



Stormwater Best Management Practices for PENNSYLVANIA

Pennsylvania is working alongside neighboring states to clean up our local waters that flow to the Chesapeake Bay. This effort is Pennsylvania's Phase 3 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Implementation Plan (Phase 3 WIP).

The path to success for Pennsylvania's Phase 3 WIP starts locally, and stormwater management is an important part of the solution. This document summarizes seven stormwater practices that reduce nutrient and sediment pollution to local waters and to the Chesapeake Bay.



MS4 POLLUTANT REDUCTION PLANS

Action: As one component of the 2018 permit, MS4 Permittees must implement management practices to achieve the reductions identified in their respective PRPs by 2023.

Goal 1: MS4s in the Chesapeake Bay watershed implement BMPs in current MS4 NPDES permits by 2023.

Goal 2: Implement the PennDOT and Turnpike Commission MS4 Permits in concert with the other MS4 NPDES permits by 2023.

Meet Current MS4 Permit Requirements: Municipalities with MS4 permits are required to prepare PRPs. PRPs include an estimate of the stormwater pollutant load, and propose the installation of specific BMPs such as forest buffers or stream restorations. PRPs plan for sediment, nitrogen, and phosphorus reductions. The BMPs must be implemented within five years after approval of the PRP.

NEW RIPARIAN FOREST BUFFERS

Action: Plant trees and shrubs along streams.

Goal 1: Incentivize and facilitate new acres of riparian forest buffers associated with the MS4 Pollutant Reduction Plans.

Riparian Forest Buffers are trees and plants planted along streams to capture water and pollution that flows from the land into the stream. They are cost-effective BMPs for reducing pollution and flooding, and providing wildlife habitat. There are many programs to help landowners plant and maintain buffers in developed areas. Buffers can be planted at community parks, schools and businesses, and more.

CONTROL MEASURES FOR ILLICIT DISCHARGES

Action: DEP facilitates municipal ordinance amendments to control illicit discharges to storm sewer systems.

Goal 1: Municipal ordinance adoption for control of pool drainage.

Goal 2: Municipal ordinance adoption for control of residential car wash drainage.

Improved Municipal Stormwater Ordinances: The current PAG-13 General Permit eliminates an authorization to discharge pool water and residential vehicle wash water containing cleaning agents to streams. Municipal MS4s have until 2022 to update their ordinance to reflect those and other changes.

INDUSTRIAL STORMWATER

Action: DEP develops technical guidance, intended to supplement existing requirements, to inform industrial stormwater discharge permittees engaged in these activities. This guidance will list appropriate BMP utilization, design standards and implementation to reduce pollution which are acceptable to manage industrial stormwater.

Goal 1: Implementation of Chesapeake Bay BMPs by industrial stormwater discharge permittees.

Goal 2: Identify appropriate industrial stormwater permits suitable for impervious surface retrofit BMPs with the goal of facilitating industrial impervious surface to pervious cover or other volume reduction retrofit BMP.

Industrial Stormwater NPDES Permits currently require the owner of the facility to control the discharge of pollutants associated with the industrial activity. Over 1,000 industrial facilities in Pennsylvania's portion of the Chesapeake Bay watershed have such permits. There are opportunities for voluntary BMPs appropriate to the industry classification.

FERTILIZER LEGISLATION

Action: Pass the legislation described in the WIP and other legislation to facilitate reductions.

Fertilizer Legislation would, among other things, place restrictions on the application of total nitrogen in commercial fertilizer and, in many situations, ban the application of total phosphorus.

EROSION AND SEDIMENT (E&S) CONTROL AND POST CONSTRUCTION STORMWATER MANAGEMENT (PCSM) PROGRAM

Action: Continue permitting, inspecting, and ensuring compliance with Pennsylvania's erosion and sediment control and post-construction stormwater permit requirements, found in 25 Pa. Code Chapter 102 for all activities including construction, timber harvesting, oil and gas exploration, mining, and waste management.

Goal 1: Increase the number of county conservation districts with post-construction stormwater delegation.

Goal 2: Increase the inspection outputs as well as DEP staff to ensure compliance with NPDES permit and Chapter 102 obligations.

Goal 3: Improve the tracking and reporting to include all DEP programs implementing the provisions of these regulations.

Load reductions from BMPs required by Chapter 102 permits are creditable to the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Model and should therefore continue to be reported. Their continued operation should also be ensured and reported to maintain reduction credit in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Model into the long-term future. Strengthened County Conservation District and DEP compliance staff resources will support that goal, along with improved DEP Chapter 102 data management.

DIRT AND GRAVEL ROADS

Action: Continue to implement the Dirt and Gravel Roads Program through the Center for Dirt and Gravel Roads.

Goal 1: Continue to implement Environmentally Sensitive Maintenance practices aimed at reducing environmental impact of public roads, while reducing long-term maintenance costs.

Pennsylvania's Dirt, Gravel, and Low Volume Road Maintenance Program provides funding to eliminate stream pollution caused by runoff and sediment from the Commonwealth's comprehensive network of unpaved and low volume public roads. The program was enacted into law in April 1997 and expanded in 2014 to dedicate \$20 million to unpaved roads and \$8 million to paved low volume roads.



Resource Needs

Pennsylvania's Phase 3 WIP Stormwater Workgroup recommends the following additional support:

- 1. Compliance (Permitting, Compliance Assurance, Inspection, Enforcement).** Compliance by Pennsylvania municipalities is improving, but still has a long way to go. Additional DEP staff is needed to enforce the program. An additional 64 staff are needed for this work.
- 2. Technical Assistance for BMP Planning Revisions.** An additional 3 staff persons are needed for in-the-field outreach assistance statewide.
- 3. Financial Management for MS4s.** MS4s need financial resources to implement MS4 requirements. Implementing cost-effective projects on priority locations will likely require working with private, state, and federal landowners to acquire access.
- 4.** If the MS4 regulated area is not expanded to cover the entire developed area, additional staff are needed to validate Chapter 201 BMP operability in the non-regulated area.

Action Steps

Pennsylvania will pursue the following action steps to support nutrient and sediment pollution reduction efforts associated with stormwater:

Expanding Capacity for Technical Assistance

- Complete revisions to the Pennsylvania Stormwater BMP Manual.

Reporting and Tracking Progress

- Collect MS4 BMP data using the new reporting system for electronic submission for annual reports.
- Initiate and collect stormwater BMP data from other DEP programs implementing provisions of the Chapter 102 regulations.

Compliance

- Complete the Pollutant Reduction or Total Maximum Daily Load Plan Reviews for the 2018 MS4 permits.
- Develop the 2023-2028 MS4 Permit. In the development of this permit provide opportunities for input from stakeholders, including but not limited to the Phase 3 WIP Stormwater Workgroup, as part of the normal public participation process.
- Develop the Industrial Stormwater Permit
- Develop the 2019-2024 Construction Stormwater Permit

For more information or to get involved in local planning efforts, please visit www.dep.pa.gov/chesapeakebay/phase3.

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