

TOWN OF ACUSHNET, MASSACHUSETTS  
EPA NPDES Permit Number: MAR 041085  
MaDEP Transmittal Number: W-035516

041

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**NPDES PII SMALL MS4 GENERAL PERMIT**  
**ANNUAL REPORT # 1**  
**MARCH 03-MARCH 04**

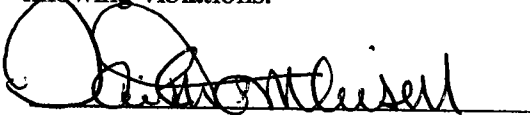
Contact Person: Richard H. Settele  
Telephone #: 508-998-0230

Title: Supt. Public Works

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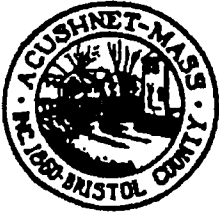
**Certification:**

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, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.



David M. Tomlinson  
Chairman, Board of Selectmen

Date: May 1, 2004



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
**TOWN OF ACUSHNET**

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**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

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ROBERT ST. JEAN

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TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

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United States EPA  
Water Technical Unit  
P.O. Box 8127  
Boston, MA 02114

May 1, 2004

Gentlemen:

This letter and attached report represents our first annual report on our N.P.D.E.S. permit #MAR041085- TOWN OF ACUSHNET. The attached document covers the Six Minimum Control Measures and Best Management Practice for implementing those measures as indicated in our Storm Water Management Program. We have attached a copy of our S.W.M.P. for your use in the review of our compliance with the permit.

This cover letter follows your guidelines for information that must be reported annually.

**Assessment of Compliance**

The institution of several BMPs has been delayed by the change in submission date of the Notice of Intent. However, we believe that those BMPs will be accomplished during year two of the permit.

**Assessment of Appropriateness of BMPs**

With the exception of BMP 6-4, we feel that we have selected a S.W.M.P. that is appropriate for the Town of Acushnet. Again, we have been delayed on several items, but we do believe that we shall overcome our slow start on those tasks and have all BMPs implemented during year two.

Regarding BMP 6-4, we feel now that the purchase of our own catch basin cleaner at a cost of approximately \$75,000.00 was beyond our reach. Based on the small number of catch basins that need to be cleaned, the purchase rather than rental of that piece of equipment was not a cost effective approach to the cleaning operation.

**Assessment of Progress**

We believe that we are on schedule toward achieving the measurable goals indicated in our S.W.M.P. We have experienced some minor delays in certain areas, but at the same time we have had great success in other tasks. We remain committed to overall success of the program over the long haul.

### Summery of Information Collected

We have collected and continue to accumulate a great deal of information for inclusion in our proposed annual report to residents. That data is primarily information published by state and federal agencies dealing specifically with Phase II Storm Water issues.

The most important information collected during year one was the mapping of our drainage system. This will now allow us to go back out in the field to sample flows for illicit discharges.

### Year Two

During the next permit year we fully expect to make up lost ground in areas where we fell short during the first full year under the NPDES permit. Also, we shall continue forward with the implementation of our S.W.M.P. as originally designed. There will be a funding article on the next Town Meeting Warrant asking the public to provide the funds for testing for illicit discharges and to fund the annual newsletter.

The Town of Acushnet, Storm Water Committee is committed to the full implementation of our original S.W.M.P. Difficult financial times have made the appropriation of funds a hard task to accomplish, but we shall move forward to full implementation.

### Changes in BMP's

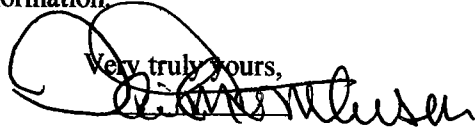
As mentioned above, BMP 6-4 includes the purchase of a catch basin cleaning vehicle. In these times we feel very fortunate that we were able to convince the financial people to give us the funds to purchase the street sweeper that was also a part of BMP 6-4. We feel we were overly ambitious to include a second very expensive piece of equipment in this same task. We now believe that we should reduce this BMP to the rental of such equipment on an annual basis to clean catch basins each spring. The added street sweepings will reduce the need to clean out basins since we now collect the materials before they get into the basins.

### Sub-Contractors

The Buzzards Bay Action Committee has been very helpful with the mapping of our drainage system and by providing us with volumes of data on Storm Water Management issues. Without their help we could not have completed our N.O.I. and S.W.M.P., on time and approvable.

We hope the attached information meets your requirements for the annual report on Phase II Storm Water. Please contact Mr. Richard Settele, DPW Superintendent, if you have questions regarding any of the included information.

Very truly yours,

  
David M. Tomlinson,  
Chairman, Board of Selectmen

Cc: Board of Public Works  
Mass D.E.P.

**Town of Acushnet, Massachusetts**

**NPDES Permit # MAR041085**

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**Annual Report**

**May 1, 2004**

**1.-Public Education and Outreach**

**BMP 1-1: Educational Flyer**

This material will be developed and distributed for the first time in the fall 2004. Since the delay of our permit (actual permit approval Sept. 12, 2003) did not allow time or funds to implement this goal in the fall of 2003 as originally planned.

**BMP 1-2: Annual Public Hearing**

This meeting was held on March 29, 2004 at a public session in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at Town Hall. The meeting was also televised live over the local public access channel.

**BMP 1-3: Posting of Maps**

We were very fortunate to have the Buzzards Bay Action Committee develop maps of our drainage network using local high school students to do all the field-work to locate catch basins, manholes, ditches and out falls. These maps have been posted at Town Hall in the Selectmen's meeting room and in the Board of Public Works meeting room, both public spaces.

**BMP 1-4: Web Page**

The Town of Acushnet web site has been amended to include storm water information.

**2.- Public Participation/Involvement**

**BMP 2-1: Encourage Participation**

This section is pending action mentioned in BMP 1-1 above.

**BMP 2-2: Storm Water Management Committee**

The S.W.M. Committee was appointed by the Board of Selectmen in 2002 and involves the individuals in charge of the following departments: Executive Secretary to B.O.S., Supt. Of Public Works, Health Agent, Conservation Agent, Building Inspector and Chairman of Planning Commission.

**BMP 2-3: Annual Selectmen's Meeting**

See BMP 1-2 above

**BMP 2-4: Storm Drain Stenciling**

Town Catch Basins have been stenciled by the Boy Scouts. These have worn out over the winter and will need to be redone on a regular basis.

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**3.-Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination**

**BMP 3-1: Discharge Identification**

This item has been completed. See BMP 1-3 above.

**BMP 3-2: Illicit Discharge Identification**

An appropriation will be requested at the April 26, 2004, Annual Town Meeting to cover laboratory costs to test storm drain effluents for pollution. If the appropriation is approved; we will be sampling and testing outfalls for illicit discharges. More thorough testing will follow as required.

**BMP 3-3: Illicit Discharge Enforcement**

This work will be initiated based on results from testing mentioned in BMP 3-2 above.

**BMP 3-4: Training**

Training will precede actual field-testing. See BMP 3-2 above.

**BMP 3-5: Public Information**

See BMP 1-1 above.

**4. Construction Site Storm Water Runoff Control**

**BMP 4-1: Conservation Commission By Law Review & Change**

**BMP 4-2: Planning Board Subdivision Review & Change**

**BMP 4-3: Planning Board Zoning-Review & Change**

All of the above are currently under review, and will be addressed by March 2005 as indicated in the S.W.M.P.

**5. Post Construction Storm Water Management**

See Section 4 above

**BMP 5-4: Conservation Commission and Building Dept. Review**

We have begun a process where site plans (actual septic system plans) will be reviewed for pre and post construction efforts to mitigate storm runoff damage. Also, all new building permits, where one acre or more are to be disturbed, will require the owner to apply for an NPDES permit.

**6. Pollution Prevention**

**BMP 6-1: DPW Policy Guide**

The DPW is developing a policy guide and is processing same for publication in July 2004. Although not yet in print, the BMP's listed in the guide are already being implemented.

BMP 6-2: DPW Training

Training has been delayed pending the printing of the policy guide.

BMP 6-3: DPW Permit Filing

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This policy should be adhered to whenever roadway or drainage projects are constructed. To date there have not been any such projects started.

BMP 6-4: DPW Street Maintenance

Town Meeting approved the expenditure of \$100,000.00 for the purchase of a new street sweeper. The equipment was purchased in July 2003 and a regular schedule of street sweeping has been in place since that time.

We continue to clean out catch basins on an annual basis by use of a Subcontractor, at an annual cost of approximately \$5,000.00.