

McHenry Township Road District, McHenry County, Illinois

Storm Water Management Program – August 2026

Introduction

McHenry Township Road District has a General Permit from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) for its Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) and as such the Township has developed this stormwater management program to prevent and reduce pollution to its drainage and storm sewer system to the maximum extent practicable. This document describes the pollution prevention practices that comprise the Township's stormwater management program.

The Township has reviewed the IEPA's website for information regarding approved or ongoing Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) limits on Upper Fox River watershed and the tributary streams which the MS4 is tributary to. A TMDL report was recently created and approved in June 2020 for the Upper Fox River/Chain O' Lakes Watershed for phosphorus and TSS. However, the Township does not apply phosphorus-based salts on the road and does not operate sewage plants. Additionally, the Township has two state-licensing employees to ensure chemicals and fertilizers are stored and used in the most responsible way. Therefore, no changes to BMPs are proposed at this time.

The Township has also reviewed the IEPA's Environmental Justice mapper and has determined that currently there are limited areas within the Township that are considered low income or high minority population. Only 31% of the area is considered low income, which is below the state average and only 2% are linguistically isolated. The results of the EJ screening do not impact how the NPDES Phase II program is operated.

The IEPA has recently updated the General Permit for MS4s, ILR40. In response to these updates, NTRD has reviewed the revised permit requirements and updated this Stormwater Management Plan accordingly. The revisions ensure that the Township's program continues to meet the current regulatory standards and reflects the enhanced requirements of the ILR40 permit.

Public Education and Outreach

A.1 Distributed Material

Measurable Goals: Prepare an educational article once a year and include it in the digital newsletter. This article may include information relating to the impacts of climate change on precipitation and stormwater pollution.

Approach: The targeted audiences will be residents and commercial properties.

The MTRD has identified the following three residential issues:

- Lawn chemical application
- Lawn chemical application timing
- Winter de-icing material use and application
- Vehicle washing

The MTRD has identified the following three targeted industrial/commercial issues:

- Winter de-icing material use
- Winter de-icing material storage
- Dumpster Maintenance

The MTRD continues to maintain a webpage tab devoted to Stormwater Management, which provides information about the MTRD's NPDES efforts. The website includes a map of the outfalls within the road district and discusses the procedure that the MTRD staff take to inspect the outfalls annually for illicit discharges. The website also discusses efforts that the MTRD takes for pollution prevention / good housekeeping, including storing road salt in the dome, using less salt on roads, and training employees annually on stormwater pollution prevention. The link to the website is provided below:
<https://www.mchenrytownship.com/road-district/storm-water-management/>

MTRD will assess the storm water education/outreach program annually and report this evaluation in the Annual Report. MTRD will adjust the educational materials and the delivery of the materials to address any shortcomings found in the assessment. The assessment will include a summary of the following measurable actions, if applicable:

1. Number of views and likes on social media post regarding stormwater;
2. Number of brochures distributed; and
3. Number of visits to the stormwater page on the Township website;

Public Education and Outreach Evaluation

The McHenry Township website has educational information on its Stormwater Management tab including information about outfall inspections. MTRD also has stormwater educational information leafletted at the office front desk. To improve resident awareness about NPDES and stormwater, the MTRD will continue to have a booth at its annual Touch-A-Truck event to hand out stormwater brochures. Many residents attend this family event, so it has great potential to become a more effective method to inform residents about stormwater.

The Township utilizes in-person events such as the Touch-A-Truck event for education and outreach opportunities.

The MTRD has worked with the McHenry County Conservation District to convert the roadside ditch vegetation to native vegetation. To date, the MTRD has revegetated about 3 miles of ROW, totaling about 6 miles of ditches being converted bioswales.

2. Public Participation/Involvement

B.3 Stakeholder Meeting

Measurable Goals: Participate in or host a local watershed group meeting at least once annually if one is available and active within the MS4.

Approach: The Village has identified that the Fox River Ecosystem Partnership, Fox River Study Group, Friends of the Fox River, Boone-Dutch Creek Watershed Association, and Nippersink Creek Watershed Association are all within the Township's jurisdiction.

HRGreen will attend the Fox River Study Group on behalf of the Township.

B.4 Public Hearing

Measurable Goals: Present ongoing NPDES Phase II program summary at least once annually at a public meeting.

Approach: The Township or consultant engineer presents at least once annually at a public meeting on information regarding NPDES and other stormwater-related issues.

The Township also hosts an annual Touch-A-Truck event where residents can come and touch vehicles and equipment and learn about how the Township operates.

MTRD will assess the storm water public participation/involvement program annually and report this evaluation in the Annual Report. MTRD will adjust the materials and the delivery to address any shortcomings found in the assessment. The assessment will include a summary of the following measurable actions, if applicable:

1. Number of public meetings where stormwater/NPDES was presented;
2. Touch-A-Truck event participation; and
3. Number of watershed workgroups attended

3. Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination

C.1 Storm Sewer Map Preparation

Measurable Goals: Maintain and update Outfall Map and storm sewer map, as necessary, to show outfall locations and receiving streams.

Approach: The MTRD has completed the sewer outfall map, showing outfall locations and receiving streams. This map is available on the MTRD's website on the Stormwater Management tab.

The MTRD has and will update the map as new outfalls are discovered or constructed.

C.2 Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE) Ordinance – N/A.

The Township's ownership is limited to roadway ROW within the Township. Furthermore, the Township does not have the authority to adopt any ordinances or amendments. If any illicit discharges are suspected or found, the Township will notify the County for further enforcement.

C.3 Detection/Elimination Prioritization Plan

Measurable Goals: Implement the Detection/Elimination Prioritization Plan and update/modify as needed.

Approach: The MTRD continues to utilize Dry Weather Screening to identify illicit discharges. The storm Sewer Outfall Map aids in identifying areas at risk for illicit discharge. Outfalls are inspected annually in the spring.

C.4 Illicit Discharge Tracing Procedures

Measurable Goals: The MTRD will continue to develop, train, and educate employees in relevant positions to perform activities such as illicit discharge tracing procedures and visual dry weather stormwater outfall screening. The MTRD will utilize these Tracing Procedures to find the source of illicit discharges. The Storm Sewer Outfall Map will assist in identifying areas to be inspected.

Approach: The MTRD has continued developing illicit discharge tracing procedures and will implement the procedures through the training and education of employees. The staff goes through annual training at their annual meeting to train or refresh staff on procedures.

C.5 Illicit Source Removal Procedures

Measurable Goals: The MTRD will continue developing written procedures and perform Illicit Discharge evaluations in accordance with BMPs C.4 and C.7. If any illicit discharges are suspected or found, MTRD will inform the County for further enforcement action, under the County Ordinances.

Approach: The MTRD has developed procedures and will continue to perform Illicit Discharge evaluation in accordance with BMPs C.4 and C.7.

C.7 Visual Dry Weather Screening

Measurable Goals: The MTRD will continue scheduled visits of known outfalls.

Approach: Outfall inspections occur annually.

C.9 Public Notification of Illicit Discharge Ordinance—N/A.

The MTRD's ownership is limited to roadway ROW within the Township. Any illicit discharges found within the Township will be enforced by the County under its IDDE Ordinance.

MTRD will assess the storm water illicit discharge detection and elimination program annually and report this evaluation in the Annual Report. MTRD will adjust the materials and the delivery to address any shortcomings found in the assessment. The assessment will include a summary of the following measurable actions, if applicable:

1. Number of dry weather inspections conducted;
2. Number of wet weather inspections conducted;
3. Number of illicit discharges eliminated;
4. Number of new outfalls or high priority outfalls identified;

4. Construction Site Runoff Control

Development within McHenry Township is regulated by McHenry County. The County Stormwater Management Ordinance includes provisions for the control of storm water runoff during construction. The McHenry County Department of Planning and Development also has procedures for the orderly review of new development. The County Zoning and Subdivision Control Ordinances along with the County Watershed Development Ordinance include provisions for the control of stormwater runoff during construction.

The Township will maintain an internal inventory of all construction sites over one acre that require an ILR10 permit.

5. Post-Construction Runoff Control

Development within McHenry Township is regulated by McHenry County. The County Stormwater Management Ordinance includes provisions for the control of storm water runoff after construction. The McHenry County Department of Planning and Development also has procedures for the orderly review of new development. The County Zoning and Subdivision Control Ordinances along with the County Watershed Development Ordinance include provisions for the control of stormwater runoff after construction.

6. Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping

F.1 Staff Training

Measurable Goals: The MTRD will continue to train and educate its employees in relevant positions to perform activities such as illicit discharge tracing procedures and visual dry weather stormwater outfall screening and update the program, as needed.

Approach: The MTRD provides in-house training for staff regarding snow and salt control so that the appropriate levels of salt are used on the roadways during winter months. Stormwater and illicit discharges are discussed at the in-house training meetings as well.

F.2-F.4 MTRD Facility Operation and Maintenance Program

Measurable Goals: The MTRD will continue to follow the Operation and Maintenance Program to address the maintenance needs of its properties.

Status: The MTRD has developed an operation and maintenance program and follows it annually. Salt storage is indoors which reduces its exposure to runoff. Trucks are calibrated before every winter to prevent the overuse of salt. MTRD utilizes an in-house wash bay which recycles and contains wash water, minimizing discharge of pollutants. The MTRD also uses de-icing liquid salt brine, which reduces the amount of salt used by 25 to 30% and, therefore, reduces the amount of chloride entering waterbodies.

Additionally, the MTRD employs two state licensed employees to ensure chemicals and fertilizers are stored and used in the most responsible way. The MTRD does not generally apply fertilizers with the exception of restoration of construction sites.

The Township will maintain an inventory of its municipal facilities and locate the facilities on the stormwater outfall map.

The Township will conduct quarterly inspections of these facilities and their outfalls to identify potential pollutant sources and ensure proper material storage and handling practices. These inspections will be tracked in a log.

The Township performs regular street cleaning and will establish a catch basin cleaning schedule.

MTRD will assess the pollution prevention/good housekeeping program annually and report this evaluation in the Annual Report. MTRD will adjust the materials and the delivery to address any shortcomings found in the assessment. The assessment will include a summary of the following measurable actions, if applicable:

1. Annual training conducted;
2. Number of pollution prevention inspections of the facilities;
3. Street sweeping activities; and
4. Catch basin cleaning activities