

Washington State Department of Transportation Municipal Stormwater General Permit

Stormwater Management Program Plan

The Washington Department of Transportation (WSDOT) has updated its Stormwater Management Program (SWMP) Plan as a part of the new state stormwater permit administered by the Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology). This plan establishes programs and procedures that will control the quality and quantity of stormwater runoff from roads, highways, and facilities owned or operated by WSDOT.

WSDOT previously published its SWMP in March 1997. The updated plan reflects changes in regulations, advancements in stormwater technology, and the evolution of WSDOT stormwater management practices.

Unlike other Ecology stormwater permits, Ecology incorporated WSDOT's SWMP plan into its new state stormwater permit as an appendix. Therefore, there will no delay in implementing the Ecology-approved SWMP once Ecology issues the permit.

WSDOT already applies many of the pollution prevention activities contained in the SWMP throughout the state. However, WSDOT will strategically target resources to address priority stormwater management issues in the permit area.

WSDOT organized its SWMP into the following 10 sections:

1. Background and overview
 - Area and facilities affected.
 - Regulations that govern WSDOT stormwater management operations.
2. Organizational framework and responsibilities for permit compliance and implementation, including:
 - Interagency coordination.
 - Key stormwater-related guidance and procedures.
 - Legal authority to control discharges.
 - Program planning.
 - SWMP revision process.

WSDOT Permit Focus Sheet Series

- [Permit Overview](#)
- Stormwater Management Program
- [Stormwater Monitoring](#)
- [Highway Runoff Manual FAQ](#)

Why it Matters

Uncontrolled and untreated stormwater contains pollutants that are harmful to people, fish, and wildlife and can cause erosion and flooding.



While pavement is a necessity in urban settings and for our state transportation system...



...paved surfaces do not allow water to penetrate into the ground where it can be treated naturally before it enters underground and surface water supplies.

3. Illicit discharges and illegal connections to WSDOT’s Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4):
 - Identification.
 - Removal.

4. Construction-related stormwater pollution prevention, including:
 - Erosion control program.
 - Spill prevention, control, and countermeasures.
 - Construction stormwater management controls prescribed by the Highway Runoff Manual (HRM).

5. Stormwater management for new facilities:
 - Post-construction stormwater management controls prescribed by the Highway Runoff Manual (HRM). WSDOT, engineering consultants, and many local agencies use the HRM to design stormwater systems for transportation projects.

6. Stormwater management for existing facilities:
 - Addresses existing impervious surfaces that do not have treatment or flow control.
 - Address existing impervious surfaces for which treatment or flow control is substandard.

7. Maintenance-related stormwater controls.

8. Stormwater-related research and monitoring strategy.

9. Education, training, and public involvement for:
 - WSDOT employees.
 - Contractors.
 - The public.

10. Program assessment and reporting on the effectiveness and implementation of WSDOT’s SWMP.



Stormwater is the number one urban water pollution problem in the state.

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SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS:

If you need this publication in an alternate format, call the Water Quality Program at 360-407-6401. Persons with hearing loss, call 711 for Washington Relay Service. Persons with a speech disability, call 877-833-6341.

For more information, please visit:

www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/stormwater/municipal/wsdot.html or www.wsdot.wa.gov/Environment/waterquality