

TOWN OF MILTON

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To:

ANN HERRICK

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From:

US EPA

Reva Levin

Date:

April 29 2006

Town of Milton DPW Tele 617 898 4871

Re:

NPDES Permit

Pages:

14

Report

TOWN OF MILTON



Urgent

For Review

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Notes: Thank you for your time.

# TOWN OF MILTON

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
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ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

April 28, 2006

Ann Herrick (CIP)  
U.S. EPA  
One Congress St.  
Boston, MA 02114

Dear Ms. Herrick:

The Town of Milton is pleased to submit its annual report to you for Permit Year #3 of its NPDES Phase II Small MS4 General Permit. Our report includes a Best Management Practices Update in chart form and a Self-Assessment Narrative.

I will send a second copy of this package to you as well.

Please do not hesitate to call me if you have any questions.

Thank you.



Reva Levin  
Program Manager  
(617) 898-4871

Town of Milton, MA  
EPA NPDES Permit #: MAR041079  
MA DEP Transmittal #: W-039893

Annual Report Permit Year Three  
March 2005 – March 2006

## NPDES PHASE II SMALL MS4 GENERAL PERMIT ANNUAL REPORT

### Part I. General Information

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### Certification:

I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.



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Walter Heller  
Director, Milton Dept. of Public Works  
April 28, 2005

TOWN OF MILTON, MA  
EPA NPDES PERMIT #MAR041079  
MA DEP TRANSMITTAL #: W-039893  
ANNUAL REPORT #3 (MARCH 2005-MARCH 2006)

## **PART II. SELF-ASSESSMENT NARRATIVE**

**Public Education BMPs 1-8:** The Town has made great progress implementing the majority of Milton's Public Education Best Management Practices (BMPs). We have made good use of the Town's website ([www.townofmilton.org](http://www.townofmilton.org)) to educate residents about the stormwater management issue. We have also educated the public with several articles in the local papers.

To continue to educate the Milton public about stormwater management, we wanted to make better use this year of local cable. We found that Massachusetts had three free appropriate videos to offer: "What is an Estuary" (EPA), "Reining in the Storm" (North & South Rivers Watershed Association) and "After the Storm" (EPA). These are all excellent videos. However, to hold the public's attention, more videos were needed. We believe there is a critical need for a Massachusetts water resource video: one that gives a simple explanation of hydrology, where drinking water comes from, how the stormwater systems work, how sewer treatment fits in, and the importance of water conservation. Other states (Pennsylvania and Virginia as examples) seem to be better equipped than Massachusetts in providing VHS or DVD's on contemporary environmental issues.

Since the town approved a Dog Fouling Bylaw in 2004, the Police Dept. has issued 30-40 warnings per year to residents that are not armed with plastic bags when walking their dogs. This Bylaw seems to be effective in cutting down the frequency of public pet pooping.

In the coming Permit Year, the Milton Dept. of Public Works (DPW) plans to use the schools and residential billing inserts to disseminate information on stormwater and water conservation.

### **Public Participation BMPs 2-5:**

Major emphasis was made during Permit Year #3 on community participation in the Pine Tree Brook area in West Milton. The DPW and the Neponset River Watershed Association (nepRWA) worked closely together on a 319 TMDL Implementation Grant that installed five bio-retention cells between this area's residential housing and Pine Tree Brook. This is an innovative project that seeks to filter stormwater runoff before it enters Pine Tree Brook.

The cells have been an educative experience for all parties concerned. They were installed in June, 2005, and the DPW held a public event to publicize the cells. Neighborhood feedback let us know that the cells needed more plantings to increase the cells aesthetic appeal.

The Town is currently in the process of doing this and is encouraging residential involvement in the area's long-term maintenance. The Pine Tree Brook Neighborhood Association, nepRWA and the DPW also worked together on two major Pine Tree Brook cleanups.

### **Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination BMPs 3-6:**

As we reported in our first annual report, Milton already has an existing GIS-compatible map of its water infrastructure, including the stormwater collection system. To update the existing map and double-check its accuracy, the Town contracted with Weston & Sampson to use a Global Positioning System to update our existing GIS map. This has been completed.

Milton has a 10-year capital improvement program to repair and clean both the sewage distribution system and stormwater drainage system.

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EPA NPDES PERMIT #MAR041079  
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The DPW has made a commitment to inspect, clean, and repair 7500 linear feet of the Town sewer system each year. To date, the Town has rehabilitated 15,000 linear feet of sewers—7500 linear feet in Permit Year and 7500 linear feet in Permit Year Two. Another 7500 feet will be done during Permit Year Three.

In September 2005, the Town was contacted by residents regarding a fecal-like smell coming from an outfall at Pine Tree Brook near Milton High School. It seemed likely that an illicit connection (or animal decay) was responsible. The Town and nePRWA have been sampling the area over the last several months but no source has conclusively detected. The DPW will continue to video pipes and do dye testing until the source of pollution has been found or the tests are consistently normal.

#### **Construction Site Runoff Control BMPs 4 5-1:**

Much of the construction site runoff controls for areas greater than 7500 sq. feet (and not within 100 feet of a wetland or 200 feet of a body of water) but less than one acre are contained in the Town's proposed Stormwater Management Bylaw, which unfortunately was not passed at the Town Meeting in May, 2005. We have concluded that three reasons contributed to this: the parcels that the Soil & Erosion Plan section applied to were too small; presentation of the Bylaw was not done in conjunction with the Planning Board and Conservation Commission; and the Bylaw itself was too long for most people to read and understand.

The Bylaw is being presented at the May, 2006 Annual Town Meeting and these problems have been corrected. We are hopeful that the Stormwater Management Bylaw will be approved during this Permit Year.

#### **Post-Construction Runoff Control BMPs 5 1-4:**

This BMP is primarily covered in the Town's proposed Stormwater Management Bylaw.

Currently (besides Cluster Zoning) the town encourages Low Impact Development (LID) techniques through requiring a percentage of open space on every lot. However, this requirement does not exist in our smallest residential district, which has lead to other unintended consequences. To that end, during this Permit Year the Town approved a Bylaw to limit the amount of impervious surface a property owner is allowed within the front yard set back in every residential district including the "C" zone (with the smallest lot requirement). This will help limit the "pave-overs" we see in this small lot district and hopefully decrease the subsequent drainage and aesthetic problems that result from them.

In addition, the Planning Board is studying a Low Impact Development Bylaw with the goal of bring it to Town Meeting in the next several years.

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### **Municipal Good Housekeeping BMP 6-1-6-12:**

The DPW staff has a good working knowledge about the Town's stormwater management plan. We will post information on this issue as is appropriate.

The Town is committed to sweeping all streets twice a year. They were swept in spring and fall 2005. Spring 2006 street cleaning has already begun and will conclude in mid-July.

Members of the DPW staff have been through training to become licensed pesticide applicators. Historically, use of fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides by the DPW on Town-owned land has been minimal.

Due to the suburban nature of Milton, resident application of synthetic lawn products is high. This is reflected in the high nitrogen readings at some of our brook testing sites. The Town held two Natural Landscaping workshops during this permit year to educate the public about sustainable landscaping products and methods. We will work closely with local professional nurseries to continue this educational effort in Permit Year Four.

During Permit Year Three, the Town was unable to meet its commitment to replace as many trees as it removed. This is primarily due to lack of money and manpower that is needed to meet this goal. The DPW has proposed a new line item in the budget that will be presented to Annual Town Meeting on May 1 for additional funds dedicated to tree planting. At this time, it is uncertain whether this will be approved by Town Meeting members as the Town is experiencing a severe budget shortage.

The Town cleaned 321 stormwater catch basins in Permit Year 3. Storm drain cleaning is now a regular part of the routine maintenance plan for the DPW. Complete cleaning of the Town storm drainage system is expected to take 10 years.

Our annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day was held in April 2005 and attracted about 450 vehicles. The three most prevalent items collected were oil-based paint, aerosols, and pesticides.

In general, the Town is making steady progress in implementing all of its BMPs, and looks forward to what it can accomplish during the next permit year.

## PART III. BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

### 1. Public Education and Outreach

BMP ID#	BMP Description	Responsible Dept.	Measurable Goal(s)	Progress on Goal(s)-Permit Year 3	Planned Activities-Permit Year 4
1.1	Educate dog owners about picking up dog waste	Public Works	Develop and print collateral piece on pet waste	Updated information on Town website re: pet waste; tied in pet waste with stormwater education being done through town media	Send out remaining palm cards on stormwater either through schools or in water/sewer billing
1.2	Prioritize areas in Town that have pet waste problems; install up to three mutt mitt stations	Public Works	Prioritize list of mutt mitt installations sites	Installed two additional mutt mitt stations in Pine Tree Brook area, and a second one at Turners Pond	Install two more mutt mitt stations in Pine Tree Brook area
1.3	Develop a draft bylaw that requires dog owners to clean up after their dogs; include provisions for fines and enforcement. Present to Town Meeting.	Town Counsel	Draft bylaw; present to Town Meeting	Accomplished	Put out press release to remind residents about bylaw
1.4	Update stormwater section of Town website 3x a year	Public Works	Update stormwater section of the Town website 3x per year	Updated stormwater section on the Town website 3x a year	Update stormwater section on the Town website 3x a year
1.5	Inspect signs that identify water bodies within town & contact MDC/MHD for repairs	Public Works	Inspect signs	Located and inspected MDC/MHD signs	Inspect all signs
1.6	Provide update of SWMP at Selectmen's meeting	Public Works	Present annual update of SWMP at Selectmen's meeting	Presented update to both Selectmen and Warrant Committee re: proposed stormwater bylaw	Present update to Selectmen (if requested)

BMP ID#	Public Education & Outreach con't	Responsible Dept.	Measurable Goal(s)	Progress on Goal(s)-Permit Year 3	Planned Activities-Permit Year 4
1.7	Develop two press releases per yr describing importance of stormwater management	Public Works	Publish two newspaper articles/press releases describing importance of SWMP	Published 2 press releases on natural landscaping workshops which incorporated importance of stormwater management; a third press release was issued on the proposed stormwater bylaw to be voted on at Annual Town Meeting	Continue to educate public on stormwater issue through two articles or press releases
1.8	Develop two cable PSAs/programs describing the importance of stormwater management	Public Works	Two programs or PSA's on local cable TV	Aired "Reining in the Storm: and "What is an Estuary? In winter, 2006.	Will air two stormwater-related videos on cable

## 2. Public Participation and Involvement

BMP ID#	BMP Description	Responsible Dept.	Measurable Goal(s)	Progress on Goal(s)-Permit Year 3	Planned Activities-Permit Year 4
2.1	Comply with state public notification guidelines	Town Clerk	Post notice as required	No public hearings held	Will post notice as required if public hearing is held
2.2	Provide trash pickup on Milton Pride Day	Public Works	Trash pickup required each year	Major DPW Clean-up duties included: Pine Tree Brook (April 15); Town Hall & Main Library (April 22); and Spring Clean-Up in May	Will schedule major clean-ups next spring, 2007
2.3	Provide support for the nepRWA 319 TMDL Implementation Grant	Public Works	Assist with wetlands project as requested by nepRWA	Installation of wetland buffer and bio-remediation cells along Pine Tree Brook completed in June 2005	Continue to nurture native plants planted in bio-retention cells; work with residents and DPW to provide ongoing maintenance in this area
2.4	Outreach to Milton school teachers on stormwater issue	Public Works	Increased awareness among Milton families about stormwater issue	Began work with teachers to coordinate stormwater information into environmental curriculum	Continue work with teachers to coordinate stormwater information into environmental curriculum
2.5	Work with nepRWA on Unquity Brook outreach	Public Works	Secure funding to examine flow patterns and possible septic tank leakage into Unquity Brook	No funding secured	Will continue to seek source of funding for this program

### 3. Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination

BMP ID#	BMP Description	Responsible Dept.	Measurable Goal(s)	Progress on Goal(s)-Permit Year 3	Planned Activities-Permit Year 4
3.1	Remove sewer underdrains if found during routine maintenance	Public Works	Document number of underdrains found and removed	None found	Remove as needed
3.2	Map stormwater outfalls and receiving waters; identify outfalls and other structures owned by other entities; evaluate structures on state-owned Town roads	Public Works	Create map	GIS map completed in fall, 2005.	Continue to use map in day-to-day stormwater-related activities
3.3	Digitize stormwater collection system in a GIS-compatible format	Public Works	Create map	GIS map completed in fall, 2005.	Continue to use map in day-to-day stormwater-related activities
3.4	Develop and implement a plan to identify and remove non-stormwater discharges to the MS4	Public Works	None	No illicit discharges detected	Continue ongoing illicit discharge detection & elimination
3.5	Develop bylaw requiring inspection of new construction for correct connection to the sanitary sewer	Town Counsel	Develop bylaw requiring inspection of new construction for correct connection to the sanitary sewer	Sewer regulations and permit requirements revised and implemented in 4/03	Implemented
3.6	Conduct a Town-wide sewer rehabilitation program	Public Works	Implement program	Funding secured; sewer rehabilitation completed in Area 2	To secure funding to complete sewer rehabilitation in Area 3

## 4. Construction Site Runoff Control

BMP ID#	BMP Description	Responsible Dept./Person Name	Measurable Goal(s)	Progress on Goal(s)-Permit Year 3	Planned Activities-Permit Year 4
4.1	Develop a Construction Site Erosion & Sediment Control bylaw for all construction sites requiring a building permit (7500 sq ft or over)	Public Works	Pass the Bylaw	Bylaw drafted but rejected at Annual Town Meeting in May, 2005	Re-structured Bylaw to be presented for Town Meeting approval on May 1, 2006
4.2	Require a waste management plan at construction sites 1-5 acres	Conservation Commission, Building Dept., Public Works	Implement regulation or bylaw requiring a waste management plan at construction sites 1-	Regulatory mechanism in place for requiring a waste management plan for all construction sites	Continue to Implement
4.3	Review site plans not already subject to Conservation Commission or Planning Board review	Conservation Commission, Public Works (Engineering)	Implement protocol for site plan review	Regulations will be implemented once proposed Stormwater By is approved	Regulations will be implemented as part of approved Stormwater Management Bylaw
4.4	Consider public input for new construction sites not subject to the jurisdiction of Conservation Commission or Planning Board	Planning Board, Conservation Commission	Discuss plan for public input	Input will be considered once proposed Stormwater Bylaw is approved	Input will be considered once proposed Stormwater Bylaw is approved
4.5	Inspect erosion and sediment controls at construction sites involving wetlands	Conservation Commission	Number of inspections conducted	100 inspections (this includes duplicate visits to one site)	Continue inspections as needed

## 5. Post-Construction Stormwater Management in New Development and Re-Development

BMP ID#	BMP Description	Responsible Dept./Person Name	Measurable Goal(s)	Progress on Goal(s)-Permit Year 3	Planned Activities-Permit Year 4
5.1	Develop a draft bylaw to apply Standards 2,3,4 and 7 of MSP to entire Town; present bylaw to Town Meeting	DPW	Develop bylaw and present to Town Meeting until passed	Bylaw rejected at annual Town Meeting in May 2005	Will re-submit to Town Meeting in May 2006
5.2	Specify a stormwater BMP manual to be used for consistent design and performance standards	DPW	Select BMP manual	MA DEP and CZM "Stormwater Management, Vol 2: Stormwater Technical Handbook" selected	Accomplished
5.3	Develop a draft bylaw that ensures long-term maintenance of private structural BMPs	DPW	Include in stormwater bylaw and present to Town Meeting	Bylaw rejected at annual Town Meeting in May 2005	Will re-submit to Town Meeting in May 2006
5.4	Develop a draft zoning bylaw that allows and/or encourages use of low-impact development (LID)	Planning Board	Draft bylaw developed and presented to Town Meeting	Under consideration	Under consideration

## 6. Municipal Good Housekeeping

BMP ID#	BMP Description	Responsible Dept.	Measurable Goal(s)	Progress on Goal(s)-Permit Year 3	Planned Activities-Permit Year 4
6.1	Identify sensitive receptors within Town	Public Works	Develop list of sensitive receptors; notify staff	Accomplished	Post information to DPW staff on stormwater management issue
6.2	Funding to develop employee training program	Public Works	Keep DPW staff informed on importance of stormwater management	Post information on good housekeeping, spill control, or hazardous waste management	Post information on good housekeeping, spill control, or hazardous waste management
6.3	Sweep all streets once every spring & fall	Public Works	Percent of streets swept twice per year	Swept all streets twice during permit year	Sweep all streets twice during permit year
6.4	Continue existing road salting procedures	Public Works	Maintain documentation of de-icer amount used	3800 tons of salt used	Maintain documentation of de-icer amount used
6.5	Minimize impacts from vehicle washing	Public Works	Build containment area for vehicle washing; switch to phosphate-free biodegradable soap	Accomplished	Accomplished
6.6	Minimize impacts from vehicle maintenance	Public Works	Hold employee training	Vehicle maintenance area workers aware of good maintenance protocol	Re-train if needed
6.7	Maintain storm drain system	Public Works	Clean all catch basins once every 3 years; inspect & clean drain pipes as needed; keep daily record of catch basin residuals volumes; prioritize large volume catch basins for more frequent cleaning	321 catch basins cleaned in Permit Year 3; 307 catch basins cleaned during Permit Year 2; 333 basins cleaned in Permit Year 1	Ongoing