

))

SUMMARIES OF MS4 PERMITS

NPDES MS4 Permit for Prince George's, MD

Date Issued: November 17, 1993

Date Expires: November 17, 1998

))

Management Program Highlights:

Illicit Discharges and Improper Discharges. PG County has developed a program to detect and remove illicit discharges, address water quality complaints, investigate water quality problems, coordinated with County, state, federal agencies, conduct watershed surveys, and to involve industries and residential communities in improving water quality. The program includes:

- @ watershed inventories
- @ identification of physical, chemical, and habitat problems in streams
- @ field screening pilot studies to be expanded later to cover all outfalls
- @ use of land maps, plans, sewer information, etc. to identify potential problem outfalls
- @ coordinated effort with MDE to monitor permitted sites
- @ illicit connections investigations
- @ investigation of complaints from the public, other government agencies, and private organizations
- @ storm water maintenance inspections performed by the Site Development and Enforcement Section
- @ community liaison service for public outreach
- @ participation in the USFWS Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Survey (SAV)

Interagency Coordination. To develop effective and efficient working relationships between regulatory agencies with overlapping authority, PG County will address and resolve the following issues: defining regulatory goals, minimizing or sharing costs, setting common goals and objectives, establishing work groups and technical committees, and developing comprehensive planning studies and work plans.

Existing Water Quality Protection Programs. PG County will continue the water quality protection, treatment, and abatement programs already in place, including:

- @ All major streams in the County are to become a part of a stream valley park system. Developers are required to dedicate adjacent land to designated stream valley parks.
- @ There is a volunteer inspection and cleanup program for citizens and environmental groups to walk streams to identify problems and to conduct debris cleanup operations.
- @ There is an interjurisdictional agreement which covers a wide range of programs with the goal of improving water quality habitat and recreation within the Patuxent River Watershed.
- @ PG County has passed a law that restricts land use and development activities along the tributaries of the Patuxent River to protect stream buffers.
- @ The Chesapeake Bay Critical Areas law establishes a critical area or zone around the Bay and its major tributaries. Within this area zoning densities have been reduced and the water quality runoff from each new development site will be better than pre-development conditions.
- @ Recycling programs have been created for the following wastes: oil, antifreeze, glass, paper, aluminum, plastic, composting of yard wastes, wood waste, tires, and appliances.
- @ Technical assistance is available for erosion control on agricultural and construction activities and to residential property owners.
- @ There are "responsible personnel" certification classes for construction site operators.

S))Q

"Clean Water... A Better Environment"
Office of Wastewater Management (OWM)

NPDES MS4 Permit for Prince George's, MD (continued)

page 2

))

Management Program Highlights (continued):

Pilot Studies. The status and findings of pilot studies will be included in annual reports. Beginning in 1995, PG County's annual reports shall include proposals for the expansion of successful components of its pilot studies on a watershed basis. The pilot studies include:

- @ The Kettering Environment Enhancement Project is a comprehensive nonpoint source pollution control program for a predominantly residential community. It will include wetland restoration, stream restoration, public participation programs, and water quality monitoring.
- @ The Maryland 50 Industrial Parks program will utilize many of the techniques developed from the Kettering Project but for an area predominantly comprised of industrial development.
- @ The Palmer Park Community Project will focus on public participation. It will be modeled after the Kettering Project, but for an area that consists of primarily duplex homes and apartments.
- @ The Prince George's Plaza study, an area undergoing redevelopment, entails a comprehensive water quality plan to address existing and future water problems.

))

Watershed Protection Activities:

Chesapeake Bay Initiative. As part of the State's watershed-based approach to controlling pollutant loadings to the Chesapeake Bay, PG County will coordinate its water quality restoration and protection efforts with other jurisdictions, as well as its standards for record keeping, databases, discharge characterization, and management programs.

Other Activities. PG County has developed a comprehensive study for each major watershed in its jurisdiction. The studies are primarily flood control plans which identify problems and examine solutions. Each flood control plan also will eventually: identify sources and extent of nonpoint source pollution problems; examine possible structural, enforcement and education solutions; and prioritized solutions based on a cost/benefit and feasibility analysis.

))

Monitoring:

Outfall Monitoring. Minimum sampling requirements include 12 storm events per year, with at least 3 occurring per quarter (calendar year). In extended dry weather periods, the County will take baseflow samples at least once per month. If no flow is observed at the outfall during dry weather, the County may take samples only at the in-stream monitoring stations.

In-stream Monitoring. The County is required to use data from existing in-stream monitoring stations and, if possible, from the USGS monitoring stations to further refine pollutant load estimates.

))

Annual Progress Reports:

Management Spreadsheet. Information regarding the County's storm water management program will be submitted on the latest version of MDE's storm water management spreadsheet in annual reports.

Program Assessments. The County will submit estimates of expected pollutant load reductions as a result of its proposed management programs.

For More Information:

))

Contact the Maryland Department of the Environment, Water Management Administration at (410)631-3543.

S))Q

"Clean Water... A Better Environment"
Office of Wastewater Management (OWM)