTING PERIOD:** April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2016

**MS4 OPERATOR INFORMATION:**

City of Champaign  
702 Edgebrook Drive  
Champaign, Illinois 61820  
(217) 403-4710

**INTRODUCTION**

This report and appendices detail the efforts the City of Champaign has undertaken to comply with the stormwater program outlined in the Notice of Intent for the permit period of April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2016. The report describes the status of the Best Management Practices measures and activities (BMP), the effectiveness of the BMP measures, the supporting data collected, the activities proposed during the next permit year, and identifies obligations required by the City of Champaign under another agency's ILR-40 permit, and lists City of Champaign construction projects that required stormwater pollution permits.

**STATUS OF COMPLIANCE**

The Notice of Intent proposes the use of the following minimum control measures to implement the stormwater program this permit year.

- 1) Public Education and Outreach.
- 2) Public Participation and Involvement.
- 3) Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination.
- 4) Construction Site Runoff Control.

5) Post-Construction Runoff Control.

6) Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping.

“Appendix A – ILR-40 Compliance Report” summarizes the BMP activities that were performed during this permit year. A status designation of “Completed” indicates that the activity meets the milestone proposed in the Notice of Intent. A status designation of “In Progress” indicates that the majority of the activity has been completed, but still has some incomplete parts. A status of “Not Started” indicates that the activity was incomplete at the end of the permit year.

A total of 51 activities were required during this permit year. Table 1 summarizes the activities by minimum control measure categories and provides an indication of the status. Appendix A provides a detailed description of each of the 51 activities that were required during the permit year.

<b>TABLE 1</b> <b>STATUS OF MINIMUM CONTROL MEASURES</b> <b>PROPOSED IN THE NOTICE OF INTENT</b> <b>PERMIT PERIOD: April 1, 2015 TO March 31, 2016</b>				
Minimum Control Measure Category	Activities Completed	Activities In Progress	Activities Not Started	Total Activities
Public Education and Outreach	6	1		7
Public Participation and Involvement	7			7
Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination	9			9
Construction Site Runoff Control	6			6
Post-Construction Runoff Control	7			7
Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping	15			15
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>1</b>		<b>51</b>

## EVALUATION OF BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICE

**Public Education and Outreach.** The City's public education and outreach program includes a variety of practices that provide the public with stormwater quality information. Practices include posting of website material, handing out paper flyers and brochures, running newspaper ads, providing speaking engagements, meeting one-on-one with the public, providing information booths and a hands-on stormwater model. Overall, the program has been successful in delivering stormwater quality information to the public.

The City posts information about stormwater quality and various recycling events on the City's website. Distribution of informational material on the City website is highly effective at getting information to the public, who seem to be using electronic communication more frequently. Information about the City's recycling events is also run in the local newspaper and postcards and flyers are also distributed at various City events. The high participation level of the public at various events, such as the electronic recycling event, spring and fall yard waste events and Christmas tree collection, indicate that the public is using the information distributed by the City. The effectiveness of this activity is rated as high for improved stormwater quality.

City of Champaign staff provides stormwater quality presentations at various meetings and events every year. This year staff made a presentation to the Champaign County CCNET about the City's various stormwater improvement projects that included bio-swales, rain gardens and native vegetation. Two other presentations were made at the UI Extension Auditorium and the Land of Lincoln Legal Aid office about rain gardens and the City's stormwater utility fee credit and incentive program. A rain garden tour was also provided as part of these presentations. All presentations were open to the public and were intended to educate participants on the benefits of rain gardens and other post construction BMP practices. The effectiveness of this activity is rated as high for improved stormwater quality.

Radio public service announcements are also run on local radio stations that discuss stormwater quality, including the "Don't Dump Waste Into Inlets" message. This year the announcements were broadcast in the weeks prior to the Boneyard Creek cleanup event in April. The effectiveness of public service radio announcements is unknown because the City does not receive direct feedback from the public.

Information booths that include stormwater quality material are provided at neighborhood meetings for drainage projects and other City events. This year information booths were provided at the Garden Hills Neighborhood Community Day and the Boneyard Creek Cleanup Day. Dozens of stormwater brochures, pollution stickers, household hazardous waste brochures, rain garden pamphlets and stormwater utility fee brochures were handed out at these events. The effectiveness of this activity is rated as medium for improved stormwater quality.

The City also used the stormwater Environscape model at various events to teach the public about stormwater and pollution. This model is highly effective and is very popular with children. The model was used during the Boneyard Creek Cleanup Day this year.

Overall, the City's public education and outreach program has been successful in getting the message out about stormwater quality. Participation levels by the public at various events, such as the yard waste pick-up event and the Boneyard Creek Cleanup Day, support that the public education program is working and should continue as outlined in the Notice of Intent.

**Public Participation and Involvement.** The City's public participation and involvement program has a variety of activities that promote public involvement in stormwater quality improvements. The primary activities are trash pickup and neighborhood cleanup events, which generate the highest participation levels and interest from the public. The City also started planning for drainage improvement projects in two environmental justice areas. Meetings have been held with residents in these areas as planning for the drainage improvements moves forward.

Annual neighborhood cleanups are held in areas with neighborhood associations. This year, two neighborhood cleanups were performed in Planning Areas 1, 2, 7, 8, and 14, which included participation from 122 members of the neighborhood at the cleanup events. In addition, the Public Works Department provided curbside debris pick up for 87 senior or disabled neighborhood members as part of the cleanup efforts. The effectiveness of this activity is rated as high for improved stormwater quality.

The annual Boneyard Creek Cleanup Day was held on April 18, 2015. This is a popular event that attracted 500 volunteers this year. Approximately 165 cubic yards of debris were picked up along the Boneyard Creek and Kaufman Lake. The effectiveness of this activity is rated a high because of the high participation levels and the amount of debris that is picked up.

The City has an adopt-a-highway litter program that utilizes volunteers to pick up litter on designated streets. This program continues to be popular among fraternities, sororities and businesses. Under this program, volunteers picked up litter on 46 separate days this year. The program is effective in picking up litter at specific locations and interest is adequate enough to continue the program.

City staff regularly attends the Salt Fork Watershed implementation meetings, which includes discussion of regional watershed planning and water quality issues. Attendance by City staff at these meetings helps the City understand stormwater planning at the regional level, which is beneficial in planning local City activities. The effectiveness of this activity is rated as medium for improved stormwater quality.

The City has two major drainage improvement projects planned for environmental justice areas, which are the Boneyard Creek Improvements Phase 5 and the Garden Hills Drainage Improvements. A total of eight meetings were held this year with steering committees and residents in these areas. The meetings allowed residents to have input into the projects and also allowed City staff to educate the neighborhoods on the importance of stormwater quality. The effectiveness of this activity is rated as high for improved stormwater quality.

The City participates in quarterly meetings of the cooperating MS4 group. These meetings are very productive for general coordination of various shared tasks, such as the Stormwater Forum

planning and sharing other water quality information. Meetings are planned to be continued into the foreseeable future.

Overall, the effectiveness of the City's public participation and involvement program is rated as high. All of the litter pick-up programs in this category have high levels of participation and interest from the public, which justifies continuing the program with no changes.

**Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination.** The City's illicit discharge detection and elimination program includes the use of GIS maps, proactive inspection programs, ordinances, public reporting, illicit discharge tracking and removal procedures.

The City maintains a GIS map of the storm sewer system, sanitary sewer system, and illicit discharges. Map updates continue on a regular basis throughout the year. This mapping program is highly effective in tracking illicit discharges and for managing the sewer systems.

All sanitary sewer service connections in new developments are inspected to make sure that the connections are made into the sanitary sewer system. All new sewer connections require a permit. This has been a highly effective measure in reducing illicit connections.

Discharges from illicit connections are prohibited according to provisions in Chapter 29.5-4.15 of the Champaign Municipal Code. When an illicit connection is found, Public Works-Engineering staff evaluates the situation and works with the property owners to remove the connection. Depending on the circumstances, the removal may be fully the responsibility of the property owner or the City may implement a cost share plan with the property owner to help facilitate the removal of the connection. This program has been very successful at removing illicit connections.

Public reports of illicit connections are taken by staff in the Public Works Department. All reports are recorded in the City's GIS/Work Order system and a follow-up investigation is made for each report. Tracking procedures are initiated if an illicit connection is suspected by City staff. Tracking procedures include the use of manhole inspections to find the connection, sewer televising and dye testing. Removal procedures are initiated if an illicit connection is found during the investigation. This program has been successful in finding and removing the illicit connections.

The City proactively looks for illicit discharges and connections with a combination of storm sewer televising and storm sewer outfall inspections. These programs are the primary way that illicit connections are found by the City.

The number of illicit discharges and connections has been dropping over the last few years. Last year only one illicit connection was found and removed. The drop in number of illicit connections is an indication that the program is highly effective at finding and removing illicit connections.

**Construction Site Runoff Control.** The City's stormwater quality program includes a construction site runoff control program to track compliance and enforce ordinances for erosion

and sediment control from construction sites. The program has a full time inspector who reviews plans, issues erosion and sediment control permits, inspects construction sites, and enforces the City's erosion and sediment control ordinance (Chapter 29.5, Article V of City Code) and standards.

This year a total of 101 erosion and sediment control permits were issued for construction sites. Permitted construction sites were inspected by the City's inspector on a regular basis to track compliance and take enforcement action, as necessary, to bring sites back into compliance. The City's inspector also tracked compliance for proper garbage and construction debris disposal on all permitted construction sites.

The erosion and sediment control program has been effective at reducing the amount of sediment and pollutants leaving construction sites. The combination of ordinances and a full-time City inspector for the program has kept contractors aware that the City has oversight and that standards must be maintained on construction sites. This is having a positive effect on stormwater quality in the receiving streams and continued use of the outlined program is recommended in the future.

**Post-Construction Runoff Control.** The City's post-construction runoff control program includes the use of stormwater utility fee credits and incentives, requirements for post-construction runoff controls on new private developments, and post-construction controls on large-scale City funded drainage improvement projects.

The City offers credits and incentives to property owners who pay a stormwater utility fee and install stormwater quality controls, such as rain gardens, bio-swales, cisterns, permeable pavement, rain barrels and other controls that improve or reuse stormwater. The City's Credit and Incentive Manual outlines how much credit or incentive a property owner can receive for the control. The amount of credit or incentive depends on the type and quantity of controls that are installed by the property owner. A total of 120 incentive payments were paid out to property owners this year including one for a rain garden and 119 for rain barrels. Approximately 1,700 properties were receiving on-going stormwater utility fee credit this year for stormwater controls with the majority of those receiving a detention basin maintenance credit. This program remains popular with property owners, especially the rain barrel incentive and detention basin maintenance credit. This is good indication that it is an effective program in the overall stormwater quality program.

The City requires stormwater management plans, including consideration for the use of post-construction controls, in all new developments within the City. The criteria for the stormwater management plans and post-construction controls is contained in Chapter 29.5 of the City Municipal Code, which requires the minimization of stormwater runoff, water quality management, multiple use activities for stormwater and detention storage. Each development in the City is reviewed for post-construction controls based on the requirements in Chapter 29.5. After plan review, City approval of the development is given if the stormwater management plan meets the requirements in Chapter 29.5. The City also field verifies that the stormwater management plan was installed according to the approved plans. The City reviewed and

approved six new developments this year for post-construction controls. This program has been effective in requiring and regulating post-construction controls in new developments.

There are three large-scale City funded drainage improvement projects that are in the preliminary or final design stages this year. These projects are the West Washington Street Drainage Improvements, Boneyard Creek Drainage Improvements and the Garden Hills Drainage Improvements. City Council has identified these projects as top drainage improvement priorities in the City. Each of these projects will have post-construction stormwater controls including detention storage, rain gardens, bioswales and native plantings. City drainage improvement projects have been well received by the public and have been an effective tool in showcasing rain gardens, native plantings, stormwater management and water quality.

Overall, the City's post-construction control program has been effective at intercepting pollutants originating from within the City. This is having a positive effect on stormwater quality in the receiving streams and continued use of the outlined program is recommended in the future.

**Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping.** The City's Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping program has 15 measures that are being used to keep waste and pollutants from entering the storm sewer system. Most of these measures were already in place prior to the implementation of the Phase II regulations.

Measures include the hazardous waste spill response plan, pesticide applicator training/licensing, training program for Operations' section staff, stream inspection and debris removal program, storm sewer and inlet cleaning/televising program, vehicle washing procedures, multi-family recycling program, electronic recycling event, yard waste pick up program, Christmas tree collection program, street sweeping program, vehicle fluid disposal program, flood plain building restrictions, salt and brine application procedures, and participation in the operation of the Landscape Recycling Center.

This program has been very effective at diverting waste and intercepting pollutants before they enter local receiving streams. Continued use of the outlined program is recommended in the future.

## **INFORMATION AND DATA COLLECTION RESULTS**

Appendix A summarizes the data collected for each BMP.

## **OTHER PERMIT OBLIGATIONS**

The City of Champaign entered into a street maintenance agreement with the University of Illinois that requires the City to sweep certain curb and gutter streets within the University District. In exchange, the University of Illinois would plow snow on four City streets and mow right-of-ways on two City streets.

The details of the maintenance agreement are outlined in the “Memorandum of a Maintenance Agreement” between the City of Champaign and the University of Illinois. The agreement was signed October 28, 2002.

### **STORMWATER ACTIVITIES FOR NEXT PERMIT YEAR**

The City of Champaign submitted a Notice of Intent to the IEPA on September 23, 2013. The Notice of Intent was for renewal of the City’s general stormwater quality permit from April 2014 through March 2019. The activities proposed in the Notice of Intent are included in Appendix B, which also includes the proposed best management practice for next year.

### **MONITORING PLAN**

The City is currently reviewing the new monitoring guidelines in Part V. of the new permit that was issued on February 10, 2016. The City will develop and initiate a monitoring and assessment program within 180 days of the March 1, 2016 effective date of the permit. The City is working with the City of Urbana, University of Illinois, Village of Savoy and Champaign County to determine the most appropriate method for the monitoring and assessment program. At a minimum, the City will continue with its current monitoring program, which is an annual assessment of physical/habitat characteristics of stream bank erosion caused by stormwater discharges, as outlined in Part V, A.2.vi in the new permit that was issued on February 10, 2016.

### **SUMMARY OF CITY OF CHAMPAIGN SPONSORED PROJECTS**

The City of Champaign did not have any projects last year that disturbed more than one acre and required a NPDES construction stormwater permit.

If you have any questions about this report, please feel free to call me at (217) 403-4700 or email me at [alex.nagy@ci.champaign.il.us](mailto:alex.nagy@ci.champaign.il.us).

Sincerely,

Alex Nagy, Civil Engineer III  
City of Champaign