

CITY OF GARDNER

SURVEY DEPARTMENT

Room 226, City Hall - Gardner Ma 01440-2688

Robert B. Hankinson, P.E.
City Engineer

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April 19, 2013

Glenda Velez
US EPA - OEP06-1
5 Post Office Square, Suite 100
Boston, MA 02109

Fred Civian
Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
One Winter Street
Boston, MA 02108

Re: NPDES PII Small MS4 General Permit - Annual Report – Gardner, MA

To whom it may concern,

Attached please find the Annual Report for MS4 NPDES General Permit compliance for the City of Gardner. This report fulfills the requirement of the General Permit MA 041109 for the period of April 2012 through March 2013.

Very truly yours,
City of Gardner

Robert B. Hankinson, P.E.
City Engineer

Municipality/Organization: CITY OF GARDNER

EPA NPDES Permit Number: MA041109

MADEP Transmittal Number: W-035868

Annual Report Number
& Reporting Period: No.10: April 2012-March 2013

NPDES PII Small MS4 General Permit Annual Report

Part I. General Information

Contact Person: Robert B. Hankinson

Title: City Engineer

Telephone #: 978-630-4010

Email: rhankinson@gardner-ma.gov

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.

Signature: 

Printed Name: Mark P. Hawke

Title: Mayor, City of Gardner

Date: April 19, 2013

Part II. Self-Assessment

The City of Gardner submits the following report of our progress for the reporting period: May 1, 2012 –April 30, 2013

GENERAL:

The City continues to work toward meeting proposed goals commensurate with staff and financial limitations. We have had a productive year with focus on meeting the recurring goals in our BMP schedules as well preparing for the rollout of the new NPDES permit. We were not able to sample and test outfalls as scheduled during the fall low groundwater season. High groundwater conditions and poor weather prevented our sampling, however we intend to complete two sampling periods this reporting year.

SPECIFIC:

We have employed two summer interns to use GPS technology to collect additional information for our storm water mapping database. This information and more accurate location data is being used to improve our storm water mapping, and will improve our ability to store and analyze sampling data.

Our IDDE efforts continue but no major cross connections have been uncovered during this reporting period.

The City's planning board continues to consider an LID Ordinance which is being developed with assistance from MRPC; the plan is to develop an ordinance and sponsor an education component. The Engineering Department has hired a graduate engineer who will devote much of his time to the stormwater management program.

Part III. Discussion of Minimum Control Measures:

1. Public Education and Outreach

We utilize Board of Health mailings to encourage individuals on the benefits of recycling, the proper disposal of waste, conserving water use and minimizing stormwater runoff.

2. Public Involvement and Participation

The City continues to sponsor and volunteers participated in an earth day cleanup day throughout the City; this is an annual event with support from local public service organizations.

No sponsors however have been found for catch basin stenciling. We are looking to implement this measure through a service organization.

3. Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination

We continue our implementation of a sustainable IDDE program. Our outfall mapping has been completed, although we continue to update and improve our data base through the addition of additional GIS information. We are continuing to verify catch basin piping size, location and outfall testing. Limited television work in drains has been accomplished in connection with the search for illicit connections. Most importantly approximately 2200 catch basins are inspected and cleaned each year, giving us an opportunity to see or smell possible illicit use or

connections to the system.

4. Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control

Construction site runoff is controlled by existing subdivision control ordinance, zoning regulations and EPA site construction regulations. Development proposals and stormwater management plans are reviewed by the engineering department for compliance with stormwater management guidelines.

5. Post-Construction Stormwater Management in New Development and Redevelopment

This item has been completed; monitoring is done by Conservation, Building and Engineering Departments.

6. Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping in Municipal Operations

All BMPs in this item have continued throughout the reporting year. It has been estimated that 2200 catch basins are cleaned each year with about 100 miles of roadway swept. Because we use a sand salt mixture for winter storm treatment, this program is pursued vigorously.

7. BMPs for Meeting TMDL

Investigation of stream impairment has not taken place over the reporting period. We have begun discussions with the Millers River Watershed Council to explore possible opportunities where they may be able to assist us in this endeavor. Stream impairment will be given highest priority during the coming year with the addition of one staff engineer.