

Freetown, Massachusetts

April 27, 2011

Ms. Glenda Velez
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
5 Post Office Square - OEP06-01
Boston, Massachusetts 02109-3912

**Re: Stormwater Annual Report for Permit Year 8
NPDES Permit Number: MAR041118**

Dear Mr. Civian:

On behalf of the Town of Freetown, Massachusetts, Weston & Sampson is forwarding the enclosed annual report pursuant to the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit for Storm Water Discharges from Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s). Enclosed is the Annual Report for Permit Year 8 covering the period from April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011.

Should you have any questions regarding the report, please feel free to contact me at (978) 532-1900 or passariello@wseinc.com.

Very truly yours,

WESTON & SAMPSON



Patricia C. Passariello, P.E.
Project Manager

Enclosure

cc: Fred Civian, MADEP

Municipality/Organization: Town of Freetown, Massachusetts

EPA NPDES Permit Number: MAR041118

MassDEP Transmittal Number:

Annual Report Number Year 8
& Reporting Period: April 1, 2010 – March 31, 2011

NPDES PII Small MS4 General Permit Annual Report (Due: May 1, 2011)

Part I. General Information

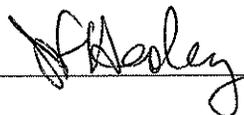
Contact Person: John F. Healey Title: Town Administrator

Telephone #: (508) 644-2208 Email: jackhealey@freetownma.gov

Mailing Address: 3 North Main Street; Assonet, Massachusetts 02702

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.

Signature: 

Printed Name: John F. Healey

Title: Town Administrator

Date: 4-25-11

Part II. Self-Assessment

The Town of Freetown has completed the required self-assessment and has determined that, based on available information, our municipality is in compliance with the conditions of the permit. Any minor exceptions to this statement are noted in Part III, below.

Part III. Summary of Minimum Control Measures

1. Public Education and Outreach

BMP ID #	BMP Description	Responsible Dept./Person Name	Measurable Goal(s)	Progress on Goal(s) – Permit Year 8 (Reliance on non-municipal partners indicated, if any)	Planned Activities
1 Revised	Creation of Stormwater Program	Various Town Officials	Public education and stimulating awareness	Additional stormwater posters hung in schools, library, and town offices January 2011. Bylaws still posted on website.	Continue ongoing efforts. Town hopes to add “do not dump” stenciling to catch basin cleaning this year.
2 Revised	Presentations to groups likely to impact the town’s stormwater	Boards and Commissions	Discussion at public meetings and publicity.	Presentations made in prior years. No additional activities undertaken this past year.	Discuss the upcoming reissuance of the MS4 permit during meetings of Boards/Commissions and at public meetings.
3 Revised	Presentations to local students	Town Officials	Team up with local students & school system	4 th graders (and school Principal) attended four-day overnight trip to “Nature’s Classroom.” Freetown State Forest “Friends of the Forest” hosted annual family day in October. Assonet Bay Shores Association/Lloyd Center continued youth environmental summer program, for which town distributed materials in schools.	Continue ongoing efforts.
4 Revised	Promotion of hazardous waste recycling for local residences	Town Officials	Scheduling of hazardous waste town-wide collection days	Town accepting most materials at the transfer station Thursday through Sunday each week. Brochures distributed to town residents and available on Town website.	Continue to make recycling information available to residents via signs, brochures, and website.
5 Revised	Use local cable channel to stimulate public awareness (same)	Town Officials (same)	Develop a talk show and/or video to be aired at local cable studio Air stormwater messages on cable access	Town was unsuccessful in developing a talk show/video to be aired on cable access. Current staffing/funding levels make this goal too difficult; therefore, it has been revised to a more achievable alternative of posting stormwater messages on cable access. Message was developed and is to be posted.	Post stormwater tips message on cable access channel.

2. Public Involvement and Participation

BMP ID #	BMP Description	Responsible Dept./Person Name	Measurable Goal(s)	Progress on Goal(s) – Permit Year 8 (Reliance on non-municipal partners indicated, if any)	Planned Activities
1 Revised	Public meetings & distribution of flyers	Town Officials	Become more involved with local groups monitoring water	Town representatives continued to participate in Taunton River Watershed Alliance (TRWA) meetings/activities. Town residents were also active in TRWA.	Continue participation in TRWA.
2 Revised	Cleanups of various community areas	Town Officials	Form cleanup committees with local volunteers	Continued with annual beach cleanups and cleanup of Porter Pastures (12-acre park/beach), with residents and youth organizations participating. Maintained cooperative agreement with the Bristol County Correction Facility for community service litter pickup on aprx. weekly basis.	Continue to support annual cleanups.
3 Revised	Hazardous waste cleanup days	Town Officials	Organize waste collection days for Freetown homes	Town unable to fund an annual hazardous waste collection day; however, the Town now accepts many wastes at the transfer station (Thursday through Sunday each week). Brochures with acceptable materials were distributed to town residents.	Continue existing collection program. Expand if possible to include more materials.
4 Revised	Water monitoring by volunteers	Town Officials	Develop sense of responsibility in Freetown residents for the Town's watersheds	High school science class conducts monitoring of one location. Town has not been successful in soliciting volunteers; however, TRWA has volunteers, some of whom are Town residents.	Put a TWR link on the Town website to encourage participation in their activities.
5 Revised	Solicit volunteers to assist in creating stormwater awareness and practices	Town Officials	Adopting a town-wide program	The Town was unable to secure the annual grant to sponsor the 4 th Grade water poster contest this year.	Town staff will attempt to re-establish the poster contest in-house by soliciting sponsorships from local businesses.

3. Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination

BMP ID #	BMP Description	Responsible Dept./Person Name	Measurable Goal(s)	Progress on Goal(s) – Permit Year 8 (Reliance on non-municipal partners indicated, if any)	Planned Activities
1 Revised	Review of current by-laws	Town Officials	Submit town meeting articles to update by-laws if needed	Bylaws reviewed. Amendments adopted November 20, 2006.	No further action required at this time.
2 Revised	Map local outfalls	Town Officials	Working with an engineer and Assessors & Conservation Commission to have receiving waters and outfalls mapped	GIS mapping of stormwater infrastructure was completed in 2007, including catch basins, pipelines, and outfalls. Updates are completed on an as-needed basis.	No further action required at this time.
3 Revised	Map town's infrastructure	Town Officials	Map storm drainage system of Freetown	GIS mapping of stormwater infrastructure was completed in 2007, including catch basins, pipelines, and outfalls. Updates are completed on an as-needed basis.	No further action required at this time.
4 Revised	Develop procedure for non-stormwater discharge	Town Officials	To search out and prosecute any illegal dumping found in Freetown	Legal authority, enforcement, penalties, and responsibility for administration of the program to address non-stormwater discharges were established in bylaw amendments of 2006.	Take enforcement actions when appropriate.
5 Revised	Stimulate public awareness for reporting of illegal dumping	Town Officials	Publicize local and state contacts in Public Notices and Annual Town Reports	A presentation on stormwater pollution and illicit discharges was done at Town Meeting in 2006. Health Dept. and ConCom contacts are identified on the Town website.	Continue to publish contact information. Add a "report illegal dumping" link to the Town website, and post similar signs at boat ramps and transfer station.

3a. Additions

5a	Minimize contamination of drainage system from failing septic systems	Town Officials	Failing systems replaced	Town has no sewer, so IDDE focus is failing septic. Town program is stricter than Title V, such as requiring removal of old systems and replacement with clean fill (vs. abandonment). Town encourages resident participation in Water Pollution Abatement Trust loan program.	Continue existing program.
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4. Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control

BMP ID #	BMP Description	Responsible Dept./Person Name	Measurable Goal(s)	Progress on Goal(s) – Permit Year 8 (Reliance on non-municipal partners indicated, if any)	Planned Activities
1	Review of local current by-laws	Town Officials	Submit town meeting articles to update if needed	Bylaws reviewed. Amendments adopted November 20, 2006.	No further action required at this time.
Revised					
2	Publicize and adopt changes	Town Officials	To conform with best management practices and stimulate public awareness	A presentation was done at Town Meeting in 2006 in support of the proposed changes.	No further action required at this time.
Revised					

5. Post-Construction Stormwater Management in New Development and Redevelopment

BMP ID #	BMP Description	Responsible Dept./Person Name	Measurable Goal(s)	Progress on Goal(s) – Permit Year 8 (Reliance on non-municipal partners indicated, if any)	Planned Activities
1	Review current by-laws	Town Officials	By updating town meeting articles if needed	Bylaws reviewed. Amendments adopted November 20, 2006.	No further action required at this time.
Revised					
2	Work with local committees to develop a final open space plan	Town Officials	Open space plan in conjunction with plans for watershed areas	The Town successfully formed an Open Space Committee. Open Space Plan drafted.	Continue to work cooperatively with the Open Space Committee to ensure pervious area is maximized.
Revised					

5a. Additions

2a	Ensure use of BMPs for development/redevelopment	Town Officials	BMPs included	Town requires all projects to appear before ConCom, where compliance with MADEP stormwater standards is mandated. BMP O&M Plans are also required with annual reports to Town.	Continue existing program.
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6. Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping in Municipal Operations

BMP ID #	BMP Description	Responsible Dept./Person Name	Measurable Goal(s)	Progress on Goal(s) – Permit Year 8 (Reliance on non-municipal partners indicated, if any)	Planned Activities
1	Review of existing town areas	Town Officials	With Highway Department, plan to conduct maintenance and repair of Town's drainage system	Catch basins (est. 1,150) are cleaned 1/yr via contract. Streets are swept by the Town at least 1/yr (in spring). Drain lines are cleaned as needed. Yard wastes are accepted/composted at the transfer station.	Continue existing efforts.
Revised				Drainage capital improvements this year included rehabilitation of the Terry Brook Dam. Town implemented new curbside recycling and "pay-as-you-throw" curbside trash pickup. To date, Town has realized 30% increase in recycling and 59% reduction in trash. Freetown is participating in the newly established Assawampset Pond Complex Committee. This Committee - a collaboration of the communities of Freetown, Lakeville, New Bedford, Taunton, and Rochester - is working with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection and the Massachusetts Department of Transportation to evaluate and mitigate flooding concerns in the region. Recommendations made by the Committee have included maintenance and repair of existing culverts and other drainage structures in the watershed.	

6. Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping in Municipal Operations (continued)

BMP ID #	BMP Description	Responsible Dept./Person Name	Measurable Goal(s)	Progress on Goal(s) -- Permit Year 8 (Reliance on non-municipal partners indicated, if any)	Planned Activities
2	Develop a toxins' prevention plan	Town Officials	If needed, to coincide with the Town's drainage plan	Town has active spill response unit in the event of a release in/around the drainage system.	No further action required at this time.
Revised					
3	Maintaining ongoing awareness on the part of local officials	Town Officials	Continuing the program relative to stormwater drainage	Highway Dept. submits annual operating and capital improvement budgets for maintenance/improvement of the storm drain system to Town Administrator, FinCom, and Town Meeting as appropriate. Town retained consultant to prepare estimate of anticipated requirements/costs related to reissuance of this General Permit.	Continue to ensure that stormwater receives appropriate attention/funding through Town.
Revised					

Part IV. Summary of Information Collected and Analyzed

All information collected and analyzed is presented in Part III, above.