

CITY OF OXFORD

PHASE II 2016 ANNUAL STORM WATER REPORT

FOR

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Submitted By:

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CERTIFICATION
CITY OF OXFORD, ALABAMA

I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the information submitted is true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine imprisonment for knowing violations.

Mike Roberts, Building/Zoning Official

City of Oxford, Alabama

ATTEST:



5-24-17

Alton Craft, Mayor

City of Oxford, Alabama

ATTEST:



5-24-17

Introduction

The City of Oxford is referred to as an urbanized area. The urbanized area was designated by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) as a phase II municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4). The City of Oxford received a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Phase II General Permit for storm water discharge from ADEM (Permit ALR040004) Calhoun County (015). The permit covers Calhoun County, however, the City of Oxford was required to issue a Storm Water Management Plan (SWMP) separate from the county. The most recent SWMP for Oxford was prepared in December 2016 and the Annual Report is due by May 31st of each year. The Annual Report describes the programs and progress made during the year to address storm water in the City.

What is the MS4 Program?

Untreated or uncontrolled storm water runoff is the number one cause of impairment in our waterways. Polluted runoff is often transported through municipal drainage system until it eventually discharges into streams, lakes, and rivers untreated. An MS4, or Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System, is comprised of drainage systems, including streets, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, man-made channels, and storm pipes, owned by a state, county, city, township, or other public entity. The NPDES Storm Water Phase II regulation require permit coverage for storm water discharges from MS4s, mainly those located in urbanized areas.

MS4 Programs are intended to improve our nation's surface waters by reducing the quantities of pollutants that are picked up by runoff and transported into the storm water system during rainfall events. As part of the MS4 Program, municipalities hold and maintain a storm water management program that (1) reduces the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent possible; (2) protects water quality; and (3) satisfies the water quality requirements of the federal Clean Water Act.

The MS4 program has six elements termed "minimum control measures" (MCM) that when implemented should result in significant reduction in pollutants discharged into receiving waters. The six minimum control measures are (1) Public Education and Outreach, (2) Public Participation/Involvement, (3) Illicit Discharge and Elimination, (4) Construction Site Runoff Control, (5) Post Construction Runoff Control, and (6) Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping.

The 2016 Annual Report will describe the action, results, and future plans for each MCM.

MCM 1 – PUBLIC EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

Permit Requirements:

The Public Education and Outreach program requires the City to implement and evaluate a program that distributes educational material to the community or conducts equivalent outreach activities about the impact of polluted discharges on water bodies and the steps that the public can take to reduce pollutants in storm water runoff to the maximum extent possible.

Targeted Audience: General public, schools, elected officials, developers, contractors, professional groups, and civic clubs.

Current Programs (BMP):

1. Informational storm water literature is printed on the back of the water bill and mailed to approximately 9,900 residents and businesses. The literature is changed every 6 months to cover all the topics of storm water education. Nine hundred thirty-two (932) Storm Water commercials on the local TV24 channel were run throughout the year.
2. The City's web page "Environmental Outreach" includes the Storm Water Plan, the Annual Reports, and other storm water related literature. The web page also includes an email link through the Action Center for public inquiries and complaints related to storm water and other environmental issues. The web page is updated with more information for residents.
3. The City helps sponsor Earth Day at the elementary schools, which introduces students to the concept of erosion.
4. The City of Oxford continues with its curbside recycling program and the recycling dumpsters placed throughout the area.
5. Oxford continues to paint "Only Rain in the Drain" on the gutter inlets with the help of summer employees to paint all inlets.
6. Choccolocco Watershed signs have been installed at Friendship Road and Highway 21 in Oxford.

Measurable Goals:

Oxford's SWMP Best Management Practices (BMP) was to continue public service notices which includes a notice on the monthly water bills and quarterly TV commercials, to increase information on Oxford's web page "Environmental Outreach" where all residents have access, to attend workshops for better management of the Storm Water Plan, to educate students concerning storm water, to continue the curbside recycling program, to continue to paint the slogan on the gutter inlets, and continue to investigate areas for additional watershed signs.

All of these measurable goals were accomplished to have a good foundation for future programs.

Future Programs:

During 2017, Oxford will continue with the programs already in place and begin to establish new programs as follows:

1. Educational information will continue to be distributed on the water and sewer bills. This information will change every 6 months.
2. Continue TV commercials promoting stormwater issues and education.
3. Erosion and sediment control information will be distributed to all residential home builders when they apply for or renew their home builder license and to contractors when a building permit is issued.
4. The City will continue to maintain and update its website environmental outreach page and maintain updated links to its SWMP, Annual Report, storm water related topics, and the email link through the Action Center for public inquiries and complaints related to storm water and other environmental issues.
5. The City of Oxford will attend a storm water workshop each year and will sponsor one workshop each permit cycle.
6. The City will continue to sponsor clean water presentations at one the six Oxford city schools.
7. Continue to paint the "Only Rain in the Drain" slogan on the curbs at every storm drain.
8. The City will continue to encourage the bi-weekly curbside recycling program and use of the dumpsters placed throughout the City. The City will assess the need for any additional dumpster locations.
9. The City will implement three more watershed signs in the Watershed area and continue to paint "Only Rain in the Drain" slogan on the gutter inlets throughout the City.

MCM 2 – PUBLIC PARTICIPATION/INVOLVEMENT

Permit Requirements:

The Public Participation/Involvement requires the City to implement and evaluate a program centered on the SWMP and the Annual Report. The development of this program will be documented throughout the process. The ongoing activities for public involvement may include advisory councils, watershed associations, committees, stewardship, programs, and other environmental related activities. The SWMP is available on the City of Oxford's website.

Targeted Audience: General public, schools, elected officials, developers, contractors, professional groups, and civic clubs.

Current Programs (BMP):

1. The City Council has formed a Citizen's Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC) to review the SWMP and assist in managing storm water issues and projects.
2. The City helps sponsor some activities of the Choccolocco Creek Watershed Alliance.
3. Oxford provides garbage pickup for the citizens of the City.
4. The City's website includes an Environmental Outreach Page on City's website for public information concerning storm water topics. The City also has an email link for the public to submit questions or concerns related to storm water issues.
5. Oxford has adopted a Comprehensive Plan for the City.

Measurable Goals:

Oxford's BMP to involve more public participation includes forming a Citizen's Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC), sponsor activities with local watershed organizations, tidying the city, updating the environmental website, and adopting a city comprehensive plan.

All measurable goals were accomplished to have a good foundation for future programs.

Future Programs:

During 2017, the City of Oxford will continue with the programs in place and begin to establish new programs as follows:

1. The City will designate members of the community for the Environmental Advisory Committee and will begin conducting meetings.
2. The City will help sponsor or promote an activity of the Choccolocco Creek Watershed Alliance.
3. The Oxford Water Festival is being created for the 2017-18 school year.
4. The City will continue its garbage pickup and look into organizing clean up days.
5. The City will continue to update its environmental outreach website and Action Center.

MCM 3 – ILLICIT DISCHARGE DETECTION ELIMINATION (IDDE)

Permit Requirements:

The City shall include an ongoing program to detect and eliminate illicit discharges into the City's small MS4, and proper disposal, including spills under the purview of another responding authority, into the MS4 owned or operated by the City to the maximum extent possible.

Targeted Audience: General public, schools, elected officials, developers, contractors, professional groups, and civic clubs.

Current Programs (BMP):

1. Update and maintain the storm water infrastructure inventory map and database.
2. Implement the Illicit Discharge Detection & Elimination Ordinance.
3. Complete field assessments to establish priority areas.
4. Educate the Public with informational brochure on the back of the monthly water bills and on the City Environmental Outreach website.
5. Train the City staff on storm water issues.

Measurable Goals:

As Oxford continues to educate the public through TV, radio and brochures on the importance of storm water prevention should increase the public awareness.

All measurable goals were accomplished to have a good foundation for future programs.

Future Programs:

During 2017, the City of Oxford will continue with the programs in place and begin to establish new programs as follows:

1. Continue to update the storm water infrastructure inventory map and database.
2. Enforce the Illicit Discharge Detection & Elimination Ordinance.
3. Continue field assessments to establish priority areas to track potential illicit discharges.
4. Respond to and report potential illicit discharges and connections.
5. Educating the Public with illicit discharge information on the back of the monthly water bills and on the City Environmental Outreach website.
6. Continue to train the City staff on storm water issues.

MCM 4 – CONSTRUCTION SITE STORM WATER RUNOFF CONTROL

Permit Requirements:

The City must develop, implement, and enforce a program to reduce, to the MEP, pollutants in any storm water runoff to the regulated MS4 from construction activities that result in a total land disturbance of greater than or equal to one acre and activities that disturb less than one acre but are larger common plan of development or sale that would disturb one acre or more.

Targeted Audience: General public, schools, elected officials, developers, contractors, professional groups, and civic clubs.

Current Programs (BMP):

1. Developed the Control of Erosion Siltation Ordinance to enforce and ensure compliance.
2. Requirement for erosion and sediment control plans to be submitted for all new and re-developments. Plans are reviewed and approved by the Building Department and City Council.
3. All City Building Inspectors are required to receive annual training.
4. City maintains an inventory of all qualified construction sites and inspects the sites.
5. Oxford requires permits for all bulkheads and retaining walls within its corporate limits and inspect these during and post construction.

Measurable Goals:

All measurable goals were accomplished to have a good foundation for future programs.

Future Programs:

During 2017, the City of Oxford will continue with the programs in place and begin to establish new programs as follows:

1. Ordinance will be reviewed and updated as necessary.
2. Review 100% of all submitted new and re-development erosion and sediment control plans.
3. Continue the annual training requirement for building inspectors.
4. Review list of all permits for construction and visit each site to verify storm water runoff compliance by regular inspection.
5. Continue implementation of the review process for permit/inspection for bulkheads, retaining walls, etc.

MCM 5 – POST-CONSTRUCTION STORM WATER MANAGEMENT IN NEW DEVELOPMENT AND REDEVELOPMENT

Permit Requirements:

The City must develop and implement project review, approval, and enforcement procedures for new development and redevelopment projects that disturb greater than one acre, and projects less than one acre that are part of a larger common plan of development or sale. Develop procedures for the following: site plan review and approval process; reapprove process when changes to post-construction controls are required; process to demonstrate and document post-construction storm water measures have been installed properly to include enforceable procedures for noncompliant projects.

Target Audience: General public, schools, elected officials, developers, contractors, professional groups, and civic clubs.

Current Programs (BMP):

- A. Oxford passed a Post Construction Storm Water Runoff Ordinance to address runoff from new development and redevelopment projects.
- B. The City performs field inspections to verify adequate construction of the BMPs in accordance with the approved improvement plans.
- C. Oxford provides education to the community by distributing storm water information to the public on the back of the monthly water bills and on the City Environmental Outreach website.

Measurable Goals:

All measurable goals were accomplished to have a good foundation for future programs.

Future Programs:

During 2017, the City of Oxford will continue with the programs in place and begin to establish new programs as follows:

- A. Oxford will continue to enforce the Post Construction Storm Water Runoff Ordinance.
- B. The City will update, as needed, design review guidance for plan reviewers.
- C. The City will distribute educational storm water information to contractors during permit review process.

MCM 6 – POLLUTION PREVENTION/GOOD HOUSEKEEPING FOR MUNICIPAL OPERATIONS

Permit Requirements:

The City must document the methodology for the development of a pollution prevention/good housekeeping program for municipal operations. The rationale statement must address the overall prevention/good housekeeping program and the individual BMPs, measurable goals and responsible person(s) for the program. The rationale statement shall include the following information at a minimum:

Target Audience: General public, schools, elected officials, developers, contractors, professional groups, and civic clubs.

Current Programs (BMP):

- A. Oxford has a curbside recycling program and has recycling dumpsters located in specified areas.
- B. The Public Works department maintains the storm water system throughout the City.
- C. The Public Works department maintains the streets and right of ways to minimize litter. Prior to weekly mowing, street crews pick up trash weekly from the right of way.
- D. The City determines areas of necessary capital storm water projects.
- E. Oxford has completed an inventory of facilities, with name, location, and possible pollutants.
- F. The City trains employees on storm water runoff and pollution prevention.

Measurable Goals:

All measurable goals were accomplished to have a good foundation for future programs.

Future Programs:

- A. The City will implement recycling containers at sports fields and during events held at the City parks.
- B. Oxford will continue to maintain the storm water areas.
- C. The City will continue to monitor areas for litter.
- D. Oxford will continue to evaluate areas of needed capital storm water projects.
- E. The municipal facilities listed on the inventory will be assessed yearly to identify any deficiencies for remediation.
- F. The City will develop standard operating procedures in regard to storm water runoff and housekeeping practices for the municipal facilities listed on the inventory.
- G. Oxford will continue to train employees on storm water runoff and pollution prevention.

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