

# **Operations and Maintenance Plan** **For Public Streets and Public Storm Drain System**

Updated August 2024

## **General**

As part of the MS4 Stormwater Program, the City is required to develop and implement an operations and maintenance program to prevent or reduce pollutant runoff from public streets and storm drain system.

## **Training**

Employees responsible for operations and maintenance of municipal facilities shall be provided sufficient training to identify and prevent or reduce stormwater pollution. New employees should be trained within 6 months of their hire date. Existing employees should have training or re-training at least annually.

## **Potential Pollutants**

Potential pollutants on streets are, but not limited to, the following:

- Mechanical fluids such as oil, grease, fuel, etc. from vehicles
- Metal brake dust from vehicles
- Spills from accidents
- Debris and trash
- Salt or other chemical use for safety during winter weather events
- Sediment

It is important to collect, absorb, or prevent pollutants from being washed from the road surfaces because they then enter the storm drain system. Once in the storm drain system, it is difficult to prevent the pollutants from reaching the streams within the City limits.

## **Street Operations**

### **Spills and Vehicle Accidents**

The Street Department should discuss spill prevention and cleanup with the Police and Fire Departments so that spills can be contained quickly before they reach the storm drain system. The Street and Fire Departments should have spill kits with absorbent material available at short notice. They should also have other devices such as erosion control booms or socks or devices to place in swales and ditches or around storm inlets to stop the spill from reaching the storm drain system.

### Trash and Debris Pickup

Large expanses of trash and debris in or along the streets should be collected as noticed during normal day to day operations and when citizen complaints or information is provided. All collected trash and debris shall be disposed of properly. At least once a quarter during the year, the Street Department (and/or other departments) should make a specific detailed visual inspection of the road network to collect trash and debris. This could be done in conjunction with the storm drain system inspections.

### Street Cleaning

If the City has a street cleaner/sweeper, a maintenance schedule should be created for a periodic cleaning/sweeping of the local public streets. All collected material shall be disposed of properly.

### Winter Weather Safety

While the use of salt or other chemicals to maintain safe streets during winter weather events are necessary, the operators of the equipment should be well trained in their use so that excessive salts or chemicals are not applied. The spreading of the salts or chemicals should be carefully applied near streams or near storm drain systems that discharge directly into a stream.

### Erosion

The street rights of way should be inspected on at least a quarterly basis for bare soil and erosion. The inspection can occur in conjunction with other routine operations and does not need to be a separate inspection. If bare soils or erosion are present, schedule needed repairs to occur in a timely manner.

## **Public Storm Drain System**

The public storm drain system consists of the following components within public rights of way and public easements:

- Inlets and catch basins
- Underground pipes and culverts
- Outlet protection such as rip rap at the outfall ends of pipe and culverts
- Swales and ditches

The storm drain system should be inspected on at least a quarterly basis for maintenance needs, accumulated solids, erosion, illicit discharges, and illegal connections.

### Illicit Discharges and Illegal Connections

An illicit discharge into the storm drain system is essentially anything other than rainwater ("Only Rain Down the Drain"). In addition to accumulated debris, trash, and

sediment, the City Personnel should look for evidence of illicit discharges such as petroleum products, chemicals, pet waste, etc. and report any findings to the City's Stormwater Manager.

The City personnel should also look for any illegal connections to the storm drain system which could include pipes from building floor drains or drains from washing machines.

See City's Illicit Discharge and Illegal Connection Ordinance and Standard Operating Procedures for detailed information on these subjects.

#### Inlets and Catch Basins

Remove and dispose of properly any accumulated sediment, debris, or trash from the grate or throat opening and from the interior of the structure. Look for signs of illicit discharge into the system such as an unknown pipe into the structure. Note any maintenance needs and schedule repairs to occur in a timely manner.

#### Underground Pipe and Culverts

Remove and dispose of properly any accumulated sediment, debris, or trash from the pipes. Note any maintenance needs and schedule repairs to occur in a timely manner. Inspect the entry and exit to culverts for signs of erosion around the pipe. Inspect the exit of the pipes for any signs of erosion on the ground surface and provide or improve outlet protection such as rip rap. Schedule any needed repairs to occur in a timely manner.

#### Swales and Ditches

Remove and dispose of properly any accumulated sediment, debris, or trash from the conveyances. Inspect them for signs of erosion or bare soils. Schedule any needed repairs including stabilization of bare soils to occur in a timely manner.