

Municipality/Organization: CITY OF GARDNER

EPA NPDES Permit Number: MA041109

MaDEP Transmittal Number: W-035868

Annual Report Number

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

NPDES PII Small MS4 General Permit Annual Report

Part I. General Information

Contact Person: Robert B. Hankinson

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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:



Printed Name: Mark P. Hawke

Title: Mayor, City of Gardner

Date: April 29, 2016

Part II. Self-Assessment

The City of Gardner submits the following report of our progress for the reporting period: May 1, 2015 –April 30, 2016

GENERAL:

The City continues to work towards 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 continuing to prepare for the rollout of the new NPDES permit.

SPECIFIC:

The City has been able to hire an intern who has been tasked with scanning the entirety of our “Stormwater Plan Catalogue.” This will enhance and verify our GIS mapping and increase our stormwater inventory accuracy. Through this effort the City has mapped a number of additional stormwater structures that were previously missed in the last data collection phase.

Currently, The Public Works Department, has made the decision to test green salt as an alternative to our sand (conventional) salt mixture for winter application. The testing was to begin this winter when the current supply of rock salt was depleted, however, due to the low snow accumulations this year we still have rock salt left. It is our intent to eliminate the use of sand on most streets throughout the City in part to keep sand and solids out of the storm water system.

Our IDDE efforts continue with no major cross connections being uncovered during this reporting period. We have replaced major storm drains in two areas within the City to maintain the integrity of the storm water collection system. Approximately \$60,000 of pipe supplies have been purchased and installed.

Part III. Discussion of Minimum Control Measures:

1. Public Education and Outreach

The City utilizes The Board of Health and Water Department mailings to educate individuals on the benefits of recycling, the proper disposal of waste, conserving water use and minimizing stormwater runoff. The City has collaborated with a local Eagle Scout Candidate to create a “Stormwater Outreach Program.” The Public education portion of this project has included a distributed pamphlet as well as an a notice delivered to homes near streets where catch basins have been stenciled

2. Public Involvement and Participation

The City has collaborated with a local Eagle Scout Candidate to create a “Stormwater Outreach Program.” The Eagle Scout has stenciled catch basins with one of two stencils designed to encourage environmental conscientiousness.

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

3. Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination

We continue our implementation of a sustainable IDDE program. With the help of the “Central Massachusetts Regional Stormwater Coalition” IDDE toolbox our catch basin cleaning program has been improved. There is now a systematic approach to cleaning The City’s 2200 catch basins. Our major outfall mapping has been completed, although we continue to update and improve our data base in support of GIS information. We are continuing to verify catch basin piping location and search for unrecorded outfalls.

4. Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control

Construction site runoff is controlled by an existing subdivision control ordinance and EPA site construction regulations are also monitored. 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 working together.

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 along with about 100 miles of roadway swept. Because we still use a sand salt mixture for winter storm treatment, catch basin cleaning is pursued vigorously; to that end we are investigating the use of GIS equipment to track progress.

Additionally the Department of Public Works is pursuing the use of “green salt” as a substitute for a sand salt mixture for treating most roadways within the City. This may eliminate the use of most sand on roadways.

7. BMPs for Meeting TMDL

The Engineering Department in conjunction with GIS staff continue to map all minor outfalls within the City in order to create a more comprehensive sampling program.