

Year 6 Annual Report
Massachusetts Small MS4 General Permit
Reporting Period: July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024

Please DO NOT attach any documents to this form. Instead, attach all requested documents to an email when submitting the form. Also ensure any websites included on this form are to publicly accessible sites

Unless otherwise noted, all fields are required to be filled out. If a field is left blank, it will be assumed the requirement or task has not been completed. Please ONLY report on activities between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024 unless otherwise requested.

Part I: Contact Information

Name of Municipality or Organization:

EPA NPDES Permit Number:

Primary MS4 Program Manager Contact Information

Name: Title:

Street Address Line 1:

Street Address Line 2:

City: State: Zip Code:

Email: Phone Number:

Stormwater Management Program (SWMP) Information

SWMP Location (publicly available web address):

Date SWMP was Last Updated:

If the SWMP is not available on the web please provide the physical address:

Part II: Self-Assessment

First, in the box below, select the impairment(s) and/or TMDL(s) that are applicable to your MS4. Make sure you are referring to the most recent EPA approved Section 303(d) Impaired Waters List which can be found here: <https://www.epa.gov/tmdl/region-1-impaired-waters-and-303d-lists-state>

Impairment(s)

Bacteria/Pathogens Chloride Nitrogen Phosphorus
 Solids/ Oil/ Grease (Hydrocarbons)/ Metals

TMDL(s)

In State:

Assabet River Phosphorus Bacteria and Pathogen Cape Cod Nitrogen
 Charles River Watershed Phosphorus Lake and Pond Phosphorus

Out of State:

Bacteria/Pathogens Metals Nitrogen Phosphorus

Clear Impairments and TMDLs

Next, check off all requirements below that have been completed. **By checking each box you are certifying that you have completed that permit requirement fully.** If you have not completed a requirement leave the box unchecked. Additional information will be requested in later sections.

Annual Requirements

- Provided an opportunity for public participation in review and implementation of SWMP and complied with State Public Notice requirements
- Kept records relating to the permit available for 5 years and made available to the public
- The SSO inventory has been updated, including the status of mitigation and corrective measures implemented
 - This is not applicable because we do not have sanitary sewer
 - This is not applicable because we did not find any new SSOs
 - The updated SSO inventory is attached to the email submission
 - The updated SSO inventory can be found at the following publicly available website:

- Updated system map due in year 10 with information from completed catchment investigations
- Provided training to employees involved in IDDE program within the reporting period
- Properly stored and disposed of catch basin cleanings and street sweepings so they did not discharge to receiving waters
- All curbed roadways were swept at least once within the reporting period
- Enclosed all road salt storage piles or facilities and implemented winter road maintenance procedures to minimize the use of road salt
- Implemented SWPPPs for all permittee owned or operated maintenance garages, public works yards, transfer stations, and other waste handling facilities

- Updated inventory of all permittee owned facilities as necessary
- O&M programs for all permittee owned facilities have been completed and updated as necessary
- Implemented all maintenance procedures for permittee owned facilities in accordance with O&M programs
- Implemented program for MS4 infrastructure maintenance to reduce the discharge of pollutants
- Inspected all permittee owned treatment structures (excluding catch basins)

Optional: If you would like to describe progress made on any incomplete requirements listed above or provide any additional details, please use the box below:

The City is working on updating mapping to identify all municipally owned treatment structures which will then be used to develop a formal inspection program.

Bacteria/ Pathogens (Combination of Impaired Waters Requirements and TMDL Requirements as Applicable)
Annual Requirements

*Public Education and Outreach**

- Annual message was distributed encouraging the proper management of pet waste, including noting any existing ordinances where appropriate
- Permittee or its agents disseminated educational material to dog owners at the time of issuance or renewal of dog license, or other appropriate time
- Provided information to owners of septic systems about proper maintenance in any catchment that discharges to a water body impaired for bacteria
 - This is not applicable because there are no septic systems present

** Public education messages can be combined with other public education requirements as applicable (see Appendix H and F for more information)*

Optional: If you would like to describe progress made on any incomplete requirements listed above or provide any additional details, please use the box below:

Nitrogen (Combination of Impaired Waters Requirements and TMDL Requirements as Applicable)

Annual Requirements

*Public Education and Outreach**

- Distributed an annual message in the spring (April/May) that encourages the proper use and disposal of grass clippings and encourages the proper use of slow-release fertilizers
- Distributed an annual message in the summer (June/July) encouraging the proper management of pet waste, including noting any existing ordinances where appropriate
- Distributed an annual message in the fall (August/September/October) encouraging the proper disposal of leaf litter

** Public education messages can be combined with other public education requirements as applicable (see Appendix H and F for more information)*

Good Housekeeping and Pollution Prevention for Permittee Owned Operations

- Increased street sweeping frequency of all municipal owned streets and parking lots subject to Permit part 2.3.7.a.iii.(c) to a minimum of two times per year (spring and fall)

Structural BMPs

- Installed a structural BMP as a demonstration project within the drainage area of the water quality limited water or its tributaries. The type of BMP installed is (*e.g. biofiltration*):

A bioretention garden is on track to be constructed by the end of 2024 at the Maurice Donahue Elementary School to treat stormwater runoff from the parking lot.

Any structural BMPs listed in Attachment 3 to Appendix F already existing or installed in the regulated area by the permittee or its agents was tracked and the nitrogen removal by the BMP was estimated

- consistent with Attachment 3 to Appendix F. The BMP type, total area treated by the BMP, the design storage volume of the BMP, and the estimated nitrogen removed in mass per year by the BMP were documented.

- No BMPs were installed
- The above referenced BMP information is attached to the email submission
- The above referenced BMP information can be found at the following publicly available website:

Total estimated nitrogen removed in lbs/year from the installed BMPs: 103.06

Optional: If you would like to describe progress made on any incomplete requirements listed above or provide any additional details, please use the box below:

The Pioneer Valley Planning Commission has historically assisted the City in meeting the requirements of the Public Outreach efforts although it was noted that information on leaf litter was not distributed within the reporting period. PVPC has noted efforts to help the City of Holyoke exceed this effort in Year 7 to compensate for Year 6. Nitrogen calculations have been included for the newly constructed infiltration basin at the new William R. Peck Middle School and the planned bioretention garden at Maurice Donahue School.

Optional: Use the box below to provide any additional information you would like to share as part of your self-assessment:

Additionally, the City was also recently awarded funding through EEA's MVP Program for the design, permitting, and construction of a green infrastructure project at Lt. Clayre Sullivan School. Construction is anticipated for Summer 2025.

Part III: Receiving Waters/Impaired Waters/TMDL

Have you made any changes to your lists of receiving waters, outfalls, or impairments since the NOI was submitted?

- Yes
- No

If yes, describe below, including any relevant impairments or TMDLs:

There are now 103 identified outfalls within the MS4 as a result of dryweather screening investigations

Part IV: Minimum Control Measures

Please fill out all of the metrics below. If applicable, include in the description who completed the task if completed by a third party.

MCM1: Public Education

Number of educational messages completed **during this reporting period:**

Below, report on the educational messages completed **during this reporting period**. For the measurable goal(s) please describe the method/measures used to assess the overall effectiveness of the educational program.

BMP:#1. Think Blue Connecticut River

Message Description and Distribution Method:

See annual reporting for education and outreach activities, Year 6 at: www.thinkblueconnecticutriver.org/ms4-communities/

Targeted Audience:

Responsible Department/Parties:

Measurable Goal(s):

A total of 3,137 people visited the Think Blue Connecticut River website during Year 6 and spent an average of 31 seconds on viewing pages on stormwater best practices. Beyond the web analytics reported below on specific messages, there were the following views of the general audience pages on the Think Blue Connecticut River website: Residents views = 62; Businesses and Institutions views = 58; Developers views = 161; Industries views = 27; and Educators views = 53

Message Date(s):

Message Completed for: Appendix F Requirements Appendix H Requirements

Was this message different than what was proposed in your NOI? Yes No

If yes, describe why the change was made:

As indicated in previous annual reports, the website was not mentioned in the NOI and SWMP, but it has been central to all messaging in the region, providing additional information and resources on key topics.

BMP:#2. Proper Management of Pet Waste (during time of licensing)

Message Description and Distribution Method:

See annual reporting for education and outreach activities, Year 6 at: www.thinkblueconnecticutriver.org/ms4-communities/

Targeted Audience:

Responsible Department/Parties: PVPC staff and Connecticut River Stormwater Committee members

Measurable Goal(s):

During time of licensing the cable access message went to 18 local stations.

Analytics for the Think Blue Connecticut River website, indicate that there were another 176 people went to the pet waste landing page on the Think Blue Connecticut River website.

Message Date(s): The social media message ran on Facebook and Instagram for eight days from June 24 to July 1, 2024.

Message Completed for: Appendix F Requirements Appendix H Requirements

Was this message different than what was proposed in your NOI? Yes No

If yes, describe why the change was made:

The NOI/SWMP indicated pet waste messaging only in summer months as PVPC understood that messaging under the Appendixes could be combined. EPA has indicated that additional messaging to dog owners “at time of licensing” is required. Messaging at time of licensing was added, starting in Year 2, along with additional messaging on pet waste during “stay at home” orders with the pandemic (given the increased visibility of associated problems).

BMP:#3. Proper Management of Pet Waste (during summer)

Message Description and Distribution Method:

See annual reporting for education and outreach activities, Year 6 at: www.thinkblueconnecticutriver.org/ms4-communities/

Targeted Audience: Residents

Responsible Department/Parties: PVPC staff and Connecticut River Stormwater Committee members

Measurable Goal(s):

Messaging reached 53,437 people in Stormwater Committee communities with 840 individuals clicking on the “Pledge” button to go to the Pick Up Poop pledge on the Think Blue Connecticut River website. Analytics for the Think Blue Connecticut River website, indicate that there were another 176 people went to the pet waste landing page on the Think Blue Connecticut River website.

Message Date(s): The social media message ran on Facebook and Instagram for eight days from June 24 to July 1, 2024.

Message Completed for: Appendix F Requirements Appendix H Requirements

Was this message different than what was proposed in your NOI? Yes No

If yes, describe why the change was made:

The NOI/SWMP indicated pet waste messaging only in summer months as PVPC understood that messaging under the Appendixes could be combined. EPA has indicated that additional messaging to dog owners “at time of licensing” is required. Messaging at time of licensing was added, starting in Year 2, along with additional messaging on pet waste during “stay at home” orders with the pandemic (given the increased visibility of associated problems).

BMP:#4. Proper Septic System Care

Message Description and Distribution Method:

See annual reporting for education and outreach activities, Year 6 at: www.thinkblueconnecticutriver.org/ms4-communities/

Targeted Audience: Residents

Responsible Department/Parties: PVPC staff and Connecticut River Stormwater Committee members

Measurable Goal(s):

The social media ad on Facebook and Instagram reached 55,586 people whose interest matches “Septic Tank” in Connecticut Stormwater Committee zip codes. There were 1,568 clicks on the ad’s “Learn More” button which links to the Think Blue Connecticut River website septic system landing page.

Message Date(s): The social media ad ran between May 31 to June 7, 2024.

Message Completed for: Appendix F Requirements Appendix H Requirements

Was this message different than what was proposed in your NOI? Yes No

If yes, describe why the change was made:

The NOI/SWMP indicated septic system messaging would be done in Year 3 only as MS4 permit language in Appendix H was not entirely clear on the timing of this message. EPA has since indicated that septic system messaging must occur each year. The Connecticut River Stormwater Committee adjusted accordingly, starting in Year 2.

BMP:#5. Proper Management of Geese

Message Description and Distribution Method:

See annual reporting for education and outreach activities, Year 6 at: www.thinkblueconnecticutriver.org/ms4-communities/

Targeted Audience: Businesses/institutions/commercial facilities

Responsible Department/Parties: PVPC staff and Connecticut River Stormwater Committee members

Measurable Goal(s):

Letters sent to 31 property owners with likely ongoing goose problems (animals that are “residential” to the area and not migratory)

Message Date(s): June 20, 2024

Message Completed for: Appendix F Requirements Appendix H Requirements

Was this message different than what was proposed in your NOI? Yes No

If yes, describe why the change was made:

BMP:#6. Importance of Soil Test, Proper Use of Fertilizers, Disposal of Grass Clippings

Message Description and Distribution Method:

See annual reporting for education and outreach activities, Year 6 at: www.thinkblueconnecticutriver.org/ms4-communities/

Targeted Audience: Residents

Responsible Department/Parties: PVPC staff and Connecticut River Stormwater Committee members

Measurable Goal(s):

The radio message reached a total estimated audience of 65,000 people per week. Analytics for the Think Blue Connecticut River website page on lawn care, indicate that there were a total of 48 views on the website landing page.

Message Date(s): 72 spots on each WHMP and WRSI between 4/8 through 4/27/24
48 spots on Lazer between 6/19 through 6/29/24; and
24 spots on Lazer between 7/1 through 7/6/24

Message Completed for: Appendix F Requirements Appendix H Requirements

Was this message different than what was proposed in your NOI? Yes No

If yes, describe why the change was made:

BMP:#7. Importance of Soil Test, Proper Use of Fertilizers, Disposal of Grass Clippings

Message Description and Distribution Method:

See annual reporting for education and outreach activities, Year 6 at: www.thinkblueconnecticutriver.org/ms4-communities/

Targeted Audience: Business/institutions/commercial facilities

Responsible Department/Parties: PVPC staff and Connecticut River Stormwater Committee members

Measurable Goal(s):

Letter – sent to 130 landscaping companies in the region

Message Date(s): Letter - sent June 6, 2024

Message Completed for: Appendix F Requirements Appendix H Requirements

Was this message different than what was proposed in your NOI? Yes No

If yes, describe why the change was made:

Add an Educational Message

MCM2: Public Participation

Describe the opportunity provided for public involvement in the development of the Stormwater Management Program (SWMP) **during this reporting period:**

In addition to posting the SWMP on the website for public to review and comment, ongoing opportunities exist for public feedback during each regularly occurring meeting of the Board of Public Works.

Was this opportunity different than what was proposed in your NOI? Yes No

Describe any other public involvement or participation opportunities conducted **during this reporting period:**

MCM3: Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE)

Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSOs)

Check off the box below if the statement is true.

This SSO section is NOT applicable because we DO NOT have sanitary sewer

Below, report on the number of SSOs identified in the MS4 system and removed **during this reporting period**.

Number of SSOs identified:

Number of SSOs removed:

MS4 System Mapping

Percent of Phase II map complete:

Optional: Provide additional status information regarding your map:

Phase II map updates will be ongoing through 2028 as a part of the catchment investigation process. By June 2025 roughly 25% of the mapping updates will be complete.

Screening of Outfalls/Interconnections

If conducted, please submit any outfall monitoring results from this reporting period. Outfall monitoring results should include the date, outfall/interconnection identifier, location, weather conditions at time of sampling, precipitation in previous 48 hours, field screening parameter results, and results from all analyses. Please also include the updated inventory and ranking of outfalls/interconnections based on monitoring results.

- No outfalls were inspected
- The above referenced outfall screening data is attached to the email submission
- The above referenced outfall screening data can be found at the following publicly available website:

Below, report on the number of outfalls/interconnections screened **during this reporting period**.

Number of outfalls screened:

Below, report on the percent of outfalls/interconnections screened **to date**.

Percent of outfalls screened:

Optional: Provide additional information regarding your outfall/interconnection screening:

Catchment Investigations

If conducted, please submit all data collected during this reporting period as part of the dry and wet weather investigations. Also include the presence or absence of System Vulnerability Factors for each catchment.

- No catchment investigations were conducted
- The catchment investigation data is attached to the email submission
- The catchment investigation data can be found at the following publicly available website:

Below, report on the number of catchment investigations completed during this reporting period.

Number of catchment investigations completed this reporting period:

Below, report on the percent of catchments investigated to date.

Percent of total catchments investigated:

Optional: Provide any additional information for clarity regarding the catchment investigations below:

IDDE Progress

If illicit discharges were found, please submit a document describing work conducted over this reporting period, and cumulative to date, including location source; description of the discharge; method of discovery; date of discovery; and date of elimination, mitigation, or enforcement OR planned corrective measures and schedule of removal.

- No illicit discharges were found
- The illicit discharge removal report is attached to the email submission
- The illicit discharge removal report can be found at the following publicly available website:

Below, report on the number of illicit discharges identified and removed, along with the volume of sewage removed during this reporting period.

Number of illicit discharges identified:

Number of illicit discharges removed:

Estimated volume of sewage removed: gallons/day

Below, report on the total number of illicit discharges identified and removed to date. At a minimum, report on the number of illicit discharges identified and removed since the effective date of the permit (July 1, 2018).

Total number of illicit discharges identified:

Total number of illicit discharges removed:

Optional: Provide any additional information for clarity regarding illicit discharges identified, removed, or planned to be removed below:

20-25 catchment investigations will be completed by the end of June 2025. No illicit discharges have yet been identified.

Employee Training

Describe the frequency and type of employee training conducted **during this reporting period:**

Employee training occurred on 11/2/23. The next training will be scheduled soon.

MCM4: Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control

Below, report on the construction site plan reviews, inspections, and enforcement actions completed during this reporting period.

Number of site plan reviews completed: 7

Number of inspections completed: 0

Number of enforcement actions taken: 0

Optional: Enter any additional information relevant to construction site plan reviews, inspections, and enforcement actions:

Measures for construction site stormwater runoff control on private developments is reviewed in conjunction with Site Plan and Stormwater Permit Application reviews.

MCM5: Post-Construction Stormwater Management in New Development and Redevelopment

Ordinance or Regulatory Mechanism

Date update was completed (due in year 3): 9/1/2021

Website of ordinance or regulatory mechanism: <https://storage.googleapis.com/proudcity/holyokema/uploads/2021/08/Final-Holyoke-Stormwater-Regulations-revisions-adopted-7-27-21-effective-date-9-1-21.pdf>

As-built Drawings

Below, report on the number of as-built drawings received **during this reporting period.**

Number of as-built drawings received:

Optional: Enter any additional information relevant to the submission of as-built drawings:

Jackson St/South Holyoke Separation

Street Design and Parking Lots Report

Below, describe any changes made or planned to be made to local regulations and guidelines based on the report completed in Year 4:

The City has ongoing efforts to assess street design and parking standards to minimize impervious cover and encourage the use of permeable materials when suitable.

Green Infrastructure Report

Below, describe progress towards making green infrastructure practices allowable based on the report completed in Year 4:

Current regulations allow for the use of green roofs and a variety of other infiltration practices such as rain gardens and porous pavers and pavements. Furthermore, the City is looking into ways to help Holyoke residents find low cost rain barrel providers.

Retrofit Properties Inventory

Below, list remaining permittee-owned properties that could be modified or retrofitted with BMPs to mitigate impervious areas (must maintain a minimum of 5 sites in inventory until less than 5 sites remain):

The City developed a list of six sites to implement retrofit opportunities as a part of the Nitrogen source ID report completed January 2024. The five remaining sites are William Dean Tech High School (West Campus), Lt Claryc P Sullivan School, William Dcan Tech High School (East Campus), Soucy Parking Lot, Fire Station 6.

Below, list all properties that have been modified or retrofitted with BMPs to mitigate impervious area that were inventoried as part of 2.3.6.d of the permit and the type of BMP(s) implemented. Non-MS4 owned properties that have been modified or retrofitted with BMPs to mitigate impervious area may also be listed, but must be indicated as non-MS4.

Maurice Donahue Elementary School will be retrofitted with a bioretention garden before the end of 2024.

MCM6: Good Housekeeping

Catch Basin Cleaning

*Below, report on the number of catch basins inspected and cleaned, along with the total volume of material removed from the catch basins **during this reporting period.***

Number of catch basins inspected:

Number of catch basins cleaned:

Total volume or mass of material removed from all catch basins:

Below, report on the total number of catch basins in the MS4 system.

Total number of catch basins:

If applicable:

Report on the actions taken if a catch basin sump is more than 50% full during two consecutive routine inspections/cleaning events:

Not applicable

Street Sweeping

*Report on street sweeping completed **during this reporting period** using one of the three metrics below.*

Number of miles cleaned:

Volume of material removed:

Weight of material removed:

Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP)

*Below, report on the number of site inspections for facilities that require a SWPPP completed **during this reporting period.***

Number of site inspections completed:

Describe any corrective actions taken at a facility with a SWPPP:

Outdoor uncovered salt pile for public use at Springdale Park has been removed.

Additional Information

Monitoring or Study Results

Results from any other stormwater or receiving water quality monitoring or studies conducted during the reporting period not otherwise mentioned above, where the data is being used to inform permit compliance or permit effectiveness must be attached.

- Not applicable
- The results from additional reports or studies are attached to the email submission
- The results from additional reports or studies can be found at the following publicly available website(s):

If such monitoring or studies were conducted on your behalf or if monitoring or studies conducted by other entities were reported to you, a brief description of the type of information gathered or received shall be described below:

Additional Information

Enter any additional information relevant to your stormwater management program implementation during the reporting period. Include any BMP modifications made by the MS4 if not already discussed above.

Year 7

Activities Planned for Next Reporting Period

Please confirm that your SWMP has been, or will be, updated to comply with all applicable permit requirements including but not limited to the year 7 requirements summarized below. (Note: impaired waters and TMDL requirements are not listed below)

Yes, I agree

- Complete investigations of catchments associated with Problem Outfalls
- Complete investigations of catchments where any information gathered on the outfall/interconnection identifies sewer input

Annual Requirements

- Annual report submitted and available to the public
- Annual opportunity for public participation in review and implementation of SWMP
- Keep records relating to the permit available for 5 years and make available to the public
- Properly store and dispose of catch basin cleanings and street sweepings so they do not discharge to receiving waters
- Annual training to employees involved in IDDE program
- Update inventory of all known locations where SSOs have discharged to the MS4
- Continue public education and outreach program
- Update outfall and interconnection inventory and priority ranking and include data collected in connection with the dry weather screening and other relevant inspections conducted
- Implement IDDE program
- Review site plans of construction sites as part of the construction stormwater runoff control program
- Conduct site inspection of construction sites as necessary
- Inspect and maintain stormwater treatment structures
- Log catch basins cleaned or inspected
- Sweep all curbed streets at least annually
- Continue investigations of catchments associated with Problem Outfalls
- Implemented SWPPPs for all permittee owned or operated maintenance garages, public works yards, transfer stations, and other waste handling facilities
- Review inventory of all permittee owned facilities in the categories of parks and open space, buildings and facilities, and vehicles and equipment; update if necessary
- Review O&M programs for all permittee owned facilities; update if necessary
- Implement all maintenance procedures for permittee owned facilities in accordance with O&M programs
- Implement program for MS4 infrastructure maintenance to reduce the discharge of pollutants
- Enclose all road salt storage piles or facilities and implemented winter road maintenance procedures to minimize the use of road salt
- Review as-built drawings for new and redevelopment to ensure compliance with post construction bylaws, regulations, or regulatory mechanism consistent with permit requirements
- Inspect all permittee owned treatment structures (excluding catch basins)
- Identify additional permittee-owned properties that could potentially be modified or retrofitted with BMPs to reduce impervious areas so that the permittee maintains a minimum of 5 sites in their inventory, until such a time when the permittee has less than 5 sites remaining

Provide any additional details on activities planned for permit year 7 below:

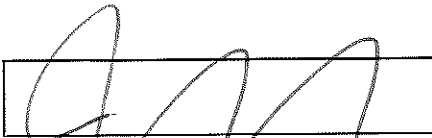
Part V: Certification of Small MS4 Annual Report 2024

40 CFR 144.32(d) 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, I certify that 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.

Name:

Title:

Signature: 

Date:

[Signatory may be a duly authorized representative]