

Stormwater Management Plan (SWMP)

Town of Apex

NCS000446

Effective: July 2024



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PART 1: INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this Stormwater Management Plan (SWMP) is to establish and define the means by which the Town of Apex will comply with its National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit, the Neuse Nutrient Management Strategy (NMS) (15A NCAC 02B .0711), and the applicable provisions of the Clean Water Act to meet the federal standard of reducing pollutants in stormwater runoff to the maximum extent practicable.

This SWMP identifies the specific elements and minimum measures that the Town of Apex will develop, implement, enforce, evaluate and report to the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ) Division of Energy, Minerals and Land Resources (DEMLR) in order to comply with the MS4 Permit number NCS000446, as issued by NCDEQ. This permit covers activities associated with the discharge of stormwater from the MS4 as owned and operated by the Town of Apex and located within the corporate limits of the Town of Apex.

In preparing this SWMP, the Town of Apex has evaluated its MS4 and the permit requirements to develop a comprehensive 5-year SWMP that will meet the community's needs, address local water quality issues and provide the minimum measures necessary to comply with the permit. The SWMP will be evaluated and updated annually to ensure that the elements and minimum measures it contains continue to adequately provide for permit compliance and the community's needs.

Once the SWMP is approved by NCDEQ, all provisions contained and referenced in this SWMP, along with any approved modifications of the SWMP, are incorporated by reference into the permit and become enforceable parts of the permit. Any major changes to the approved SWMP will require resubmittal, review and approval by NCDEQ, and may require a new public comment period depending on the nature of the changes.

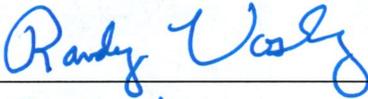
PART 2: CERTIFICATION

By my signature below I hereby 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 fines and imprisonment for knowing violations.

I am also aware that the contents of this document shall become an enforceable part of the NPDES MS4 Permit, and that both the Division and the Environmental Protection Agency have NPDES MS4 Permit compliance and enforcement authority.

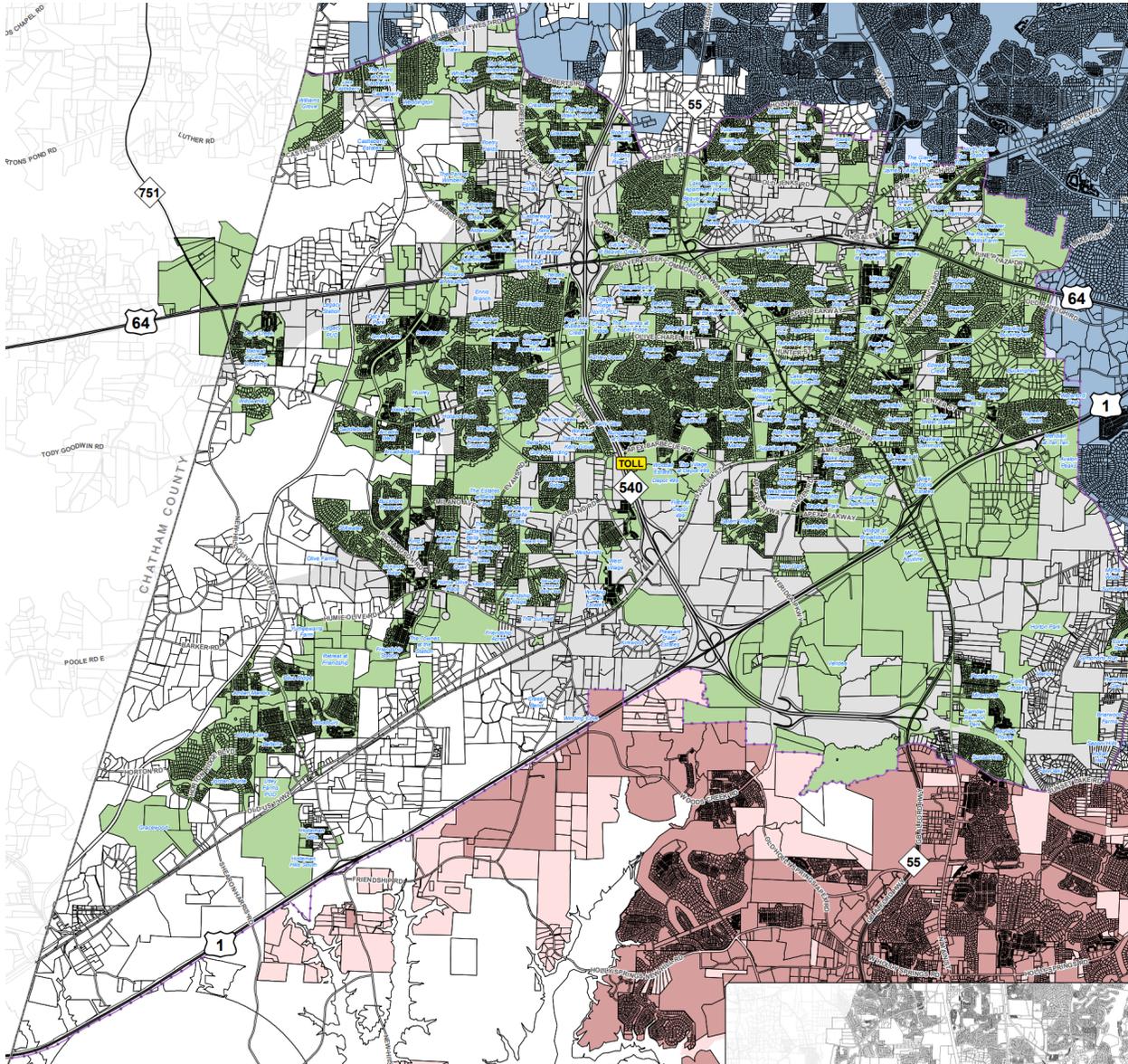
- I am a ranking elected official.
- I am a principal executive officer for the permitted MS4.
- I am a duly authorized representative for the permitted MS4 and have attached the authorization made in writing by a principal executive officer or ranking elected official which specifies me as (*check one*):
 - A specific individual having overall responsibility for stormwater matters.
 - A specific position having overall responsibility for stormwater matters.

Signature:	
Print Name:	Randy Vosburg
Title:	Town Manager
Signed this 25 th day of April, 2024.	

PART 3: MS4 INFORMATION

3.1 Permitted MS4 Area

This SWMP applies throughout the corporate limits of the Town of Apex, including all regulated activities associated with the discharge of stormwater from the MS4. The map below shows (in green) the corporate limits of Town of Apex as of the date of this document. The most recent version of the full map can be found online here: <http://www.apexnc.org/DocumentCenter/View/480/Corporate-Limits-and-Extraterritorial-Jurisdiction-Map-PDF?bidId>



3.2 Existing MS4 Mapping

The current MS4 mapping includes stormwater piping (size and material), junction boxes, invert elevations, and outfalls. Stormwater from streets, rooftops, parking lots, and other impervious surfaces is generally collected in curb inlets and conveyed by underground pipe systems. In some cases, stormwater runoff flows either by grass-lined swale, ditch or sheet flows to the nearest receiving stream. In accordance with riparian buffer regulations, stormwater discharges must attain diffuse flow prior to entry into the buffer.

MS4 Map:

<https://gisdata-apexnc.opendata.arcgis.com/apps/apex-utility-distribution/explore>

Table 1: Summary of Current MS4 Mapping

Percent of MS4 Area Mapped	99.9	%
No. of Major Outfalls* Mapped	138	total

**An outfall is a point where the MS4 discharges from a pipe or other conveyance (e.g. a ditch) directly into surface waters. Major outfalls are required to be mapped to meet permit requirements. A major outfall is a 36-inch diameter pipe or discharge from a drainage area > 50-acres; and for industrial zoned areas a 12-inch diameter pipe or a drainage area \geq 2-acres.*

Major Outfalls Map:

http://www.apexnc.org/DocumentCenter/View/33633/MS4-major-outfalls-map-2020_color?bidId

Watershed Protection Overlay District Map:

<https://gisdata-apexnc.opendata.arcgis.com/apps/1161960e2047455eafe977592590c90d/explore>

SCM Map:

<https://gisdata-apexnc.opendata.arcgis.com/apps/215e149a1f994dc99c0776e82f448595/explore>

3.3 Receiving Waters

The Town of Apex MS4 is located within both the Neuse River and Cape Fear River Basins and discharges directly into receiving waters as listed in Table 2. Applicable water quality standards listed below are compiled from the following NCDEQ sources:

- [Waterbody Classification Map](#)
- [Impaired Waters and TMDL Map](#)
- Most recent NCDEQ Final [303\(d\) List](#)

Table 2: Summary of MS4 Receiving Waters

Receiving Water Name	Stream Index / AU Number	Water Quality Classification	303(d) Listed Parameter(s) of Interest
CAPE FEAR RIVER BASIN			
White Oak Creek	16-41-6-(0.3)	WS-V ¹ ; NSW	Nutrients ²
White Oak Creek	16-41-6-(0.7)	WS-IV; NSW	Nutrients ²
White Oak Creek	18-7-6	C	N/A
Little White Oak Creek	18-7-7	C	N/A
Clark Branch	16-41-6-3	WS-IV; NSW	Nutrients ²
Reedy Branch	16-41-10-1	WS-IV; NSW	Nutrients ²
Beaver Creek	16-41-10-(0.3)	WS-V ¹ ; NSW	Nutrients ²
Beaver Creek	16-41-10-(0.5)	WS-IV; NSW	Nutrients ²
Little Beaver Creek	16-41-11-(1)	WS-IV; NSW	Nutrients ²
Big Branch	18-7-6-1	C	N/A
Big Branch	18-7-8	C	N/A
Little Branch	18-7-6-1-1	C	N/A
NEUSE RIVER BASIN			
Crabtree Creek	27-33-(1)	C; NSW	Poor Bioclassification; Nutrients
Williams Creek	27-43-2	WS-III; NSW	Poor Bioclassification; Nutrients
Swift Creek	27-43-(1)	WS-III; NSW	Poor Bioclassification; Nutrients
Middle Creek	27-43-15-(1)	C; NSW	Fair Bioclassification; Nutrients

3.4 MS4 Interconnection

The Town of Apex MS4 is not interconnected with another regulated MS4 and directly discharges to the receiving waters as listed in Table 2 above.

The MS4 does interconnect with the statewide NCDOT TS4 and includes:

- a. The interconnection is receiving stormwater from the NCDOT TS4.
- b. The interconnection is discharging stormwater into the NCDOT TS4. The number of interconnections is unknown. Quantity: N/A.

- c. Where possible, the Town of Apex TS4 mapping does identify interconnections with the NCDOT MS4.
- d. Where possible, the Town of Apex MS4 mapping does include NCDOT TS4 outfalls.

3.5 Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs)

The TMDL(s) listed in Table 3 below have been approved within the MS4 area, as determined by the map and list provided on the [NCDEQ Modeling & Assessment Unit web page](#). The table also indicates whether the approved TMDL has a specific stormwater Waste Load Allocation (WLA) for any watershed directly receiving discharges from the permitted MS4, and whether a Water Quality Recovery Program has been implemented to address the WLA.

Table 3: Summary of Approved TMDLs

Water Body Name	TMDL Pollutant(s) of Concern	Stormwater Waste Load Allocation (Y/N)	Water Quality Recovery Program (Y/N)
Neuse River Estuary	Total Nitrogen	N	N
Swift / Williams Creek	Biological Integrity	Y	Y
Jordan Lake	Total Phosphorous, Total Nitrogen	N	N

The Swift Creek watershed in the northeast section of Apex has been identified with a WLA. Focused stormwater pollution prevention efforts have been implemented Town-wide to help address this. The Town of Apex website has a page devoted to homeowner education and specifically how to slow the flow of runoff and promote healthy streambanks. This includes instructions on rain garden installation, reduced fertilizer use, downspout disconnection, and an NC Cooperative Extension publication on Small-Scale Solutions for Repairing Eroded Streambanks.

The Town has contracted with a company for street sweeping services. Downtown Apex is swept every two weeks, Town parking lots are swept monthly, main thoroughfares (including NCDOT streets) are also swept monthly, and all residential neighborhoods are swept on a quarterly basis. Any residential areas within the Swift Creek watershed are swept on a monthly basis instead of quarterly as part of the Water Quality Recovery Program.

3.6 Endangered and Threatened Species and Critical Habitat

Significant populations of threatened or endangered species and/or critical habitat are identified within the regulated MS4 urbanized area. Based upon a review of the [Endangered and Threatened Species and Species of Concern by County for North Carolina Map](#) and [Listed species believe to or known to occur in North Carolina map](#) as provided by the [U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service](#), the species listed in Table 4 have the potential to occur within the regulated MS4 urbanized area. Of those species listed, Table 4 summarizes the species that may be significantly impacted by the quality of surface waters within their habitat.

Table 4: Potential Federally Listed Species/Habitat Impacted by Surface Water Quality

Scientific Name	Common name	Species Group	Federal Listing Status
<i>Alasmidonta heterodon</i>	Dwarf wedgemussel	Clam	Endangered
<i>Noturus furiosus</i>	Carolina madtom	Fish	Endangered
<i>Notropis mekistocholas</i>	Cape Fear shiner	Fish	Endangered
<i>Elliptio lanceolata</i>	Yellow lance	Clam	Threatened

3.7 Industrial Facility Discharges

The Town of Apex MS4 jurisdictional area includes the following industrial facilities which hold NPDES Industrial Stormwater Permits, as determined from the [NCDEQ Maps & Permit Data web page](#).

Table 5: NPDES Stormwater Permitted Industrial Facilities

Permit Number	Facility Name
NCG030281	Tipper Tie Inc.
NCG070014	Potters Industries
NCG080166	Colonial Pipeline Company
NCG081001	Town of Apex Public Works Operations Building
NCG080894	Petroliance LLC
NCG100031	Rigsbee Auto Parts
NCG110047	Town of Apex Water Reclamation Facility
NCG110156	Western Wake Regional Water Reclamation Facility
NCG120102	Greenway Waste Solutions of Apex C&D Landfill
NCG130070	Feltonville Landfill Recycling Facility
NCG130099	Wall Recycling - Apex
NCG140073	Argos Ready Mixed Concrete – Apex Plant
NCG140427	Eagle Rock Concrete – Pristine Water Drive
NCG210500	Triangle Forest Products
NCG240024	Greenway Waste Solutions of Apex C&D Landfill

3.8 Non-Stormwater Discharges

The water quality impacts of non-stormwater discharges have been evaluated by the Town of Apex as summarized in Table 6 below. The unpermitted non-stormwater flows listed as incidental do not significantly impact water quality. The Town of Apex has evaluated residential and charity car washing and street washing for possible significant water quality impacts.

Street washing discharges are addressed under the Pavement Management Program in Part 10 of this SWMP. The Division has not required that other non-stormwater flows be specifically controlled by the Town of Apex.

Wash water associated with car washing that does not contain detergents or does not discharge directly into the MS4 is considered incidental. Non-commercial car washing is exempt from the Town’s IDDE ordinance and is considered to be any occasional automotive washing performed by individuals or groups without charging any fee or in exchange for a charitable donation. This shall include but is not limited to car washes performed by local church groups, school groups, athletic teams, youth organizations, and individuals at their place of residence. However, these types of non-stormwater discharges that do contain detergents have been evaluated by the Town of Apex to determine whether they may significantly impact water quality.

Table 6: Non-Stormwater Discharges

Non-Stormwater Discharge	Water Quality Impacts
Water line and fire hydrant flushing	Incidental
Landscape irrigation	Incidental
Diverted stream flows	Incidental
Rising groundwater	Incidental
Uncontaminated groundwater infiltration	Incidental
Uncontaminated pumped groundwater	Incidental
Uncontaminated potable water sources	Incidental
Foundation drains	Incidental
Air conditioning condensate	Incidental
Irrigation waters	Incidental
Springs	Incidental
Water from crawl space pumps	Incidental
Footing drains	Incidental
Lawn watering	Incidental
Residential and charity car washing	Exempt per ordinance
Flows from riparian habitats and wetlands	Incidental
Dechlorinated swimming pool discharges	Incidental
Street wash water	N/A
Flows from firefighting activities	Incidental

3.9 Target Pollutants and Sources

In addition to those target pollutants identified above, the Town of Apex is not aware of other significant water quality issues within the permitted MS4 area.

Table 7 below summarizes the water quality pollutants identified throughout Part 3 of this SWMP, the likely activities/sources/targeted audiences attributed to each pollutant, and identifies the associated SWMP program(s) that address each. In addition, the Town of Apex has evaluated schools, homeowners and businesses as target audiences that are likely to have significant stormwater impacts.

Table 7: Summary of Target Pollutants and Sources

Target Pollutant(s)	Likely Source(s)/Target Audience(s)	SWMP Program Addressing Target Pollutant(s)/Audience(s)
N/A	N/A	N/A

PART 4: STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

4.1 Organizational Structure

The Phase II permit is administered by the Stormwater Engineering Manager within the Water Resources Department. The Town’s Stormwater Field Services Supervisor manages the day-to-day operations related to most MCMs. The Public Works Department contributes to MCM #6.

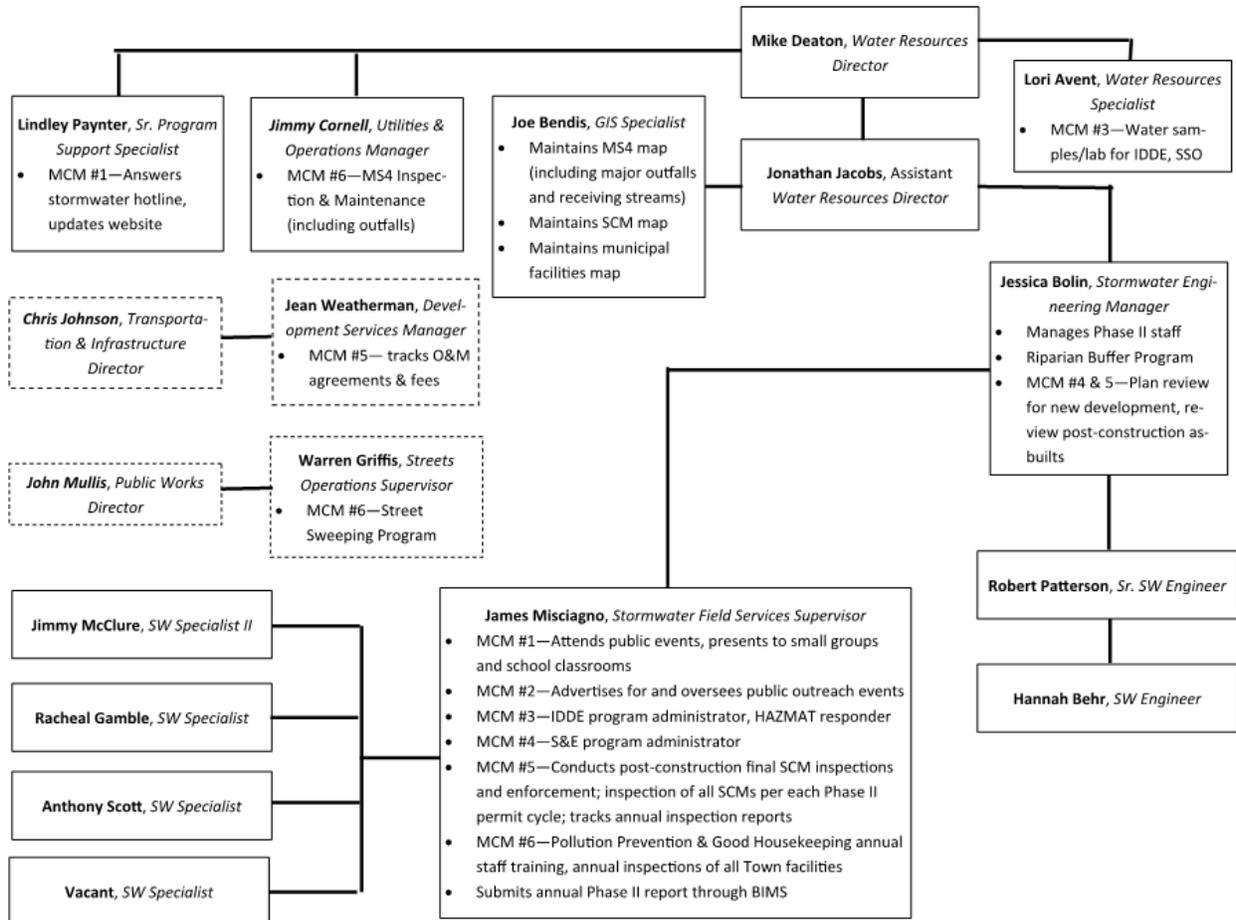


Table 8: Summary of Responsible Parties

SWMP Component	Responsible Position	Staff Name	Department
Stormwater Program Administration	Stormwater Engineering Manager	Jessica Bolin	Water Resources
SWMP Management	Stormwater Engineering Manager	Jessica Bolin	Water Resources
Public Education & Outreach	Stormwater Field Services Supervisor	James Misciagno	Water Resources
Public Involvement & Participation	Stormwater Field Services Supervisor	James Misciagno	Water Resources
Illicit Discharge Detection & Elimination	Stormwater Field Services Supervisor	James Misciagno	Water Resources
Construction Site Runoff Control	Stormwater Field Services Supervisor	James Misciagno	Water Resources
Post-Construction Stormwater Management	Stormwater Field Services Supervisor	James Misciagno	Water Resources
Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping for Municipal Operations	Stormwater Field Services Supervisor	James Misciagno	Water Resources
Municipal Facilities Operation & Maintenance Program	Stormwater Field Services Supervisor	James Misciagno	Water Resources
Spill Response Program	Stormwater Field Services Supervisor	James Misciagno	Water Resources
MS4 Operation & Maintenance Program	Utilities & Operations Manager	Jimmy Cornell	Water Resources
Municipal SCM Operation & Maintenance Program	Stormwater Engineering Manager	Jessica Bolin	Water Resources
Pesticide, Herbicide & Fertilizer Management Program	Contracted service	N/A	N/A

Vehicle & Equipment Cleaning Program	Public Works Director	John Mullis	Public Works
Street Sweeping & Pavement Management Program	Public Works Director	John Mullis	Public Works
Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Requirements	Stormwater Engineering Manager	Jessica Bolin	Water Resources

4.2 Program Funding and Budget

In accordance with the issued permit, the Town of Apex shall maintain adequate funding and staffing to implement and manage the provisions of the SWMP and comply with the requirements of the NPDES MS4 Permit. The budget includes the permit administering and compliance fee, which is billed by the Division annually.

The Town of Apex stormwater program is currently funded through the Town’s general fund and the stormwater utility fee. The annual total is approximately \$2.2 million. This budget is reviewed every year.

4.3 Shared Responsibility

The Town of Apex will share the responsibility to implement the following minimum control measures, which are at least as stringent as the corresponding NPDES MS4 Permit requirement. The Town of Apex remains responsible for compliance if the other entity fails to perform the permit obligation, and may be subject to enforcement action if neither the Town of Apex nor the other entity fully performs the permit obligation. Table 9 below summarizes who will be implementing the component, what the component program is called, the specific SWMP BMP or permit requirement that is being met by the shared responsibility, and whether or not a legal agreement to share responsibility is in place.

Table 9: Shared Responsibilities

SWMP BMP or Permit Requirement	Implementing Entity & Program Name	Legal Agreement (Y/N)
Table 13 – BMP #3	TJCOG – Clean Water Education Partnership (CWEP)	Y

4.4 Co-Permittees

There are no other entities applying for co-permittee status under the NPDES MS4 permit number NCS000446 for the Town of Apex.

Table 10: Co-Permittee Contact Information

Co-Permittee MS4 Name	Contact Person	Phone & E-Mail	Interlocal Agreement (Y/N)
N/A			

4.5 Measurable Goals for Program Administration

The Town of Apex will manage and report the following Best Management Practices (BMPs) for the administration of the Stormwater Management Program.

Table 11: Program Administration BMPs				
Permit Ref.	2.1.2 and Part 4: Annual Self-Assessment Measures to evaluate the performance and effectiveness of the SWMP program components at least annually. Results shall be used by the permittee to modify the program components as necessary to accomplish the intent of the Stormwater Program. The self-assessment reporting period is the fiscal year (July 1 – June 30).			
BMP No.	A Description of BMP	B Measurable Goal(s)	C Schedule for Implementation	D Annual Reporting Metric
#1	Annual Self-Assessment			
	Perform an annual evaluation of SWMP implementation, suitability of SWMP commitments and any proposed changes to the SWMP utilizing the NCDEQ Annual Self-Assessment Template.	1. Prepare, certify and submit the Annual Self-Assessment to NCDEQ prior to August 31 each year.	1. Annually Permit Years 1-5	1. Yes/No
Permit Ref.	1.6: Permit Renewal Application Measures to submit a permit renewal application no later than 180 days prior to the expiration date of the NPDES MS4 permit.			
BMP No.	A Description of BMP	B Measurable Goal(s)	C Schedule for Implementation	D Annual Reporting Metric
#2	Permit Renewal Application			
	Audit stormwater program implementation for compliance with the permit and approved SWMP, and utilize the results to prepare and submit a permit renewal application	1. Participate in an NPDES MS4 Permit Compliance Audit, as scheduled and performed by EPA or NCDEQ.	1. TBD – Typically Permit Year 4	1. Yes/No

Table 11: Program Administration BMPs

	package.	2. Self-audit and document any stormwater program components not audited by EPA or NCDEQ utilizing the DEQ Audit Template. Submit Self-Audit to DEMLR (required component of permit renewal application package).	2. Permit Year 5	2. Yes/No/Partial
		3. Certify the stormwater permit renewal application (Permit renewal application form, Self-Audit, and Draft SWMP for the next 5-year permit cycle) and submit to NCDEQ at least 180 days prior to permit expiration.	3. Permit Year 5	3. Date of permit renewal application submittal

PART 5: PUBLIC EDUCATION AND OUTREACH PROGRAM

The Town of Apex will implement a Public Education and Outreach Program to distribute educational materials to the community or conduct equivalent outreach activities about the impacts of storm water discharges on water bodies and steps the public can take to reduce pollutants in storm water runoff.

The target audiences and identified pollutants listed in Part 3.9 of this SWMP, which will be addressed by the Public Education and Outreach Program, are summarized in Table 12 below. In addition, the Town of Apex is required to inform businesses and the general public of the hazards associated with illicit discharges, illegal dumping and improper disposal of waste.

Table 12: Summary of Target Pollutants & Audiences

Target Pollutants/Sources	Target Audience(s)
Litter	General Public
Illicit Discharges	General Public, Businesses, Municipal Employees
Illegal Dumping	General Public, Businesses, Municipal Employees
Improper Disposal of Waste	General Public, Businesses, Municipal Employees

The Town of Apex will manage, implement and report the following public education and outreach BMPs.

Table 13: Public Education and Outreach BMPs				
Permit Ref.	3.2.2 and 3.2.4: Outreach to Targeted Audiences			
	Measures to identify the specific elements and implementation of a Public Education and Outreach Program to share educational materials to the community or conduct equivalent outreach activities about the impacts of stormwater discharges on water bodies and how the public can reduce pollutants in stormwater runoff. The permittee shall provide educational information to identified target audiences on pollutants/sources identified in table 12 above, and shall document the extent of exposure of each media, event or activity, including those elements implemented locally or through a cooperative agreement.			
BMP No.	A	B	C	D
	Description of BMP	Measurable Goal(s)	Schedule for Implementation	Annual Reporting Metric
#3	Clean Water Education Partnership (CWEP)			
	Maintain membership in CWEP where regional local governments can pool their resources to achieve direct public education and mass media marketing regarding stormwater quality.	1. Maintain a current contract with CWEP and renew as necessary.	1. Continuously Permit Years 1-5	1. Yes/No
#4	Public Events			
	Attend public events to distribute educational brochures, provide hands-on activities, and answer community questions on stormwater quality.	1. Host a booth at the Town's annual Peak Fest event.	1. Annually Permit Years 1-5	1. Quantity of educational materials distributed.

Table 13: Public Education and Outreach BMPs

Permit Ref.	2.1.7, 3.2.3 and 3.6.5(c): Web Site Measures to provide a web site designed to convey the program’s message(s) and provide online materials including ordinances, or other regulatory mechanisms, or a list identifying the ordinances or other regulatory mechanisms, providing the legal authority necessary to implement and enforce the requirements of the permit and SWMP. The web page shall also provide developers with all relevant post-construction requirements, design standards, checklists and/or other materials.			
BMP No.	A	B	C	D
	Description of BMP	Measurable Goal(s)	Schedule for Implementation	Annual Reporting Metric
#5	Informational Website			
	Keep relevant stormwater information on the Town’s official website	1. Maintain an updated stormwater information page on the Town of Apex official website. Post brochures and provide information on water quality, stormwater pollutants, litter and ways to minimize them, municipal stormwater projects and activities.	1. Continuously Permit Years 1-5	1. Yes/No
Permit Ref.	3.2.5: Stormwater Hotline Measures for a stormwater hotline/helpline for the purpose of public education and outreach.			
BMP No.	A	B	C	D
	Description of BMP	Measurable Goal(s)	Schedule for Implementation	Annual Reporting Metric
#6	Stormwater Hotline			
	Advertise a single phone number and triage all stormwater related calls received	1. Promote and maintain a phone number for stormwater concerns and public education and outreach.	1. Continuously Permit Years 1-5	1. Yes/No Number of hotline calls received

PART 6: PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND PARTICIPATION PROGRAM

This SWMP identifies the minimum elements and implementation of a Public Involvement and Participation Program that complies with applicable State, Tribal and local public notice requirements. The Town of Apex will manage, implement and report the following public involvement and participation BMPs.

Table 14: Public Involvement and Participation BMPs				
Permit Ref.	3.3.1: Public Input Mechanisms for public involvement that provide for input on stormwater issues and the stormwater program.			
BMP No.	A Description of BMP	B Measurable Goal(s)	C Schedule for Implementation	D Annual Reporting Metric
#7	Online Public Comments			
	Stormwater questions or concerns are entered through an online submission form on the Town’s official website and directed to appropriate staff.	1. Continue to promote and maintain an online submission form to direct stormwater questions and concerns to Town staff for response.	1. Continuously Permit Years 1-5	1. Yes/No Number of submissions
Permit Ref.	3.3.2: Volunteer Opportunities Measures to provide volunteer opportunities designed to promote ongoing citizen participation.			
BMP No.	A Description of BMP	B Measurable Goal(s)	C Schedule for Implementation	D Annual Reporting Metric
#8	Storm Drain Marking Program			
	Continue to involve school groups and other volunteers in storm drain marking events to raise awareness and promote ownership in the stormwater program and to protect the water quality of the receiving streams.	1. Promote volunteer opportunities on the Town’s website. Schedule events, manage volunteers, and provide supplies.	1. Continuously Permit Years 1-5	1. Number of events completed and total number of drains marked.
#9	Stream Clean-Up Events			
	Continue to advertise and manage community groups to clean up trash and debris along waterways.	1. Promote volunteer opportunities on the Town’s official website. Schedule events, manage volunteers, and provide supplies.	1. Continuously Permit Years 1-5	1. Number of events completed and total number of participants.

PART 7: ILLICIT DISCHARGE DETECTION AND ELIMINATION PROGRAM

The Town of Apex will develop, manage, implement, document, report and enforce an Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Program which shall, at a minimum, include the following illicit discharge detection and elimination BMPs.

Table 15: Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination BMPs				
Permit Ref.	3.4.1: MS4 Map Measures to develop, update and maintain a municipal storm sewer system map including stormwater conveyances, flow direction, major outfalls and waters of the United States receiving stormwater discharges.			
BMP No.	A	B	C	D
	Description of BMP	Measurable Goal(s)	Schedule for Implementation	Annual Reporting Metric
#10	MS4 Map			
	Maintain a storm sewer system map of major outfalls, surface waters, conveyances and flow direction.	1. Maintain the current MS4 map.	1. Continuously Permit Years 1-5	1. Yes/No/Partial
		2. Add new infrastructure as it is accepted by the town.	2. Continuously Permit Years 1-5	2. Yes/No/Partial Number of new outfalls added
Permit Ref.	3.4.2: Regulatory Mechanism Measures to provide an IDDE ordinance or other regulatory mechanism that provides legal authority to prohibit, detect, and eliminate illicit connections and discharges, illegal dumping and spills into the MS4, including enforcement procedures and actions.			
BMP No.	A	B	C	D
	Description of BMP	Measurable Goal(s)	Schedule for Implementation	Annual Reporting Metric
#11	IDDE Ordinance			
	Maintain adequate legal authorities.	1. Maintain an IDDE ordinance that provides legal authority to prohibit illicit connections and discharges including appropriate enforcement actions.	1. Continuously Permit Years 1-5	1. Yes/No

Table 15: Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination BMPs

Permit Ref.	3.4.3: IDDE Plan Measures to maintain and implement a written IDDE Plan to detect and address illicit discharges, illegal dumping and any non-stormwater discharges identified as significant contributors of pollutants to the MS4. The plan shall provide standard procedures and documentation to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Locate priority areas likely to have illicit discharges, b) Conduct routine dry weather outfall inspections, c) Identify illicit discharges and trace sources, d) Eliminate the source(s) of an illicit discharge, and e) Evaluate and assess the IDDE Program. 			
BMP No.	A Description of BMP	B Measurable Goal(s)	C Schedule for Implementation	D Annual Reporting Metric
#12	IDDE Standard Operating Procedures			
	Maintain and implement the written IDDE plan	1. Maintain and implement the IDDE plan to detect and address illicit discharges	1. Continuously Permit Years 1-5	1. Yes/No/Partial
#13	Dry Weather Flow Inspections			
	Maintain dry weather flow inspection program.	1. Maintain and implement the program for conducting dry weather flow field observations in accordance with written procedures.	1. Continuously Permit Years 1-5	1. Number of dry weather flow inspections completed.
Permit Ref.	3.4.4: IDDE Tracking Measures for tracking and documenting the date(s) an illicit discharge, illicit connection or illegal dumping was observed, the results of the investigation, any follow-up of the investigation, the date the investigation was closed, the issuance of enforcement actions, and the ability to identify chronic violators.			
BMP No.	A Description of BMP	B Measurable Goal(s)	C Schedule for Implementation	D Annual Reporting Metric
#14	IDDE Incident Tracking			

Table 15: Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination BMPs

	Document and track all reported IDDE incidents.	1. For each IDDE case, document 1) the date the illicit discharge was observed; 2) the results of the investigation; 3) any follow-up of the investigation; and 4) the date the investigation was closed.	1. Continuously Permit Years 1-5	1. Number of illicit discharge reports, confirmed illicit discharges, resolved illicit discharges and enforcement actions issued.
Permit Ref.	3.4.5: Staff IDDE Training Measures to provide training for municipal staff and contractors who, as part of their normal job responsibilities, may observe an illicit discharge, illicit connection, illegal dumping or spills. Training shall include how to identify and report illicit discharges, illicit connections, illegal dumping and spills. Each staff training event shall be documented, including the agenda/materials, date, and number of staff participating.			
BMP No.	A Description of BMP	B Measurable Goal(s)	C Schedule for Implementation	D Annual Reporting Metric
#15	Staff Training			
	Continue to provide annual employee training on IDDE	1. Implement a training program for relevant Town staff, who as part of their job duties, may come into contact with or otherwise observe an illicit discharge or illicit connection.	1. Annually Permit Years 1-5	1. Number of employees trained.
Permit Ref.	3.4.6: IDDE Reporting Measures for the public and staff to report illicit discharges, illegal dumping and spills. The mechanism shall be publicized to facilitate reporting and shall be managed to provide rapid response by appropriately trained personnel.			
BMP No.	A Description of BMP	B Measurable Goal(s)	C Schedule for Implementation	D Annual Reporting Metric
#16	Reporting			
	Measures for the public to report illicit discharges, illegal dumping, and spills. See BMPs 6 and 7.	1. See BMPs 6 and 7	1. See BMPs 6 and 7	1. See BMPs 6 and 7

PART 8: CONSTRUCTION SITE RUNOFF CONTROL PROGRAM

In accordance with 15A NCAC 02H .0153, the Town of Apex relies upon the North Carolina Sedimentation Pollution Control Act (SPCA) of 1973 as a qualifying alternative program to meet a portion of the NPDES MS4 Permit requirements for construction site runoff control measures. The SPCA requirements include reducing pollutants in stormwater runoff from construction activities that result in land disturbance of greater than or equal to one acre, and includes any construction activity that is part of a larger common plan of development that would disturb one acre or more. The state SPCA Program is either delegated to a city/town, delegated to a county, or implemented by NCDEQ in non-delegated areas.

Table 16: Qualifying Alternative Program Components for Construction Site Runoff Control Program

Permit Reference	State or Local Program Name	Legal Authority	Implementing Entity
3.5.1 - 3.5.4	Town of Apex Delegated SPCA Program*	15A NCAC Chapter 04, NCDEQ Approved Delegation	Town of Apex

* The local delegated SPCA Program ordinance(s)/regulatory mechanism(s) can be found at: <http://www.apexnc.org/269/Soil-Erosion-Sedimentation-Control>.

The Town of Apex also implements the following BMPs to meet NPDES MS4 Permit requirements.

Table 17: Construction Site Runoff Control BMPs				
Permit Ref.	3.5.6: Public Input Measures to provide and promote a means for the public to notify the appropriate authorities of observed erosion and sedimentation problems.			
BMP No.	A Description of BMP	B Measurable Goal(s)	C Schedule for Implementation	D Annual Reporting Metric
#17	Municipal Staff Training			
	Train municipal staff who receive calls from the public on the protocols for referral and tracking of construction site runoff control complaints.	1. Train municipal staff on proper handling of construction site runoff control complaints.	1. Annually Permit Years 1-5	1. Number of staff trained.
Permit Ref.	3.5.5: Waste Management Measures to require construction site operators to control waste such as discarded building materials, concrete truck washout, chemicals, litter, and sanitary waste at the construction site that may cause adverse impact to water quality.			
BMP No.	A Description of BMP	B Measurable Goal(s)	C Schedule for Implementation	D Annual Reporting Metric
#18	Waste Management			
	The above measures are required through the Town's S&E ordinance.	1. Implementation of the S&E ordinance	1. Continuously Permit Years 1-5	1. Yes/No

PART 9: POST-CONSTRUCTION SITE RUNOFF CONTROL PROGRAM

This SWMP identifies the minimum elements to develop, implement and enforce a program to address stormwater runoff from new development and redevelopment projects that disturb greater than or equal to one acre, including projects less than one acre that are part of a larger common plan of development or sale, that are located within the Town of Apex and discharge into the MS4. This also includes stormwater review and tracking of State and Federal projects. These elements are designed to minimize water quality impacts utilizing a combination of structural Stormwater Control Measures (SCMs) and/or non-structural BMPs appropriate for the community, and ensure adequate long-term operation and maintenance of SCMs.

In accordance with 15A NCAC 02H .0153 and .1017, the Town of Apex implements the following State post-construction program requirements, which satisfy the NPDES Phase II MS4 post-construction site runoff control requirements as Qualifying Alternative Programs (QAPs) in the MS4 area(s) where they are implemented.

Table 18: Qualifying Alternative Program(s) for Post-Construction Site Runoff Control Program

State QAP Name	State Requirements	Local Ordinance / Regulatory Mechanism Reference
Neuse NMS	15A NCAC 02B .0711	UDO 6.1

Table 19: Deleted per template

The annual reporting metrics for the post construction program are provided in Table 20: Post Construction Site Runoff Control BMPs below.

Table 20: Post Construction Site Runoff Control BMPs				
Permit Ref.	3.6.5(a), 3.6.5(b), and 4.1.3: Minimum Post-Construction Reporting Requirements			
	Measures to document activities over the course of the fiscal year (July 1 – June 30) including appropriate information to accurately describe progress, status, and results.			
BMP No.	A	B	C	D
	Description of BMP	Measurable Goal(s)	Schedule for Implementation	Annual Reporting Metric
#19	Standard Reporting			
	Implement standardized tracking, documentation, inspections and reporting mechanisms to compile appropriate data for the annual self-assessment process.	1. Track number of low density, high density, and NMS-subject plan reviews performed.	1. Permit Years 1-5	1. Number of plan reviews performed for low density and high density.
2. Track number of low density, high density, and NMS-subject plans approved.		2. Permit Years 1-5	2. Number of plan approvals issued for low density and high density.	

Table 20: Post Construction Site Runoff Control BMPs

		3. Maintain a current inventory of NMS-subject projects, low density projects, and constructed SCMs including SCM type or low density acreage, location and last inspection date.	3. Permit Years 1-5	3. Summary of number and type of SCMs added to the inventory; and number and acreage of low density projects constructed.
		4. Track number of SCM inspections performed.	4. Permit Years 1-5	4. Number of SCM inspections.
		5. Track number and type of enforcement actions taken.	5. Permit Years 1-5	5. Number of enforcement actions issued.
#20	Data Used in Nutrient Calculations			
	Input data used for the calculation of nutrient export and reduction by SCMs for all development sites subject to 15A NCAC 02B .0711 will be collected for the year and submitted as an appendix for the Local Program's Annual Report.	1. Export SNAP input data from each NWS-subject development upon approval.	1. Permit Years 3-5	1. Nutrient calculation input data for all developments and expansions subject to the Neuse Stormwater Rule submitted to NCDEQ by August 31 of each year.
		2. Provide adjusted SNAP input data from each NWS-subject development where completed landcovers are different from what was permitted.	2. Permit Years 3-5	2. Nutrient calculation data for these developments and a notice for which previously-submitted data are to be replaced.
Permit Ref.	<p>3.6.2: Legal Authority Measures to maintain adequate legal authorities through ordinance or other regulatory mechanism to: (a) review designs and proposals for new development and redevelopment to determine whether adequate stormwater control measures will be installed, implemented, and maintained, (b) request information such as stormwater plans, inspection reports, monitoring results, and other information deemed necessary to evaluate compliance with the Post-Construction Stormwater Management Program, and (c) enter private property for the purpose of inspecting at reasonable times any facilities, equipment, practices, or operations related to stormwater discharges to determine whether there is compliance with the Post-Construction Stormwater Management Program.</p>			
BMP No.	A	B	C	D
	Description of BMP	Measurable Goal(s)	Schedule for Implementation	Annual Reporting Metric

Table 20: Post Construction Site Runoff Control BMPs

#21	Legal Authority			
	Maintain the Town’s Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) necessary to implement and enforce the requirements stated above.	1. Regularly update the UDO.	1. Permit Years 1-5	1. Yes/No
Permit Ref.	3.6.3: Plan Review and Approval Measures to maintain plan review and approval authority, standards and procedures to: (a) Require Federal, State, and local government projects to comply with Post-Construction Program requirements throughout the entire MS4 permitted area, unless the entity is subject to its own NPDES MS4 permit or a qualifying alternative program, (b) Conduct site plan reviews of all new development and redeveloped sites that disturb greater than or equal to one acre, and sites that disturb less than one acre that are part of a larger common plan of development or sale for compliance with 15A NCAC 02H .1017 and the qualifying alternative programs that apply within your jurisdiction, (c) Ensure that each project has an Operation and Maintenance Agreement that complies with 15A NCAC 02H .1050(12), (d) Ensure that each project has an Operation and Maintenance Plan that complies with 15A NCAC 02H .1050(13), (e) Ensure that each project has recorded deed restrictions and protective covenants, that require the project to be maintained consistent with approved plans, (f) Ensure that each SCM and associated maintenance accesses be protected in a permanent recorded easement per 15A NCAC 02H 1050 (9) and (10), and (g) Require that the maximum allowable BUA for the property be recorded on the Final Plat in accordance with 6.1.10 of the UDO.			
BMP No.	A	B	C	D
	Description of BMP	Measurable Goal(s)	Schedule for Implementation	Annual Reporting Metric
#22	Plan Reviews			
	Conduct plan reviews for sites that disturb greater than or equal to one acre (1/2 ac. in Neuse). The site plan review shall address how the project meets performance standards.	1. Continue plan review for new development projects as they are submitted.	1. Continuously Permit Years 1-5	1. Number of plans (greater than or equal to 1 acre; 1/2 ac. in Neuse) reviewed.
#23	Operation & Maintenance (O&M) Agreements			
	Implement and maintain an O&M program for Stormwater Control Measures (SCMs).	1. Continue to require an O&M agreement to be recorded with Wake County for each new SCM approved in Town.	1. Continuously Permit Years 1-5	1. Number of O&M agreements recorded.
#24	Undisturbed Riparian Buffers			
	Implement the Town-wide program requiring 100’ buffers on all perennial streams and 50’ buffers on all intermittent streams.	1. Continue to implement the Town-wide riparian buffer protection program.	1. Continuously Permit Years 1-5	1. Yes/No
#25	Plan Review Staff Training on Nutrient Calculator Tool			

Table 20: Post Construction Site Runoff Control BMPs

	Ensure all plan review staff have gone through DWR-provided plan reviewer training for the approved nutrient calculator.	1. All current plan review staff participate in live online training for calculator tool.	1. First year NMS is implemented	1. Number of review staff that attended live online training
		2. Plan review staff who were unable to attend live online workshop view recording of training.	2. As needed	2. Number of review staff that viewed recording of training that year
Permit Ref.	<p>3.6.4: Inspections and Enforcement Measures to maintain inspection and enforcement authority, standards and procedures to: (a) Conduct post-construction inspections prior to issuing a Certificate of Occupancy or a Temporary Certificate of Occupancy. Alternatively, the project owner may provide a surety bond to guarantee compliance with the approved plan(s), (b) Ensure that the project has been constructed in accordance with the approved plan(s), (c) Ensure annual inspection of each permitted SCM to ensure compliance with the approved Operation and Maintenance Agreement, (d) Ensure inspection of low density projects at least once during the permit term, and (e) Require that inspections be conducted by a qualified professional.</p>			
BMP No.	A Description of BMP	B Measurable Goal(s)	C Schedule for Implementation	D Annual Reporting Metric
#26	Annual Inspection			
	Require an annual inspection of each SCM in Town to be submitted by the property owner.	1. Continue to require an annual SCM inspection report sealed by a PE, RLA, or PLS for each SCM in Town.	1. Continuously Permit Years 1-5	1. Number of annual inspections received and enforcement actions issued.
#27	Town-inspection			
	Conduct and document inspections of all SCMs in Town once per permit cycle.	1. Inspect each SCM in Town and document findings.	1. Continuously Permit Years 1-5	1. Number of inspections performed.
Permit Ref.	<p>3.6.6: Fecal Coliform Reduction Measures to control, to the maximum extent practicable, sources of fecal coliform per 15A NCAC 02H .1017(7). At a minimum, the program shall include: (a) A pet waste management component, which may be achieved by revising an existing litter ordinance, and (b) An on-site domestic wastewater treatment system component, if applicable, which may be coordinated with local county health department, to ensure proper operation and maintenance of such systems.</p>			
BMP No.	A Description of BMP	B Measurable Goal(s)	C Schedule for Implementation	D Annual Reporting Metric

Table 20: Post Construction Site Runoff Control BMPs

#28	Animal Waste Ordinance			
	Maintain a Town ordinance to manage pet waste.	1. Maintain Section 4.1 of the Town municipal code to manage pet waste.	1. Continuously Permit Years 1-5	1. Yes/No
#29	Septic Tank O&M			
	Provide O&M guidance to septic tank owners as may be requested by Wake County since the Town does not permit these systems.	1. Maintain a link on the Town's webpage to Wake County's septic system information.	1. Continuously Permit Years 1-5	1. Yes/No

PART 10: POLLUTION PREVENTION AND GOOD HOUSEKEEPING PROGRAMS

This SWMP provides a comprehensive pollution prevention and good housekeeping strategy for the Town of Apex municipal facilities and operations. Pollution prevention and good housekeeping is accomplished through the implementation of seven required programs, which collectively address the ultimate goal of preventing or reducing pollutant runoff from municipal operations such as parks and open space maintenance, fleet and building maintenance, new construction and land disturbances, and municipal storm sewer system maintenance.

Pollution prevention and good housekeeping for municipal operations includes the following programs:

1. Municipal Facilities Operation and Maintenance Program
2. Spill Response Program
3. MS4 Operation and Maintenance Program
4. Municipal SCM Operation and Maintenance Program
5. Pesticide, Herbicide and Fertilizer Management Program
6. Vehicle and Equipment Maintenance Program
7. Pavement Management Program

The Town of Apex will manage, implement and report the pollution prevention and good housekeeping BMPs as specified in Table 21 below for each required program.

Table 21: Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping BMPs				
Permit Ref.	3.7.1: Municipal Facilities Operation and Maintenance Program Measures to manage facilities that are owned and operated by the permittee and have the potential for generating polluted stormwater runoff. The permittee shall maintain a current inventory of municipal facilities; perform facility inspections and routine maintenance; establish specific frequencies, schedules, and standard documentation; provide staff training on general stormwater awareness and implementing pollution prevention and good housekeeping practices.			
BMP No.	A	B	C	D
	Description of BMP	Measurable Goal(s)	Schedule for Implementation	Annual Reporting Metric
#30	Inventory of Municipal Facilities			
	Maintain a current inventory of municipal facilities with the potential for generating polluted stormwater runoff.	1. Maintain an updated inventory of municipal facilities with the potential for generating polluted stormwater runoff.	1. Annually Permit Years 1-5	1. Yes/No Number of facilities
		2. Inspect municipal facilities with the potential for generating polluted stormwater runoff annually.	2. Annually Permit Years 1-5	2. Yes/No Number of facility inspections

Table 21: Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping BMPs

#31	O&M Program			
	Draft an O&M plan for each new municipal facility with the potential for generating polluted stormwater runoff.	1. As new facilities are built, draft an O&M plan that facility operators can follow in order to reduce pollution in the stormwater runoff.	1. Continuously Permit Years 1-5	1. Yes/No Number of new facilities
#32	Staff Training			
	Provide annual employee training on pollution prevention and good housekeeping.	Continue to implement a training program for relevant Town staff on pollution prevention and good housekeeping practices.	1. Annually Permit Years 1-5	1. Number of employees trained.
Permit Ref.	3.7.2: Spill Response Program Measures for facilities and operations that store and/or use materials that have the potential to contaminate stormwater runoff if spilled. The permittee shall maintain written spill response procedures and train staff on spill response procedures.			
BMP No.	A	B	C	D
	Description of BMP	Measurable Goal(s)	Schedule for Implementation	Annual Reporting Metric
#33	Spill Response Plans			
	Updated spill response plans will be kept for any municipal facility with the potential for generating polluted stormwater runoff.	1. Continue to keep spill response procedures updated and located at appropriate locations.	1. Continuously Permit Years 1-5	1. Yes/No
Permit Ref.	3.7.3: MS4 Operation and Maintenance Program Measures to minimize pollutants in the stormwater collection system. The permittee shall provide operation and maintenance staff training on stormwater awareness and pollution prevention, perform MS4 inspections, maintain the collection system including catch basins and conveyances; and establish specific frequencies, schedules, and standard documentation.			
BMP No.	A	B	C	D
	Description of BMP	Measurable Goal(s)	Schedule for Implementation	Annual Reporting Metric
#34	Storm Drain Maintenance Plan			
	Update and implement the current storm drain operation and maintenance plan.	1. Update the Storm Drain Inspections Plan to inspect 20% annually.	1. Permit Year 1	1. Yes/No

Table 21: Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping BMPs

		2. Implement the plan.	2. Continuously Permit Years 1-5	2. Yes/No Number of inspections completed Number of maintenance work orders
		3. Train staff on pollution prevention and illicit discharge identification. See BMPs 6 and 7.	3. See BMPs 6 and 7.	3. See BMPs 6 and 7.
Permit Ref.	3.7.4: Municipal SCM Operation and Maintenance Program Measures to manage municipally-owned, operated, and/or maintained structural stormwater control measures (SCMs) that are installed for compliance with the permittee’s post-construction program. The permittee shall maintain a current inventory of SCMs, perform SCM inspections and maintenance, and shall establish specific frequencies, schedules, and documentation.			
BMP No.	A Description of BMP	B Measurable Goal(s)	C Schedule for Implementation	D Annual Reporting Metric
#35	Town-Owned SCM O&M Program			
	Ensure all Town-owned SCMs are maintained and inspected regularly.	1. Continue to maintain an inventory of Town-owned SCMs, maintain on a monthly basis, and inspect annually.	1. Continuously Permit Years 1-5	1. Yes/No Number of inspections performed.
Permit Ref.	3.7.5: Pesticide, Herbicide and Fertilizer Management Program Measures to minimize water quality impacts from the use of landscape chemicals. The permittee shall provide routine pollution prevention and chemical use, storage and handling training, and shall ensure compliance with permits and applicator certifications.			
BMP No.	A Description of BMP	B Measurable Goal(s)	C Schedule for Implementation	D Annual Reporting Metric
#36	Pesticide, Herbicide, and Fertilizer Application Management			
	Relevant municipal employees shall be trained and certified.	1. Continue to train employees on appropriate pesticide, herbicide, and fertilizer practices and maintain documentation of certifications.	1. Annually Permit Years 1-5	1. Yes/No Number of certified staff

Table 21: Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping BMPs

BMP No.	A	B	C	D
	Description of BMP	Measurable Goal(s)	Schedule for Implementation	Annual Reporting Metric
Permit Ref.	3.7.6: Vehicle and Equipment Maintenance Program			
	Measures to prevent and minimize contamination of stormwater runoff from areas used for municipal vehicle and equipment maintenance and/or cleaning. The permittee shall ensure that municipal industrial facilities subject to NPDES industrial permitting comply with those permit requirements, provide routine pollution prevention training to staff, perform routine inspections, and establish specific frequencies, schedules, and documentation.			
#37	Municipal Vehicle Maintenance			
	Implement measures to prevent or minimize contamination of stormwater runoff from all areas used for municipal vehicle cleaning and maintenance. See BMPs 27 - 29.	1. Continue to utilize the vehicle washing station at the PW facility and conduct all maintenance at the PW Fleet shop where appropriate measures such as oil/water separators are installed.	1. Continuously Permit Years 1-5	1. Yes/No
		2. See BMPs 30 - 32	2. See BMPs 30 - 32	2. See BMPs 30 - 32
		3. Obtain / maintain industrial stormwater permit coverage for subject municipal facilities.	3. Continuously Permit Years 1 - 5	3. Yes/No/Status
Permit Ref.	3.7.7: Pavement Management Program			
	Measures to reduce pollutants in stormwater runoff from municipally-owned streets, roads, and parking lots within the permittee's corporate limits. The permittee shall implement measures to control litter, leaves, debris, particulate and fluid pollutants associated with vehicles, and establish specific frequencies, schedules, and documentation.			
BMP No.	A	B	C	D
	Description of BMP	Measurable Goal(s)	Schedule for Implementation	Annual Reporting Metric
#38	Public Street Maintenance			
	Implement the street sweeping program to regularly clean all publicly owned roads and parking lots.	1. Continue to implement the street sweeping program.	1. Continuously Permit Years 1-5	1. Quantity of sediment / debris removed from swept roads.
		2. Continue to collect yard waste.	2. Continuously Permit Years 1-5	2. Quantity of yard waste collected.
#39	Litter Management			

Table 21: Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping BMPs

	Implement measures to reduce litter loading in public areas.	1. Evaluate litter loading in public areas and install receptacles as appropriate to provide for proper disposal.	1. Annually Permit Years 1-5	1. Yes/No/Status Number of new receptacles installed
		2. See BMPs 3, 5, 9, 34	2. See BMPs 3, 5, 9, 34	2. See BMPs 3, 5, 9, 34
		3. Continue to collect trash from public receptacles.	3. Continuously Permit Years 1-5	3. Quantity of trash collected.