

**DPW-Water Pollution
Control
Chicopee, Massachusetts**



**2009 Annual Report
Phase II
Storm Water
Management**

*Submitted May 1, 2010
By Joe Kietner
Env. Compliance Supervisor*

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Attachments:

Public Participation/Education

IPP Summary, Newspaper Article, Survey, Door Hanger, Conservation Environmental Quality Improvement Activities, Hazardous Waste Collection, Chicopee High School Storm water monitoring program

Storm Water Management Ordinance enacted & previously submitted.

Planning Departmental Reviews

Conservation Commission Activities

Street Sweeping

Good Housekeeping / Training

Parks & Recreation, DPW, Water Department, Fire Department

Section 1 Public Education and Outreach

1A Educational Displays

The City posted an educational display in City Hall on and on the City's website during the 2009. A copy of these materials is attached. The City of Chicopee as a member of the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission's Connecticut River Stormwater Subcommittee has joined the Think blue coalition of Massachusetts. The Think Blue campaign developed a marketing campaign centered on the "Think Blue" brand. The group lists the City of Chicopee on its website which includes outreach and educational materials. A summary of the committee's activities is attached to this report. The City as part of the committee also placed several Public Service Announcements on radio and television. This will be detailed in section 1C of this report.

The City of Chicopee has posted signs at all active CSOs in order to inform residents of the location and possibility of overflows. Signs are posted to be seen from land and the adjacent water body. Structures were installed at the Medina Street boat ramp, Chicopee River near the Davitt Bridge on Granby Rd. and the Stanley Berchulski Fisherman Access in 2007. The purpose of these structures is to inform users of water quality, such as the results of the Fecal Coliform testing, at that location. In 2008 the posting was updated weekly from early spring to early autumn. Fecal Coliform tests were performed and results were posted.

1B Classroom Education

The City supported Chicopee High School with some laboratory supplies and equipment and continues to encourage storm water educational topics to be included. Staff works with a Chicopee High School Chemistry class on storm water related topics and continues to assist the High School in a river-monitoring program.

The testing of some local water bodies was started in April 2008 and ended in June of 2008. Laurie Catarino of the Chicopee WPCF met with Ms. Lukasik and her students until they became proficient with the testing. The City of Chicopee did the sampling and delivered them to the students for analysis. Water samples from Bemis Pond, the Chicopee River, Mt. Lake, and the Connecticut River were analyzed for a number of parameters.

As a member of the stormwater committee the City of Chicopee along with the other member communities provided a grant for a teacher to purchase materials and come up with a education plan specifically related to water pollution. The winner of the grant was a teacher from Selser School in Chicopee. She came up with a detailed lesson plan that was used in 2009 and will be used in the future.

The City of Chicopee WPCF provided a tour for students of four local community college Biology classes and students from St. Joan of Arc School. This gives students an

opportunity to ask questions and to see first hand what steps are being taken to mitigate the water pollution problems the City of Chicopee faces.

1C Local Cable Access

The annual Hazardous Waste drop off was advertised on Chicopee local cable access channel 5. A copy of the ad is attached.

CDs with Think Blue and Greenscapes web links and materials were distributed to local cable access stations for posting.

1D Informational Door Hangers and Mailings

Door hangers are placed on homes in neighborhoods where catch basins were cleaned and maintenance with the City's Vactor truck was done. A mailing was sent to let city residents know of the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day and bulk drop off procedures. Information for pet owners was also distributed to Veterinary offices in Chicopee and at the Water Pollution Control Facility. A copy of the flyer is attached.

1E Hazardous Waste Collection Day

The City conducted an annual household hazardous waste collection for residents Saturday May 2, 2009. Results:

1600 gallons of oil-based paint

650 gallons of waste oil

Swapped 14% useable paint back to residents

1980 gallons of miscellaneous hazardous waste

1300 linear feet of mercury-containing fluorescent light bulbs

The event was publicized in a local newspaper the local cable access channel, four public postings, the City's website, newspapers and a large sign at the front gate.

Information and signups were available to residents at the City's website: www.Chicopeema.gov and at the DPW office.

There is an additional waste collection available to residents by appointment during the months of September – May. 76 gallons of waste oil was collected during this time period at the DPW.

Monthly paint collection held April-October yielded 150 gallons of paint. Paint that could still be used was swapped back to residents.

A copy of the details of these events is attached. Barry Broullard DPW Environmental Coordinator organized this work.

1F Newspaper Press Releases

The City of Chicopee advertised its Hazardous Waste Collection Day in local newspapers.

1G CSO Notification E-mail

The City of Chicopee sends emails to surrounding communities so they can be informed about the possible negative effect of the CSOs during rain storms. The City has a CSO facility which is activated when flow at the treatment plant is greater than 25 MGD. During 2009 the e-mail list included Health Department representatives from Holyoke, Chicopee, Springfield and West Springfield. The program was started in mid-summer of 2006. Examples of these e-mails are attached.

Section 2 Public Involvement/Participation

2A Community Hotline

The City publicizes the community hotline through the distribution of door-hangers with the catch basin cleaning program and with other mailings. In 2009, 418 catch basins were cleaned and two to four hangers are distributed per basin. The phone number for the City's water pollution control facility is included to facilitate reporting of dumping, illicit discharges, and spill emergencies. A copy of door hanger is attached.

2B Attitude Surveys

The City continued its Customer Survey Program, which involves providing a questionnaire to customers following receipt of service. Two storm water related questions are on the survey form. The survey will be conducted to measure the success of the Public Education and Public Involvement components of the Storm water Management Plan. The two Stormwater questions on the survey in 2009 were: 1) Do you support higher sewer/storm fees for cleaner Chicopee & Conn. Rivers? And 2) Do you support a higher sewer/storm fee to separate sewer pipes to stop sewer backups?

2C Storm Drain Marking

The DPW-WPC stencils catch basins or marks them by installing placards. Messages may include such phrases as "Do Not Dump" or "No Dumping, Drains to River". The DPW-WPCF's collection system department marked approximately 231 catch basins in 2009. A photo copy of an example placard is attached.

2D Watershed Committee

The DPW-WPC encourages and supports the activities of the Chicopee River Watershed Council (CRWC).

2E Conservation Commission

The Conservation Commission reviewed 21 building permit applications under both the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act and the Chicopee Wetlands Protection Ordinance. Zoning regulations require stormwater management for all new construction.

SECTION 3 ILLICIT DISCHARGE DETECTION AND ELIMINATION

3A Mapping Storm Water Outfalls

The City of Chicopee's Engineering Department has located all existing stormwater outfalls using GPS. A condition log of each location has been established to monitor and identify problem areas. This data and a copy of this map is on file with the City Engineer.

3B Develop Illicit Discharge Plan

Chapter 231 of the Chicopee Storm Water Management Ordinance outlines this activity. Additionally, the drainage network plan will serve as a tool to track illicit discharge sources.

There were three Illicit Discharges to the storm drain that were discovered in 2009. The connections have been corrected.

3C Storm Water Discharge Ordinance

The City adopted a Storm Water Management Ordinance (October 28, 2003) to prohibit non-storm water discharges into the MS4 system. A copy was previously sent.

3D Illegal Dumping

The DPW performs regular patrols of areas known for illegal dumping. The DPW has post signage to deter illegal dumping at common dumping areas. The City picks up dumping daily as it occurs to prevent the trash breeding trash phenomenon.

3E Recreational Septage

The Sewer Commission currently allows Chicopee residents with Recreational Vehicles to dump their septage at the WPCF. The program is designed to deter illegal dumping and is provided at no cost to the resident. 25 recreational vehicles utilized this service in 2009.

3F Failing Septic Systems

The Health Department records septic system failures that are used to identify problem areas.

3G Industrial / Business Connections

The Industrial Pretreatment Program's effectiveness is evaluated as required annually each March 1st. This includes the demonstration that EPA requirements for Industrial User monitoring, inspecting, enforcement, and permitting has been satisfied; the City has implemented local discharge limitations that are sufficiently protective to the POTW and its workers, its receiving stream, and sludge disposal options; the City's IPP is appropriately funded and staffed. The IPP report submitted during 2009 will be provided to you upon request.

3H Video Inspection

The DPW – WPC uses a video camera to inspect storm drain pipes as needed to follow up on illicit discharges discovered. Over 74,400 feet different locations throughout the City were TV inspected and or cleaned in 2009

Section 4 Construction Site Runoff Control

4A Construction Runoff Ordinance

The City adopted a Storm Water Management Ordinance that requires sediment and erosion control at construction projects with over one acre in total disturbance.

4B Construction Plan Review

Under the Storm Water Management Ordinance, applicants with projects with disturbance over one acre will be required to submit sediment and erosion control plans for City review and approval. The Planning Departments reviewed 6 projects for storm water management compliance in 2009. Conservation reviewed 21 projects for storm water management and compliance with the Chicopee Wetlands Protection Ordinance. Engineering reviewed commercial, and subdivision sites along with infrastructure improvements.

4C Inspection / Reporting

Under the Storm Water Management Ordinance, projects with disturbance over one acre will be required to have regular inspection of sediment and erosion controls and reporting of construction activities. The commercial sites and subdivisions referred to above were inspected for adherence to the approved plans.

SECTION 5 POST CONSTRUCTION STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

5A Post Construction Runoff Ordinance

The City adopted a Storm Water Management ordinance to address post construction runoff from projects with over one acre in total disturbance.

5B Site Plan Review

Under the Storm Water Management Ordinance applicants with projects with disturbance over one acre are required to submit storm water control plans for City review and approval.

5C Storm Water System Maintenance Plan

Under the Storm Water Management Ordinance projects with disturbance over one acre are required to include a program outlining procedures for long term operation and maintenance of storm water facilities.

SECTION 6 GOOD HOUSEKEEPING / POLLUTION PREVENTION

6A Municipal Maintenance Activity Program

The City is continuing to work to develop a program to outline procedures associated with maintenance of open spaces and parks, vehicular fleets, City-related construction activities, streets and the storm sewer system. The City is evaluating existing municipal procedures; modifying any procedures as needed, and starting implementation of the program plans. Representatives of Chicopee's Water Department, Electric Light Department, Water Pollution Control, Fire Department, DPW, School Department and Golf Club met November 6, 2003 with Tighe and Bond Environmental Engineers. Jeff Bibeau of T & B conducted a presentation a Storm Water Management Training Seminar. Utilizing this information each department is reexamining their procedures and make the required modifications.

6B Training of Municipal Employees

Municipal employees performing activities under the new Municipal Maintenance Activity Program (BMP #6A) will be informed of new policies and procedures. This will occur pending adoption of the Program. DPW employees will also be informed of the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan requirements for the DPW, as applicable. Initial training was given in Year 2. An Annual Refresher in the form of a seminar or memorandum will be given each year for Years 3 through 5. Program outlines for the Fire Dept., Parks Dept., Electric light, City Messenger and DPW, are attached.

6C Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan / MSGP

The DPW has finalized an Integrated Pollution Prevention Plan (IPPP) which includes Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and a Spill Prevention Countermeasure and Control (SPCC). The plans were reviewed, revised and implemented during calendar year 2006 at the main DPW facility and in 2007 at the Water Pollution Control Facility. This is part of the City's Phase II Stormwater Program Multi-Sector General Permit (MSGP), and in accordance with EPA regulations 40 CFR 112. The DPW implemented the best management practices outlined in the plan and yearly refreshers will be held with DPW personnel in the form of training seminars.

6D Catch Basin Cleaning Program

The City cleaned approximately 418 catch basins in 2009. Informational flyers are distributed to homes in the immediate area around the basins.

6E Street Sweeping

For calendar 2009 the City had three mechanical sweepers. Street sweepers were on the road continuously from March through November 2009. Every street in the City was swept at least once. Most main arteries were swept several times as sweepers moved in and out of secondary streets. While only monthly sweeping is required in the business districts the City set a higher goal. The Central business districts, Chicopee Falls, Fairview, Willimansett, Aldenville and Chicopee Center, were swept once per week. A copy of the street sweeping schedule is attached.

6F Used Oil Recycling

The City currently collects used oil at the DPW facility for utilization as a regulated recyclable material in the DPW garage waste oil heater. The City will continue to offer Used Oil Recycling.

6G Hazardous Waste Collection

The City continued its annual Hazardous Waste Collection Day, in 2009 it was held May 2nd. Every year, the City publicizes the collection day through newspaper ads, radio and local cable access. There is also seasonal paint collection at the DPW.

SECTION 7 BMPs for Meeting TMDLs

7A TMDL for Connecticut River

According to the Massachusetts Year 2002 Integrated List of Waters, the Connecticut River is designated as Category 5 "Waters requiring a TMDL". The targeted pollutants are priority organics, pathogens, and suspended solids. Sources of priority organics may include but are not limited to: road surfaces, inadequate fueling areas or practices, illegal dumping. Sources of pathogens may include but are not limited to: pet waste, winter road maintenance materials, illicit sewer discharges, and failing septic systems. Sources of this suspended solids may include but are not limited to: lawn care products, litter, winter road maintenance materials, erosion from construction activities, and illicit sewer discharges. The Storm water Management Program includes many BMPs to address reduction of contaminants from these sources under all Six Minimum Control categories..

7B TMDL for Chicopee River

According to the Massachusetts Year 2002 Integrated List of Waters, the Chicopee River is designated as Category 5 "Waters requiring a TMDL". The targeted pollutant is pathogens. Sources of pathogens may include but are not limited to: pet waste, winter road maintenance materials, illicit sewer discharges, and failing septic systems. The Storm water Management Program includes many BMPs to address reduction of contaminants from these sources under all Six Minimum Control categories. The City will implement these BMPs under the responsible department and timeframes as previously described.

7C TMDL for Bemis Pond

According to the Massachusetts Year 2002 Integrated List of Waters, Bemis Pond is designated as Category 5 "Waters requiring a TMDL". The targeted pollutant is suspended solids. Sources of this pollutant may include but are not limited to: lawn care products, litter, winter road maintenance materials, erosion from construction activities, and illicit sewer discharges. The Storm water Management Program includes many BMPs to address reduction of contaminants from these sources under all Six Minimum Control categories. The City will implement these BMPs under the responsible department and timeframes as previously described.