

What Is The County Required To Do? Six Minimum Measures Enforced By the Ohio EPA

All communities regulated under Phase II of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) are required to create a Storm Water Management Plan (SWMP) to implement controls in six minimum measures. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has spelled out what must be done to satisfy each measure.

1. Public Education and Outreach
 - Implement a public education program to distribute educational materials to the community, or conduct equivalent outreach activities about the impacts of storm water discharges on local waterbodies and the steps that can be taken to reduce storm water pollution.
 - Determine the appropriate best management practices (BMP's) and measurable goals for this minimum control measure. Measurable goals include using more than one mechanism and targeting at least five different storm water themes over the permit term. At least one message must be targeted to the development community and the program shall reach at least 50 percent of the population.
2. Public Participation/Involvement
 - Comply with all applicable State and local public notice requirements.
 - Determine the appropriate best management practices (BMP's) and measurable goals for this minimum control measure. Goals for this measure include at a minimum, five public involvement activities over the permit term.
3. Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination
 - Develop, implement and enforce a program to detect and eliminate illicit discharges into your municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4).
 - Develop a storm sewer system map, showing the location of all outfalls as well as the names and locations of all surface waters of the State that receive discharges from those outfalls. Within the next five years, the map shall also include your MS4 system including catch basins, pipes, ditches, flood control facilities, post-construction water quality BMP's and private post-construction water quality BMP's meeting State or local requirements. Update this map annually as needed.
 - Create a list and map of all on-site sewage disposal systems (a.k.a. home sewage treatment systems (HSTS's)) connected to the MS4.
 - Prohibit through ordinance or other regulatory mechanism illicit discharges into your MS4. Implement enforcement procedures and actions.
 - Develop and implement a plan to detect and eliminate non-storm water discharges, including illegal dumping, to your system. This shall include a plan to evaluate HSTS's and if they are not operating as designed, how to replace the system, connect to the MS4, and if necessary how they can obtain coverage under an NPDES general permit. Contamination in outfalls should be actively investigated during a dry weather screening process.
 - Inform public employees, businesses, and the general public about the hazards associated with illegal discharges and improper disposal of waste.

- Address miscellaneous non-storm water discharges (such as water line flushing, irrigation water, foundation drains, etc.) only if they can be identified as significant contributors of pollutants to the MS4.
 - Develop a list of occasional incidental non-storm water discharges that will not be addressed as illicit discharges.
 - Establish priorities and specific goals for long-term system-wide surveillance of your MS4, as well as for specific investigations of outfalls and their tributary area where previous surveillance demonstrates a high likelihood of illicit discharges.
4. Construction Site Storm Water Runoff Control
- Develop, implement and enforce a program to reduce pollutants in any storm water runoff to your MS4 from construction activities that result in a land disturbance of greater than or equal to one acre, or are part of a larger common plan of development or sale that would disturb one acre or more.
 - Ensure compliance through an ordinance or other regulatory mechanism to require erosion and sediment controls. This shall be equivalent to Ohio EPA NPDES General Storm Water Permit for Construction Activities OHC000003.
 - Enforce requirements for construction site operators to implement appropriate erosion and sediment control BMP's and to control waste at the construction site that may cause adverse impacts to water quality.
 - Enact procedures for storm water pollution prevention plan (SWP3) review that incorporate consideration of potential water quality impacts.
 - Ensure proper receipt and consideration of information submitted by the public.
 - Carry out procedures for site inspection and enforcement of control measures. Inspections shall be on a monthly basis unless there is documentation stating a need for more or less frequent inspections on a site-by-site basis.
5. Post-Construction Storm Water Management in New Development and Redevelopment
- Develop, implement and enforce a program to address storm water runoff from new development or redevelopment projects that disturb greater than or equal to one acre, including projects less than one acre that are part of a larger common plan of development or sale, that discharge into your MS4. Ensure that controls are in place that will prevent or minimize water quality impacts.
 - Develop and implement strategies that include a combination of structural and/or non-structural BMP's appropriate for your community.
 - Use an ordinance or other regulatory mechanism to address post-construction runoff from new development and redevelopment projects to the extent allowable under State or local law. This shall at a minimum be equivalent to Ohio EPA NPDES General Storm Water Permit for Construction Activities OHC000003.
 - Ensure long-term operation and maintenance of BMP's.
6. Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping for Municipal Operations
- Develop and implement an operation and maintenance program that includes a training component and has the ultimate goal of preventing or reducing pollutant runoff from municipal operations.
 - Using training materials that are available from Ohio EPA or other organizations, your program shall include employee training to prevent and reduce storm water

pollution from activities such as park and open space maintenance, fleet and building maintenance and storm water system maintenance.

- Include a list of industrial facilities you own or operate that are subject to Ohio EPA's Industrial Storm Water General Permit or individual NPDES permits for discharges of storm water associated with industrial activity that ultimately discharge to your MS4. For municipal facilities that are not required to obtain Industrial Storm Water General Permit coverage, a SWP3 shall be developed and implemented in accordance with the SWP3 requirements of Ohio EPA's Industrial Storm Water General Permit OHR000004.

You can download the Portage County Storm Water Management Plan by [clicking here](#).

