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Municipality/Organization: Town of Blackstone

EPA NPDES Permit Number: MA041015

MADEP Transmittal Number: W-040562

Annual Report Number & Reporting Period: No. 13: April 2015-March 2016

NPDES PII 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.

Signature: James M Sullivan

Printed Name: JAMES M SULLIVAN

Title: Supt

Date: 4-20-16

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Part II. Self-Assessment

This report covers permit year 13 (April 2015 through March 2016) of the NPDES Phase II MS4 General Permit for the Town of Blackstone, Massachusetts. The Town continues to perform annual “Good Housekeeping” tasks such as an annual town clean up day, catch basin cleaning and inspection, street sweeping, drain line and outfall cleaning, infrastructure repair, and ongoing employee education. The Town has also made progress in the Public Education and Public Involvement and Participation sections of the Permit, distributing information regarding stormwater quality to students and homeowners. An outside consulting firm has been hired to assist the Planning Board and continues to review site plans and perform site inspections for stormwater compliance in proposed developments. All known outfalls have been mapped and a consulting firm inspects the Town’s outfalls for signs of illicit discharges on a rotating basis each year as part of an IDDE plan. The Program Components of the IDDE plan were described in the April 2005 “NPDES Phase II Stormwater Permit—Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE) Program” report that was submitted as part of the Year 2 Annual Report.

In a previous permit year, the Town of Blackstone drafted and passed a stormwater bylaw to assist in enforcement related to the removal of illicit connections and to establish general rules and regulations for use of the Town’s Stormwater System. Blackstone has also been proactive in stormwater management. Work on a stormwater retrofit for the Town Hall began in 2012 and is now complete. The retrofit included installation of low impact stormwater management measures, such as pervious asphalt, bioretention areas, and tree plantings.

The Town of Blackstone has noted the issuance of the revised Small MS4 General Permit. The Town is in the process of allocating funding to meet the revised requirements and has contracted with a consultant to provide more detailed GPS mapping of the stormwater system, including catch basins and manhole locations.

Part III. Summary of Minimum Control Measures

1. Public Education and Outreach

BMP ID #	BMP Description	Responsible Dept./Person Name	Measurable Goal(s)	Progress on Goal(s) – Permit Year 13 (Reliance on non-municipal partners indicated, if any)
1-1	Provide Educational Materials to Residents	Town Engineer	Blackstone will post information annually in the Blackstone Enlightener and through informational pamphlets (see BMP 2-2).	During this reporting period, the Town posted rotating messages regarding ways to reduce stormwater runoff pollution on the Department of Public Works (DPW) web page. This information was also broadcast daily on the local cable access channel. Additional educational material was provided at the annual Town meeting, when fifty copies of a flyer on stormwater pollution prevention were handed out. The Town also printed notes regarding stormwater pollution prevention on the water and sewer bills, which are mailed to all homeowners. The Town stenciled “no dumping” messages on 20 catch basins during this reporting period.
1-1	Revised	Town Engineer/Blackstone Millville Regional School District Science Department	Blackstone will post information annually on the Town website and on the local access cable stations. Blackstone will distribute informational pamphlets to residents.	As noted above in BMP 1-1, the Town has provided stormwater pollution prevention information on the website, cable access, at the Town Meeting, and in water and sewer bills. Additionally, the Town website links to the Town wetlands bylaw, MassDEP regulations and standards page, the Massachusetts Wetland Protection Act, and the MassDEP Rivers Protection Act page.
1-2	Evaluate Potential for Classroom Education	Blackstone Millville Regional School District	Meet with Blackstone Millville Regional School District Science Department. Evaluate development of curriculum for high school students.	The Town made progress on student education during this reporting period. The Department of Public Works prepared gift packets for children who attended the “Touch a Truck” day held at the Blackstone Public Library on July 24, 2015. The packet included a brochure for children on preventing stormwater pollution prevention. Other education is being carried out as noted in BMP 1-1.

2. Public Involvement and Participation

BMP ID #	BMP Description	Responsible Dept./Person Name	Measurable Goal(s)	Progress on Goal(s) – Permit Year 13 (Reliance on non-municipal partners indicated, if any)
2-1	Request feedback on the Stormwater Management Plan from Town Officials.	Town Engineer	Send letter requesting input on the Stormwater Management Plan to Town boards and officials.	The Superintendent of the Department of Public Works met with the Board of Selectmen and the Planning Board to discuss strategies and funding to meet the anticipated requirements of the revised Small MS4 General Permit. As a result, a proposal to finance new stormwater initiatives will be voted on at the Town Meeting in the upcoming permit year.
2-2	Informational Questionnaire to Residents	Town Engineer	Publish questionnaire in the Blackstone Enlightener requesting information about storm drain systems (e.g. if they are aware of pipes in their yard, foaming).	This questionnaire was published in 2008 and 2009. The Town continues to solicit information from residents regarding stormwater infrastructure issues.
2-3	Status updates to Town Officials	Town Engineer	Present status update to municipal boards on annual basis.	As noted in BMP 2-1, the Superintendent of the Department of Public Works met with the Board of Selectmen and the Planning Board to provide status updates and discuss the revised Small MS4 General Permit. In addition, the annual Outfall Inspection Report and this annual report are shared with the Town Administrator and Board of Selectmen.

3. Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination

BMP ID #	BMP Description	Responsible Dept./Person Name	Measurable Goal(s)	Progress on Goal(s) – Permit Year 13 (Reliance on non-municipal partners indicated, if any)
3-1	Stormwater System-Existing conditions	Town Engineer	The Town of Blackstone will prepare base maps.	The Town of Blackstone has GPS data and maps for outfalls within the system. All the information, including baseline photos and locations of each outfall, are organized into a book. A consultant maintains a GIS database of this information. In anticipation of the revised permit, the same consultant has been retained to GPS locate stormwater manholes and catch basins and add them to the GIS database.
3-2	Request information from Town residents regarding illicit discharges.	Town Engineer	See BMP 2-2	See 2-2
3-3	Storm Sewer Inspections	Town Engineer	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop inspection checklist 2. Prioritize inspections 3. Create database for existing conditions 4. Identify source(s) of illicit discharge(s). 	An inspection checklist, list of high priority outfalls for annual inspection, and a database of baseline conditions have all been developed in previous reporting years. In Permit Year 13, 30 stormwater outfalls were visually inspected by a consultant. A report of this activity was provided to the Town. No illicit discharges were found.
3-4	Develop improvement program	Town Engineer	Prepare improvement plan. Evaluate repair costs. Prioritize upgrades based on needs and costs.	No illicit discharges requiring elimination through system improvement have been found through the IDDE plan at this time. The Town continues to improve its stormwater and sewer systems; see BMP's 3-5, 3-6, 6-3, and 6-4.
3-5	Capital Improvement Plan	Town Engineer	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prepare multi-year capital improvement plan 2. Present plan to Capital Outlay Committee. 	<p>The Town has proposed \$100,000 to be used to fund the requirements of the revised Small General Permit. This funding will be voted on at the next Town meeting. Thereafter, requirements of the Permit will be acted on in order of priority. Currently, the Town is using its annual stormwater budget allocation to meet the anticipated requirements as noted in BMP 3-1.</p> <p>Drainage capital improvements are being made on an as needed basis. See BMP 3-6.</p>

BMP ID #	BMP Description	Responsible Dept./Person Name	Measurable Goal(s)	Progress on Goal(s) – Permit Year 13 (Reliance on non-municipal partners indicated, if any)
3-6	Implement Capital Improvement Plan	Town Engineer/DPW	Implement improvement program to the extent allowable within capital and operational means.	At this time, drainage capital improvements are being made on an as needed basis. During the reporting year, improvements were made on Milk Street, where about 500 linear feet of drain and one catch basin were replaced. Catch basins were repaired on Woodcrest Lane, St. Paul Street, Spruce Street, and Blackstone Street as well.
3-7	Enforcement Procedures Addressing Discharges	Planning Board	Blackstone will review whether local authority is appropriate and able to respond to potential illicit discharges. New bylaws, if necessary, will be proposed to Town Meeting.	A new stormwater bylaw was drafted during Year 8. It was proposed during the May 17, 2011 Town Meeting and was passed. No illicit discharges were discovered during this reporting period. Consequently, there has been no illicit discharge related enforcement during this reporting period. An IDDE plan is in place and all Town outfalls are inspected on a rotating basis. See BMP 4-3 for other enforcement activity.

4. Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control

BMP ID #	BMP Description	Responsible Dept./Person Name	Measurable Goal(s)	Progress on Goal(s) – Permit Year 13 (Reliance on non-municipal partners indicated, if any)
4-1	Site Plan Review	Town Engineer/Planning Board	Meet with Planning Board to discuss stormwater requirements.	Requirements have been determined and a bylaw has been enacted. The Town retains a consultant to review proposed site plans for compliance with stormwater requirements.
4-2	Construction Stormwater Ordinance	Planning Board	Evaluate opportunities to modify planning bylaws to include stormwater ordinance.	A bylaw regarding this BMP was drafted during a previous reporting period. The bylaw was proposed in the May 17, 2011 Town Meeting and was passed. Meeting minutes showing passage of and containing the bylaw were attached to the Permit Year 8 Annual Report.
4-3	Enforcement	Planning Board	Evaluate inspection and enforcement opportunities.	The Town retains a consultant to inspect construction projects and recommend enforcement actions when needed. During this reporting period, the DPW Superintendent worked with the developer in the Sycamore Meadows development to bring curbing, ground cover, hay bales and silt fence into compliance with the Town's stormwater protection requirements.

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

BMP ID #	BMP Description	Responsible Dept./Person Name	Measurable Goal(s)	Progress on Goal(s) – Permit Year 13 (Reliance on non-municipal partners indicated, if any)
5-1	Ordinance-Post Construction	Planning Board/DPW/Town Engineer	Evaluate opportunities to modify planning regulations requiring contractors to guarantee work.	A bylaw regarding this BMP was drafted during a previous reporting period. The bylaw was proposed in the May 17, 2011 Town Meeting and was passed. See the Permit Year 8 Annual Report attachment for the meeting minutes and text of the bylaw.

6. Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping in Municipal Operations

BMP ID #	BMP Description	Responsible Dept./Person Name	Measurable Goal(s)	Progress on Goal(s) – Permit Year 13 (Reliance on non-municipal partners indicated, if any)
6-1	Employee Training	Town Engineer/DPW	Establish training needs and program for employees.	The Town sent three DPW staffers to two different 1 day training sessions sponsored by the New England Water Works and the New England Water Environment Association in the Fall of 2015 and March 2016.
6-2	Street Sweeping Program	Town Engineer/DPW	Develop program and schedule for sweeping streets.	The DPW has a program for street sweeping. During this reporting period, the High Rock and Privilege sections of Town were swept, along with Rathburn Street, Riley Street, and Main Street.
6-3	Catch Basin Cleaning Program	Town Engineer/DPW	Develop a program and schedule for cleaning storm drain systems.	Catch Basin cleaning is performed in the summer (after street sweeping) on a rotating basis. The Town monitors catch basin cleaning each year and adjusts the cleaning frequency as required. Some catch basins on trunk lines (where debris has a tendency to accumulate) may be cleaned twice per year if necessary. A catch basin inspection form is used for documentation. In addition, the DPW sends out a staff member after every major storm event to ensure that catch basin grates are clear of obstructions, such as leaves or snow/ice.

BMP ID #	BMP Description	Responsible Dept./Person Name	Measurable Goal(s)	Progress on Goal(s) – Permit Year 13 (Reliance on non-municipal partners indicated, if any)
6-4	Other Programs and Policies	Town Engineer	Evaluate the need for other programs and policies that can improve stormwater quality.	<p>The Town jet cleans drainage piping on a rotating basis. During this reporting period, drains on Upper Mendon Street and Austin Street were jet cleaned.</p> <p>After inspections, the Town’s consultant recommended corrective action at Outfalls numbered 18, 21, 28, 64 and 84. The Town cleaned and/or posted “no dumping” signs at these outfalls as recommended.</p> <p>A Townwide clean up day was held on May 9, 2015.</p> <p>Household hazardous wastes continue to be accepted at the Blackstone Recycling Center. The Department of Public Works also has a plan in place and materials on hand for response to hydraulic oil spills (in case of burst or leaking construction equipment hydraulic lines) on construction sites or in the Town yards.</p>

7. BMPs for Meeting Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Waste Load Allocations (WLA)

Not used.

Part IV. Summary of Information Collected and Analyzed

Not used.