



TOWN OF SEEKONK PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

April 15, 2011

United States Environmental Protection Agency
c/o Glenda Velez
1 Congress Street, Suite 1100 – C I P
Boston, MA 02114-2023

Massachusetts Department Of Environmental Protection
c/o Fred Civian
One Winter St – 5th Floor
Boston, MA 02108

Reference: NPDES Permit MAR041156 – Town Of Seekonk, Eighth Annual Report

The Town of Seekonk has completed all components of our NPDES permit. These accomplishments were secured through a considerable effort of our Stormwater Advisory Committee (SWAC). The achievement of our goals was accomplished by a succession of meetings, research, development and implementation of By-Laws and through a collaborative endeavor of the SWAC. The fulfillment of the permit requirements has been challenging but we believe our effort has improved water quality. We continue to partner with public and private entities in attaining our goals.

Informational and educational opportunities for children, adults, businesses and organizations have been useful tools in reaching goals set forth in our Stormwater Management Plan. Web Postings, Mailings and Public Meetings have been viable tools for public awareness and education while increasing our ability to inform the public and private entities. Improving water quality continues to be our main objective.

The Town of Seekonk continues its efforts to improve water quality using BMP's such as cleaning all catch basins annually and beginning our street sweeping operation as soon as practical. Also, we continue to be proactive with our IDDE program remitting a multitude of letters to residents which has resulted in the elimination of many illicit discharges. We are certain these measures have helped to reduce pollutants entering into streams, waterways and wetlands.

While we are pleased with our past accomplishments we are extremely concerned with the new permit and the challenges of meeting those demands. Seekonk continues to have a supportive municipal leadership team but appropriations for unfunded mandates will be highly scrutinized as programs are dropped and jobs are lost while communities struggle with budget cuts. While we recognize and agree that water quality is imperative, we are faced with meeting requirements that cannot be met without financial assistance.

Sincerely,

Robert Lamoureux, Superintendent

Cc: Board of Selectmen
Michael Carroll, Town Administrator
SWAC Members

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TOWN OF SEEKONK – STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM UPDATE

1. Public Education

1A. Permanently mounted Nonpoint Source Pollution posters at all municipal buildings have been checked, updated and replaced as needed.

1B. A Stormwater informational message has been updated and is aired monthly on the local cable access channel.

1C. Stormwater information was updated and posted on the Seekonk home web page. Additional links for children and adults with related information have been provided for further education. The new Construction and Post Construction By-Laws have also been posted on the town's web site for residents and contractors to review.

1D. Waste oil regulation brochures have been distributed to 84 auto repair shops, automobile dealerships, transmissions repair shops, car washes and related repair shops, through a target mailing.

Outside of Permit Scope

Seekonk provided the community with additional educational opportunities and recycling opportunities to achieve the objectives of our NPDES permit.

Stormwater informational brochures were handed out at Earth Day April 2010 and America Recycles Day in November 2010. A public informational brochure was developed and mailed to all Seekonk residents in March 2010. The DPW also collects batteries, fluorescent bulbs and mercury items at no cost to residents.

2. Public Involvement

2A. The Seekonk Stormwater Advisory Committee held meetings to review By-Laws, review completed tasks, update public education and information posters and discuss accomplishments to date. The Construction and Post Construction By-Laws have been adopted as regulations by the Planning Board and have been implemented for any future developments that are proposed in the Town.

2B. A Household Hazardous Waste Day was held on Saturday, April 24, 2010. Free disposal of household hazardous waste is available to all Town residents. Last year 928 gallons of various hazardous products were collected and disposed.



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2C. The Department of Public Works continues to maintain a waste oil and anti-freeze drop off site. Waste oil and anti-freeze are accepted at the Public Works Garage at no charge to residents. Last year 1,860 gallons of oil, 80 gallons of anti freeze and 142 car batteries were collected.

2D. The SWAC holds public outreach informational meetings in February, May, August, and November.

2E. The Town sponsored an Earth Day where areas of litter and debris were targeted for clean up. Last year 196 trash bags were filled and collected along with numerous tires, tons of metal and wood. Participants included the Boy Scouts, a group of high school students along with 70 community volunteers.

3. Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination

3A. The Town of Seekonk's Conversation Agent, Bernadette DeBlander, walked streams, water channels, wetlands and waterways identifying and locating the Town's outfalls. To date 100% of our outfalls have been located. The Town has completed locating and mapping of outfalls. Weston & Sampson Engineering Inc. was hired and completed locating and mapping all outfalls with a global positioning system.

3B. The SWAC completed a review of existing regulations and has developed new regulations to be utilized as a guide for detection and elimination of illicit discharge.

3C. The SWAC has developed a By-Law to identify and eliminate illicit discharges. Included in its By-Law the SWAC has developed guidelines recommending sanctions for non-compliance. The By-Law has been adopted at Town meeting in May 16, 2006 and approved by the Attorney Generals Office. The DPW and BOH will continue to investigate and recommend BMP's for corrective measures to eliminate illicit discharges.

3D. The SWAC has developed a by-law, which meets the requirements of the EPA, for illicit discharge, detection and elimination.

3E. The SWAC presented the By-Law at town meeting May 16, 2006. It was adopted at Town meeting and reviewed and approved by the Attorney Generals Office. Since its adoption numerous letters have been sent to residents concerning illicit discharges. Known discharges have been targeted and BMP's implemented for corrective measures.

4. Construction Site Runoff Control

4A. The SWAC has completed its review of present practices and procedures for construction site inspection. An erosion and sedimentation By-Law has been developed and adopted by the SWAC.



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4B. The SWAC has develop a policy for inspections of construction sites. Present procedures and BMP's have been included in the policy. The SWAC has received erosion and sedimentation inspectors training.

4C. The SWAC completed its review existing regulations and has determined the necessary changes and modifications for implementation. Enforcement issues are controlled by non-release of surety bond.

4D. Since regulatory controls exist, the SWAC has proposed necessary amendments to the present regulations to meet EPA requirements.

4E. The SWAC presented the By-Law at town meeting November 2008. It was adopted at Town meeting and reviewed and approved by the Attorney Generals Office.

5. Post Construction Runoff Control

5A. The SWAC has reviewed present practices and procedures for post construction site inspection. A By-Law has been developed and adopted by the SWAC.

5B. The SWAC has developed a policy for inspections of post construction runoff control. Existing practices and procedures will be incorporated. Members of the SWAC have received post construction site runoff training.

5C. Existing practices have been reviewed and amendments have been incorporated to meet EPA requirements.

5D. Existing procedures have been reviewed for post construction runoff. Amendments and BMP's have been incorporated into existing practices and a new By-Law has been developed. The By-Law has been adopted by the SWAC.

5E. The SWAC presented the By-Law at town meeting November 2008. It was adopted at Town meeting and reviewed and approved by the Attorney Generals Office.

6. Municipal Good Housekeeping

6A. The SWAC has reviewed measurable goals and completed task, along with BMP's for street sweeping and catch basin cleaning which have been completed. Efforts were made to increase public involvement on the SWAC. Public educational goals were met. Street sweeping of all town roads by the Department of Public Works will continue in the spring of 2011. Sweeping of main and connector roads will be performed at least 2 times per year but more often if needed. This practice will continue annually.



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6B. The DPW will once again be using a contractor to complete system wide catch basin cleaning. The DPW will continue inspections of catch basins that have been cleaned. Inspection of catch basins will include the condition of the structure and the frame and grate. Approximately 500 yards of material was retrieved from CB's. Each year damaged catch basins are identified and repaired as needed.

6C. A municipal audit has been completed. Weston & Sampson Engineers conducted the audit. Site inspections of municipal buildings have been completed. Deficiencies have been targeted and BMP's for corrective measures were developed and implementation is ongoing. Spill containment for oil drums has been provided. Flammable cabinets are available for storage of all combustible materials. An MSDS file has been established and is updated for all materials purchased.

6D. Training for spill containment and MSDS has been completed. Training will continue in 2008. Safety and stormwater training will be topics for future consideration.

6E. Follow up inspections at municipal buildings will continue to be performed in 2011 allowing facilities time to implement BMP's and corrective measures.

7. BMP's for meeting TMDL

7A. The water quality management study for the Runnins River has been completed. The final report has been completed and was submitted in the summer 2006.

7B. An illicit discharge detection and elimination By-Law has been developed by the SWAC. The new By-Law was presented to the town's By-Law committee for review. The By-Law was presented and adopted at town meeting May 2006 and approved by the Attorney General. Reference, **3C, 3D & 3E.**

7C. The BOH and Conservation Agent have developed regulations for waterfowl ratification. The BOS has adopted the regulations. Regulatory signs have been posted at public and private water bodies being impacted by waterfowl.

7D. The DPW will continue with its annual street sweeping and catch basin cleaning programs. Funding for fiscal year 2011 has been approved. Spill containment for oil drums and flammable cabinets for combustible material has been provided. Reference, **6A, 6B and 6C.**

For the purpose of this report the following shall mean,

SWAC – Stormwater Advisory Committee

BOS – Board of Selectmen

BOH – Board of Health

DPW – Department of Public Works