

Stormwater Management Plan

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation General Permit Requirements for a Phase II State Pollution Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) Permit NYR20A337 for a Municipal Stormwater Sewer System (MS4).

Prepared for:

Incorporated Village of Poquott
45 Birchwood Avenue
Poquott, New York 11733

Prepared by:

Richard Parrish, P.G.
Environmental Commissioner
Designated Stormwater Management Official

Dated:

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1 INTRODUCTION

This is the Village Stormwater Management Plan (SWP) for compliance with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) General Permit Requirements for a Phase II State Pollution Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) Permit NYR20A337 for a Municipal Stormwater Sewer System (MS4). It represents a steady-state SWP that replaces the previous SWP submitted when the MS4 permit was just obtained from a condition of Non-Compliance in 2005, and then modified in 2009 and then replaced with an addendum in 2010. Its description as a steady-state document means that there are no substantial improvements that are required from the MS4 at this time. However, this document will need changing as the SWP and execution of minimum control measures (MCMs) evolves and improves, or as additional regulatory requirements are included to the MS4.

2 DOCUMENT CONTROL

This SWP includes four written volumes of MCMs that are maintained at Village Hall in Poquott (45 Birchwood Drive, Poquott, New York). These documents provide the documentation of the information contained within this SWP. In addition to the MCM volumes, there is a MCM and SWP Stormwater Calendar that is maintained in cyberspace as well as on paper (updated in writing quarterly). The Stormwater Calendar is authored on Google calendar and can be accessed by various members of Village Government. It prompts the need to perform various MCM functions and stands as a means to document MCM events. The SWP and all of the supporting volumes are maintained by the Stormwater Management Officer, Richard Parrish, P.G.

3 MINIMUM CONTROL MEASURES

3.1 MINIMUM CONTROL MEASURE 1 - PUBLIC EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

Measurable Goal

Upgrading the Village website to include multiple layers of pages that help teach about stormwater pollution impacts upon the waters of the State. A method to report Stormwater Pollution related issues was added to the website. Authorized the Board-appointed Environmental Commissioner the Authorized Stormwater Representative and the Local Stormwater Public Contact and Report Preparer. Mobilized a volunteer program that will help identify and remedy stormwater impacts.

Refined Village Website to feature professional quality photography of Village-waterways.

Observation of Effectiveness

The MCC forms are more complete and accurate. The storm drains within the Village function properly and have less surface impediments by leaves and sand. The number of stormwater related reports mentioned at the public hearings has been reduced. The Village website has seen increased traffic that can be counted due to enhanced content. A specific Public Hearing on the Village Stormwater Program was held at Village Hall. Sign posts were installed at all public beaches and parks for posting of signs that have included specific signs for Pet Waste Cleanup and No Feeding the Waterfowl. On-Line Publications have shown to have greater spread through the community as identified from tracking software that is embedded into Constant Contact Software package that is used to deliver the content. The main bulletin board at Village Hall is specific to stormwater regulations and includes information on pet waste cleanup, waterfowl management, rain garden construction, fertilizer use, pesticide and herbicide use, car washing in driveways and septic system maintenance. The environmental commissioner is fielding more stormwater related questions from residents. Inspections of the beach is demonstrating less instances of pet waste being left at the beach.

Of greatest note is that a resident earned his Eagle Scout Hornaday project for Conservation by working at restoring the storm water rain garden retention pond at California Park (Retrofit 2). His work involved removing shallow root weeds and brush and replacing with the following plant species: sweet pepperbush, blue flag iris, swamp milkweed and southern arrowwood. These species were selected with the SMO for their efficacy in absorbing water and reducing nitrate concentrations. Details of the project were highlighted on the homepage of the village website for over three months. The work was detailed in the Three Village Herald and Newsday, print and online publications.

All of these events and information for this MCM is provided on the master Stormwater Calendar that is maintained on google docs. This is shared with other key stormwater officials (Code Enforcement, Building Department, Clerk Office and Board of Trustees.

Ultimately, the effectiveness of the activities being performed is the water quality of our surrounding water bodies. In the case of Port Jefferson Harbor, the water quality has been increased such that it now meets its Total Maximum Daily Load as measured from laboratory analysis of samples collected by the State.

Future Goals

The Village will continue to provide multiple means for its residents to learn about the importance of proper stormwater pollution controls and will continue to have the ability to report issues that relate to stormwater pollution. The program is administered by more experienced management officials that will continue to train existing employees, volunteers, appointees and officials. There is discussion about publishing an on-line movie for inclusion on the website. The movie would have video and voice over that spreads the message on the need, ways and means to protect the surrounding surface water bodies.

While Port Jefferson Harbor is meeting its Total Maximum Daily Loads, samples secured by the State from Setauket Harbor, in particular from the Scott's Cove area, has NOT met standards for pathogens. Work needs to continue to improve water quality in the area. This will likely include some targeting of permanent signage in these areas.

3.2 MINIMUM CONTROL MEASURE 2 - PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT/PARTICIPATION

Measurable Goal

In addition to spring cleanup event that removed debris from roadways and beaches, an additional public volunteer event was held in December of this year to clear all of the Villages storm water drywells and catch basins from leaves and sand. Inspections were also performed to identify the best means for maintaining good drainage in the wells. A specific Village Trustee Board meeting was called to detail the Stormwater Program.

Observation of Effectiveness

There were less reports of water ponding and breakout into surface water bodies after storm events as witnessed by the Village Environmental Commissioner and Roads Commissioner. Increased participation in Civic Association sponsored events that were waterways and environmental awareness themed. The Village website has seen increased traffic that can be counted due to enhanced content.

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Future Goals

Continue to have the Environmental Commissioner teach public officials, volunteers, appointees and the public on the Stormwater Program. Continued focus on the effects that illegal and unpermitted construction activities within the Village have upon the waters of the State. Place additional signs educating the residents about the Stormwater Program. Encourage the newly revived Civics Organization to sponsor more events jointly with the Village.

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3.3 MINIMUM CONTROL MEASURE 3- ILLICIT DISCHARGE DETECTION AND ELIMINATION

Measurable Goal

Increased enforcement of stormwater pollution prevention measures by teaching Code Enforcement Officers, Clerk's Office employees and Building Department Officials about Stormwater impacts and pollution prevention; teaching Building Commissioner about stormwater pollution prevention and good maintenance techniques and schedules; upgrading the Village website to include multiple layers of pages that help reduce stormwater pollution impacts upon the waters of the State. Made the Board appointed Environmental Commissioner the Authorized Stormwater Representative and the Local Stormwater Public Contact and Report Preparer. All of the stormwater drywells in the Village have been numbered and tagged with a "Do Not Pollute" placard.

Observation of Effectiveness

The MCC forms are more complete and accurate. The storm drains within the Village function properly and have less surface impediments by leaves and sand. Violations for stormwater pollution related issues are being issued by Code Enforcement. There were no illicit discharge violations issued for 2017.

All illicit discharge related information for this MCM is provided on the master Stormwater Calendar that is maintained on google docs. This is shared with other key stormwater officials (Code Enforcement, Building Department, Clerk Office and Board of Trustees).

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Future Goals

New laws are being considered to prevent illicit discharges and environmental damage from unauthorized grading activities. A training manual is being created to assist Code Enforcement and the Building Department in detecting and preventing illicit discharges. All of these activities are to be performed with the assistance of the Environmental Commissioner. The commissioner might eventually receive enforcement authorization.

While Port Jefferson Harbor is meeting its Total Maximum Daily Loads, samples secured by the State from Setauket Harbor, in particular from the Scott's Cove area, has NOT met standards for pathogens. Work needs to continue to improve water quality in the area. This will likely require increased enforcement and inspection in the areas that impact Setauket Harbor.

3.4 MINIMUM CONTROL MEASURE 4 - CONSTRUCTION SITE AND POST-CONSTRUCTION CONTROL

Measurable Goal

Increased enforcement of stormwater pollution prevention measures by teaching Code Enforcement Officers, Clerk's Office employees and Building Department Officials about Stormwater impacts and Pollution prevention; teaching Building Commissioner and Clerk about stormwater pollution prevention and good maintenance techniques and schedules; upgrading the Village website to include multiple layers of pages that help reduce stormwater pollution impacts upon the waters of the State. Website includes a new on-line Building Permit Application that includes a SEQRA Short and Long-Form Environmental Assessment Form. Environmental Commissioner reviews all Building Permits and can deny a permit application based upon environmental issues. The Commissioner performs inspections with the Building Inspector. A generic Spill Pollution Prevention Plan has been added to the Building Permit Application and is used as a guide by Building and Planning Departments.

Observation of Effectiveness

The MCC forms are more complete and accurate. The storm drains within the Village function properly and have less surface impediments by leaves and sand. Violations for stormwater pollution related issues are being issued by Code Enforcement. The number of stormwater related complaints due to construction mentioned at the public hearings has been reduced. The Village website has seen increased traffic that can be counted due to enhanced content and new Building Permit Application. Building Department applications and review times have increased by a factor of 2.

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Future Goals

New laws are being considered to prevent illicit discharges and environmental damage from unauthorized grading activities. A training manual is being created to assist Code Enforcement and the Building Department in detecting and preventing illicit discharges. All of these activities are to be performed with the assistance of the Environmental Commissioner.

While Port Jefferson Harbor is meeting its Total Maximum Daily Loads, samples secured by the State from Setauket Harbor, in particular from the Scott's Cove area, has NOT met standards for pathogens. Work needs to continue to improve water quality in the area, though there are not specific means associated with this MCM that will likely lead to this improvement.

3.5 MINIMUM CONTROL MEASURE 5 – POST CONSTRUCTION STORMWATER MANAGEMENT IN NEW DEVELOPMENT AND REDEVELOPMENT

Measurable Goal

Inspection of Village drainage infrastructure on a regular basis to identify areas that require maintenance. The Village also has a reporting system of residents to report flooding or maintenance issues on the website. The use of building permit application reviews as a mechanism to ensure proper stormwater detention and retention. The Environmental Commissioner performs inspections with the Roadway Commissioner monthly and during/following heavy precipitation events.

Observation of Effectiveness

The Village has undertaken two large drainage improvement projects in the past 7 years which has significantly reduced persistent flooding and provided for stormwater treatment prior to overflow to the Port Jefferson Harbor. The structures are evaluated for sediment accumulation on a regular basis. Trash removal and maintenance is performed as necessary to the roadways and the public spaces. The Village recently completed repairs to the detention pond in Washington Park.

All of these events and information for this MCM is provided on the master Stormwater Calendar that is maintained on google docs. This is shared with other key stormwater officials (Code Enforcement, Building Department, Clerk Office and Board of Trustees).

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Future Goals

The Environmental Commissioner will continue to review building permit applications to ensure proper stormwater detention and retention. The Village will continue to perform maintenance on stormwater drywells and the retention pond that the Village maintains.

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Work needs to continue to improve water quality in the area, though there are not specific means associated with this MCM that will likely lead to this improvement.

3.6 MINIMUM CONTROL MEASURE 6 – STORMWATER MANAGEMENT FOR MUNICIPAL OPERATIONS

Measurable Goal

The Village will attempt minimize the application of road salt during snow removal activities. Street sweeping activities will be increased. The Environmental Commissioner will continue to coordinate with the Building Department, the Roadway Commissioners, Park Commissioners, contractors and volunteers to prevent the accumulation of wastes that can be indirectly transferred to the waters of the State.

Observation of Effectiveness

The frequency of stormwater drywell and catch basin maintenance activities has been reduced through street sweeping and cleanup events. Streets have been noticeably cleaner.

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Future Goals

It is anticipated that the savings created to the budget to address drain maintenance can allow for more street sweeping events. Cooperation with neighboring Town of Brookhaven and Port Jefferson Village will be investigated toward sharing some services. The Village will work to perform more training for staff.

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