



Small Municipal Storm Sewer System (MS4) Storm Water General Permit Fact Sheet Implementation Scheduling Guidance

The Department of Environmental Management (DEM) signed the Rhode Island Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (RIPDES) General Permit for Storm Water Discharge from Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems and from Industrial Activity at Eligible Facilities Operated by Regulated Small MS4s on November 14, 2003, which became effective on December 19, 2003.

The General Permit authorizes the discharge of storm water from small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s) as defined under RIPDES Rule 31(b)(17), owned and operated by the United States, State, city, town, district, association, or other public body created by or pursuant to State law and are designated under RIPDES Rule 31(a)(5)(i)(A-J). The permit also authorizes the discharge of storm water associated with industrial activity as defined in Rule 31(b)(15)(i)-(ix) and (xi) from industrial facilities that are owned or operated by a regulated MS4 operator provided that they are not excluded in Part I.B.4.d of the permit (Limitations of Coverage).

Submission Deadlines:

The final General Permit gives the following applicants ninety (90) days or until March 18, 2004, to submit the Notice of Intent (NOI) and Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) to the Department:

- Small MS4s excluding systems operated by federal and State government located in urbanized areas or densely populated areas as defined in Rule 31(a)(5)(i)(A-B);
- Small MS4s operated by federal and State government with an average daily population of equal to or greater than 1,000 as defined in Rule 31(a)(5)(i)(C);
- Small MS4s operated by the Rhode Island Department of Transportation located in urbanized areas or densely populated areas, or serves a divided highway as defined in Rule 31(a)(5)(i)(D).

Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management

Office of Water Resources - RIPDES Storm Water Program
235 Promenade Street, Providence, RI 02908-5767 TDD 401-831-5508



SWMPP Requirements and Implementation Scheduling Guidance:

The operator must develop and implement a SWMPP meeting all the requirements of the six minimum control measures, which are described in Part IV.B. of the General Permit, as well as the requirements for implementation of provisions for storm water discharges as a result of a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) study as described in Part IV.D.

For each of the six minimum measures, the permittee must:

- Identify the person(s) or department responsible or sharing responsibility for the implementation of the measure.
- Identify all Best Management Practices (BMPs) to be implemented for full compliance with the measure.
- Identify measurable goals for each BMP and identify milestones and interim milestones for BMP implementation.

The SWMPP must contain the measurable goals for each minimum control measure (narrative or numeric, used to measure the success of the program) as well as an implementation schedule including interim milestones and frequency of activities. Measurable goals are used to determine program progress, and to assess compliance with the permit. The implementation schedule must reflect a relatively steady level of effort throughout the permit term. That is, the compliance dates should not all be near the end of the permit term. The permittee's Annual Report will require a summary of progress made towards each goal.

Justification as to why each measurable goal was selected must be included within the SWMPP. The justification must include a brief discussion on why the measurable goal is an

effective measurement of the permittee's progress towards compliance with the minimum measure. In some cases, the MS4 operator may already have a program or segments of a program in place and functioning that can be included as a BMP towards meeting the requirement of the minimum measure. The program or segments shall also be described in the SWMPP and included in the implementation schedule. At a minimum, an implementation schedule should briefly describe the BMP, responsible party, measurable goal, and the implementation date.

When establishing a measurable goal a level of effort **must** be determined. For example, if tagging of outfall pipes is chosen as a BMP, then a measurable goal must be established describing a certain number or percentage of the pipes tagged. For example, in the example implementation schedule for an Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Program, (included in the NOI package), a measurable goal of tagging 50% of all accessible outfall pipes is established within the second year of the program.

The implementation schedule must also include **all** measurable goals required in the General Permit. On the example implementation schedule, the required measurable goals are indicated in bold. Although not required, you may choose to display implementation dates on a chart with bars showing the start and finish dates. Otherwise, a notation must be devised indicating how the BMP will be implemented (i.e. continuously, once or twice annually etc.) BMPs that have an implementation schedule that are continuous in nature can be indicated by start and finish dates. However, BMPs that occur only once every year can be indicated as "Annually" followed by the month(s) and and the year(s) it will occur (refer to "BMP ID 3.5 - Training" on the example implementation schedule).



While the information provided in the SWMPP must be accurate to the best knowledge and belief of the applicant, DEM recognizes that as programs are more fully developed, changes can occur to the program elements described in the application. Changes adding (but not subtracting or replacing) components, controls or requirements to the SWMPP may be made at any time upon written notification to RIDEM as described in the General Permit under Part E. Program Evaluation.

Where to Submit:

A completed and signed NOI and a copy of the SWMPP must be submitted to:

RIDEM - Office of Water Resources
RIPDES Program - Permitting Section
235 Promenade Street
Providence, RI 02908

There is no application fee associated with the submittal of the NOI and SWMPP.

RIPDES Storm Water Phase II Contacts:

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Visit our website at:

www.state.ri.us/dem/programs/benviron/water/permits/ripdes/stwater/index.htm