

Year 6 Annual Report

Massachusetts Small MS4 General Permit

Reporting Period: July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024

*****Please DO NOT attach any documents to this form. Instead, attach all requested documents to an email when submitting the form. Also ensure any websites included on this form are to publicly accessible sites*****

Unless otherwise noted, all fields are required to be filled out. If a field is left blank, it will be assumed the requirement or task has not been completed. Please ONLY report on activities between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024 unless otherwise requested.

Part I: Contact Information

Name of Municipality or Organization:

EPA NPDES Permit Number:

Primary MS4 Program Manager Contact Information

Name:

Title:

Street Address Line 1:

Street Address Line 2:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

Email:

Phone Number:

Stormwater Management Program (SWMP) Information

SWMP Location (publicly available web address):

Date SWMP was Last Updated:

If the SWMP is not available on the web please provide the physical address:

Part II: Self-Assessment

First, in the box below, select the impairment(s) and/or TMDL(s) that are applicable to your MS4. Make sure you are referring to the most recent EPA approved Section 303(d) Impaired Waters List which can be found here: <https://www.epa.gov/tmdl/region-1-impaired-waters-and-303d-lists-state>

Impairment(s)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bacteria/Pathogens	<input type="checkbox"/> Chloride	<input type="checkbox"/> Nitrogen	<input type="checkbox"/> Phosphorus
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Solids/ Oil/ Grease (Hydrocarbons)/ Metals			
TMDL(s)			
<i>In State:</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Assabet River Phosphorus	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bacteria and Pathogen	<input type="checkbox"/> Cape Cod Nitrogen
	<input type="checkbox"/> Charles River Watershed Phosphorus	<input type="checkbox"/> Lake and Pond Phosphorus	
<i>Out of State:</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Bacteria/Pathogens	<input type="checkbox"/> Metals	<input type="checkbox"/> Nitrogen
			<input type="checkbox"/> Phosphorus
			Clear Impairments and TMDLs

Next, check off all requirements below that have been completed. **By checking each box you are certifying that you have completed that permit requirement fully.** If you have not completed a requirement leave the box unchecked. Additional information will be requested in later sections.

Annual Requirements

- ☐ Provided an opportunity for public participation in review and implementation of SWMP and complied with State Public Notice requirements
- ☒ Kept records relating to the permit available for 5 years and made available to the public
- ☒ The SSO inventory has been updated, including the status of mitigation and corrective measures implemented
 - ☐ This is not applicable because we do not have sanitary sewer
 - ☐ This is not applicable because we did not find any new SSOs
 - ☒ The updated SSO inventory is attached to the email submission
 - ☐ The updated SSO inventory can be found at the following publicly available website:
- ☒ Updated system map due in year 10 with information from completed catchment investigations
- ☒ Provided training to employees involved in IDDE program within the reporting period
- ☒ Properly stored and disposed of catch basin cleanings and street sweepings so they did not discharge to receiving waters
- ☒ All curbed roadways were swept at least once within the reporting period
- ☒ Enclosed all road salt storage piles or facilities and implemented winter road maintenance procedures to minimize the use of road salt
- ☒ Implemented SWPPPs for all permittee owned or operated maintenance garages, public works yards, transfer stations, and other waste handling facilities

- ☒ Updated inventory of all permittee owned facilities as necessary
- ☒ O&M programs for all permittee owned facilities have been completed and updated as necessary
- ☒ Implemented all maintenance procedures for permittee owned facilities in accordance with O&M programs
- ☒ Implemented program for MS4 infrastructure maintenance to reduce the discharge of pollutants
- ☒ Inspected all permittee owned treatment structures (excluding catch basins)

Optional: If you would like to describe progress made on any incomplete requirements listed above or provide any additional details, please use the box below:

In previous years, it was interpreted that posting the SWMP online fulfilled public participation requirements. Based on recent EPA clarification, future SWMPs will be posted with public notice of their availability and include a mechanism for public comment submittal. The Town plans to perform applicable SWMP updates during Permit Year 7.

The Town opportunistically trains staff during the course of implementing infrastructure related operations throughout the course of the year so they can identify and report potential illicit discharges to the appropriate staff. The Town also provided MSGP related training for their Recycling and Trash Transfer Facility (RTTF) on July 18, 2024, which overlaps with IDDE training content and applicable employees.

Bacteria/ Pathogens (Combination of Impaired Waters Requirements and TMDL Requirements as Applicable)

Annual Requirements

*Public Education and Outreach**

- ☒ Annual message was distributed encouraging the proper management of pet waste, including noting any existing ordinances where appropriate
- ☒ Permittee or its agents disseminated educational material to dog owners at the time of issuance or renewal of dog license, or other appropriate time
- ☒ Provided information to owners of septic systems about proper maintenance in any catchment that discharges to a water body impaired for bacteria
- ☐ This is not applicable because there are no septic systems present

** Public education messages can be combined with other public education requirements as applicable (see Appendix H and F for more information)*

Optional: If you would like to describe progress made on any incomplete requirements listed above or provide any additional details, please use the box below:

Brochures related to pet waste management and septic system maintenance were placed in the Town Hall and Conservation offices during this Permit year.

Solids, Oil and Grease (Hydrocarbons), or Metals

Annual Requirements

Good Housekeeping and Pollution Prevention for Permittee Owned Operations

- ☒ Increased street sweeping frequency of all municipal owned streets and parking lots to a schedule that targets areas with potential for high pollutant loads

- ☐ The street sweeping schedule is attached to the email submission
- ☐ The street sweeping schedule can be found at the following publicly available website:

- ☒ Prioritized inspection and maintenance for catch basins to ensure that no sump shall be more than 50 percent full; Cleaned catch basins more frequently if inspection and maintenance activities indicated excessive sediment or debris loadings

Optional: If you would like to describe progress made on any incomplete requirements listed above or provide any additional details, please use the box below:

The Town prioritizes enhanced street sweeping activities within the downtown area and Transfer Station facility to satisfy the increased sweeping frequencies for the Weir River watershed (MA74-02, sedimentation/siltation impairment). The Town sweeps the downtown at least seasonally for a total of four times per year and the remainder of the Town at least once, but sometimes twice. The Town does not apply sand to roads during winter road maintenance activities.

Optional: Use the box below to provide any additional information you would like to share as part of your self-assessment:

Part III: Receiving Waters/Impaired Waters/TMDL

Have you made any changes to your lists of receiving waters, outfalls, or impairments since the NOI was submitted?

☒ Yes

☐ No

If yes, describe below, including any relevant impairments or TMDLs:

The Town evaluated the "Final Massachusetts Integrated List of Waters for the Clean Water Act 2022 Reporting Cycle," and noted the following change that has been made to the Town's waterbody impairments:

1. Weir River (MA74-02): "Sedimentation/Siltation" was added. Note that this impairment was removed from this river segment on the 2018/2020 Integrated List, but was reinstated on the 2022 Integrated List.

Part IV: Minimum Control Measures

Please fill out all of the metrics below. If applicable, include in the description who completed the task if completed by a third party.

MCM1: Public Education

Number of educational messages completed **during this reporting period:**

*Below, report on the educational messages completed **during this reporting period**. For the measurable goal(s) please describe the method/measures used to assess the overall effectiveness of the educational program.*

BMP: Social Media Posts - General Stormwater/Environmental Awareness Messages

Message Description and Distribution Method:

The Town's Facebook page has approximately 3,600 followers and 2,900 likes. In this permit year, 9 informative messages were posted:

1. A post was made on January 25, 2024 to inform residents of the Hingham Harbor Resiliency Project.
2. Multiple posts were made on January 13, June 27, and July 7, 2024 to inform residents of the DPW's home composting program and curbside compost collection.
3. A post was made on March 25, 2024 in regard to the "Cleaner Greener Hingham Day" on April 27, 2024.
4. A post was made on April 2, 2024 about the rain barrel and composter sale.
5. Multiple posts were made on May 8 and August 4, 2024 to inform residents of the scheduled household hazardous waste collection dates in Hingham.
6. A post was made on June 13, 2024 in regard to the annual watering restrictions for the Weir River water system from June 7th-September 30, 2024.
7. A post was made on June 19, 2024 about the Weir River water system conservation practices during the heat advisory.
8. Multiple posts were made on June 20, June 21, June 22, June 23, June 25, and June 26, 2025 about the discoloration and water quality of the Weir River water supply being distributed to residents.
9. Multiple posts were made on July 17, August 9, and August 13, 2024 about the Town beach closed due to high bacteria levels.

Targeted Audience:

Responsible Department/Parties:

Measurable Goal(s):

Promote stormwater awareness by communicating key stormwater information, regulations, and activity updates with the goal of public education.

Message Date(s):

Message Completed for: Appendix F Requirements ☐ Appendix H Requirements ☐

Was this message different than what was proposed in your NOI? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, describe why the change was made:

BMP: Stormwater Website

Message Description and Distribution Method:

The Town maintains a website designed to educate people about what stormwater is and the effects of stormwater pollution on waterbodies. The website provides an overview of how runoff can pick up and transport pollutants into waterways. The page emphasizes that storm drains are commonly discharged without being treated, so pollutants picked up by runoff can have large effects on waterbodies. The website also includes rotating educational messages on a flash screen about best practices for managing pet waste, appropriate management to prevent pollutants generated from lawn and garden care from entering our waterbodies, motor oil and other chemical disposal, and the proper way to discharge pool and spa water.

Targeted Audience: General Public

Responsible Department/Parties: DPW Superintendent and Website Manager

Measurable Goal(s):

Promote stormwater awareness by posting relevant stormwater information. Track hits with the goal of increasing website traffic annually.

Message Date(s): On-going

Message Completed for: Appendix F Requirements ☐ Appendix H Requirements ☒Was this message different than what was proposed in your NOI? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, describe why the change was made:

BMP: Local Cable Access Programming

Message Description and Distribution Method:

The Town provides citizens with access to public, educational, and government channels through Comcast and Verizon. The government channel in particular is used to broadcast live coverage of Board of Selectmen and other Board/Commission meetings. The channel also provides bulletin board notification of Town news and announcements. Stormwater infrastructure and water quality have been discussed at several of the Board/Commission meetings.

Targeted Audience: Local Cable Subscribers

Responsible Department/Parties: Various Town Departments, Boards, and Commissions

Measurable Goal(s):

Promote stormwater awareness to the general public.

Message Date(s): On-going

Message Completed for: Appendix F Requirements ☐ Appendix H Requirements ☐

Was this message different than what was proposed in your NOI? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, describe why the change was made:

Add an Educational Message

MCM2: Public Participation

Describe the opportunity provided for public involvement in the development of the Stormwater Management Program (SWMP) **during this reporting period:**

The Town of Hingham has their latest SWMP available at the Department of Public Works and on their website for public viewing and comment.

Was this opportunity different than what was proposed in your NOI? Yes ☐ No ☒

Describe any other public involvement or participation opportunities conducted **during this reporting period:**

The Town continues to operate their illicit stormwater discharge hotline at (781) 804-2437. Calls and requests that require immediate attention are put into the Town's word order system, allowing the Town to track the status of their response to the calls.

WaterSmart, in partnership with the North and South Rivers Watershed Association (NSRWA) and 12 towns on the South Shore, including Hingham, conducted a Gardening Green Expo from March 11th to March 15th, 2024. During this event, residents and other interested parties were able to attend (virtually and in person) lectures on topics relevant to building a sustainable garden, composting, protecting waters through gardening, and building a rain garden. More information about the event can be accessed here: <https://www.nsrwa.org/get-watersmart/gardening-green-expo-2024/>

MCM3: Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE)

Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSOs)

Check off the box below if the statement is true.

☐ This SSO section is NOT applicable because we DO NOT have sanitary sewer

*Below, report on the number of SSOs identified in the MS4 system and removed **during this reporting period.***

Number of SSOs identified:

Number of SSOs removed:

MS4 System MappingPercent of Phase II map complete: *Optional: Provide additional status information regarding your map:*

The MS4 System Map is actively updated to include new information as it is identified. The Town is undertaking extensive mapping update efforts, including field verification of previously mapped structures and connectivity. This effort is ongoing.

Screening of Outfalls/Interconnections

If conducted, please submit any outfall monitoring results from this reporting period. Outfall monitoring results should include the date, outfall/interconnection identifier, location, weather conditions at time of sampling, precipitation in previous 48 hours, field screening parameter results, and results from all analyses. Please also include the updated inventory and ranking of outfalls/interconnections based on monitoring results.

- ☐ No outfalls were inspected
- ☒ The above referenced outfall screening data is attached to the email submission
- ☐ The above referenced outfall screening data can be found at the following publicly available website:

*Below, report on the number of outfalls/interconnections screened **during this reporting period**.*

Number of outfalls screened:

*Below, report on the percent of outfalls/interconnections screened **to date**.*

Percent of outfalls screened: *Optional: Provide additional information regarding your outfall/interconnection screening:*

The Town previously evaluated historic data for dry weather outfall screening and identified approximately 170 outfalls that have meet the MS4 General Permit requirement Part 2.3.4.7.b.4.iv for dry weather screening. Remaining outfalls were screened and if applicable, sampled, during previous permit years, resulting in all mapped outfalls being screened.

During Permit Year 6, 117 outfalls were re-screened during MS4 mapping activities. This information will be considered during reprioritization and incorporated into upcoming catchment investigation activities.

Catchment Investigations

If conducted, please submit all data collected during this reporting period as part of the dry and wet weather investigations. Also include the presence or absence of System Vulnerability Factors for each catchment.

- ☐ No catchment investigations were conducted
- ☒ The catchment investigation data is attached to the email submission
- ☐ The catchment investigation data can be found at the following publicly available website:

*Below, report on the number of catchment investigations completed **during this reporting period**.*

Number of catchment investigations completed this reporting period: 0

*Below, report on the percent of catchments investigated **to date**.*

Percent of total catchments investigated: 0

Optional: Provide any additional information for clarity regarding the catchment investigations below:

Catchment investigations are ongoing throughout the Town and conducted in tandem with updated MS4 mapping efforts. Catchment investigations have not been completed in individual catchments; however, infrastructure has been investigated in multiple catchments. Attached catchment investigation data collected during this permit year is attached to the annual report. Note that the table only includes data from dry weather flow. Infrastructure observed dry is not included in the attachment.

IDDE Progress

If illicit discharges were found, please submit a document describing work conducted over this reporting period, and cumulative to date, including location source; description of the discharge; method of discovery; date of discovery; and date of elimination, mitigation, or enforcement OR planned corrective measures and schedule of removal.

- ☒ No illicit discharges were found
- ☐ The illicit discharge removal report is attached to the email submission
- ☐ The illicit discharge removal report can be found at the following publicly available website:

*Below, report on the number of illicit discharges identified and removed, along with the volume of sewage removed **during this reporting period**.*

Number of illicit discharges identified: 0

Number of illicit discharges removed: 0

Estimated volume of sewage removed: 0 gallons/day

*Below, report on the total number of illicit discharges identified and removed to date. At a minimum, report on the number of illicit discharges identified and removed **since the effective date of the permit (July 1, 2018)**.*

Total number of illicit discharges identified: 1

Total number of illicit discharges removed: 1

Optional: Provide any additional information for clarity regarding illicit discharges identified, removed, or planned to be removed below:

Employee Training

Describe the frequency and type of employee training conducted **during this reporting period**:

The Department of Public Works provides opportunistic and on the job training to employees related to illicit

discharge identification and internal reporting procedures, good housekeeping, and pollution prevention.

The Town also provided MSGP related training for their Recycling and Trash Transfer Facility (RTTF) on July 18, 2024, which overlaps with IDDE training content and applicable employees.

MCM4: Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control

*Below, report on the construction site plan reviews, inspections, and enforcement actions completed **during this reporting period**.*

Number of site plan reviews completed:

Number of inspections completed:

Number of enforcement actions taken:

Optional: Enter any additional information relevant to construction site plan reviews, inspections, and enforcement actions:

MCM5: Post-Construction Stormwater Management in New Development and Redevelopment

Ordinance or Regulatory Mechanism

Date update was completed (due in year 3):

Website of ordinance or regulatory mechanism:

As-built Drawings

*Below, report on the number of as-built drawings received **during this reporting period**.*

Number of as-built drawings received:

Optional: Enter any additional information relevant to the submission of as-built drawings:

The Town has experienced personnel vacancies and changes in the Planning Department that have affected the review and potential update of applicable regulatory mechanisms. The Town anticipates conducting a review and implementing identified updates, if applicable, to achieve compliance with Permit requirements during Permit Year 7 by hiring a consultant.

Street Design and Parking Lots Report

Below, describe any changes made or planned to be made to local regulations and guidelines based on the report completed in Year 4:

The Town has experienced personnel vacancies and changes in the Planning Department that have affected the review and potential update of applicable regulatory mechanisms. The Town anticipates conducting a review and implementing identified updates, if applicable, to achieve compliance with Permit requirements during Permit Year 7 by hiring a consultant.

Green Infrastructure Report

Below, describe progress towards making green infrastructure practices allowable based on the report completed in Year 4:

The Town has experienced personnel vacancies and changes in the Planning Department that have affected the review and potential update of applicable regulatory mechanisms. The Town anticipates conducting a review and implementing identified updates, if applicable, to achieve compliance with Permit requirements during Permit Year 7 by hiring a consultant.

Retrofit Properties Inventory

Below, list remaining permittee-owned properties that could be modified or retrofitted with BMPs to mitigate impervious areas (must maintain a minimum of 5 sites in inventory until less than 5 sites remain):

- Bathing Beach Parking Lot, 95 Otis Street
- Foster Elementary School, 55 Downer Avenue
- Town of Hingham Police Department, 212 Central Avenue
- South Shore Country Club, 274 South Street
- Hingham Public Library, 66 Leavitt Street
- Hingham Town Hall, 210 Central Street

Below, list all properties that have been modified or retrofitted with BMPs to mitigate impervious area that were inventoried as part of 2.3.6.d of the permit and the type of BMP(s) implemented. Non-MS4 owned properties that have been modified or retrofitted with BMPs to mitigate impervious area may also be listed, but must be indicated as non-MS4.

The Foster Elementary School project is currently in construction. Additional Town-owned properties suitable for retrofits will be added to the retrofit properties inventory as they are identified.

MCM6: Good Housekeeping

Catch Basin Cleaning

*Below, report on the number of catch basins inspected and cleaned, along with the total volume of material removed from the catch basins **during this reporting period**.*

Number of catch basins inspected:

Number of catch basins cleaned:

Total volume or mass of material removed from all catch basins:

Below, report on the total number of catch basins in the MS4 system.

Total number of catch basins:

If applicable:

Report on the actions taken if a catch basin sump is more than 50% full during two consecutive routine inspections/cleaning events:

If necessary, schedule adjustments will be made to prioritize catch basins located at known problem areas (low spots, etc.) and near construction activities (roadway construction, residential/commercial/industrial development). If inspection and maintenance activities indicate excessive sediment and debris loading (sump is more than 50% full during two consecutive routine inspections/cleanings), these catch basins will be cleaned more frequently. Where necessary, street sweeping will be utilized to aid in minimizing catch basin sediment loading. Additionally, the Town staff responds to calls where basement flooding has occurred to clean nearby catch basins immediately. A list of known annual issues related to blockages and repairs is maintained, and the majority of the list has been addressed.

Street Sweeping

*Report on street sweeping completed **during this reporting period** using one of the three metrics below.*

☒ Number of miles cleaned:

☐ Volume of material removed:

☐ Weight of material removed:

Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP)

*Below, report on the number of site inspections for facilities that require a SWPPP completed **during this reporting period**.*

Number of site inspections completed:

Describe any corrective actions taken at a facility with a SWPPP:

Not applicable.

Additional Information

Monitoring or Study Results

Results from any other stormwater or receiving water quality monitoring or studies conducted during the reporting period not otherwise mentioned above, where the data is being used to inform permit compliance or permit effectiveness must be attached.

- ☒ Not applicable
- ☐ The results from additional reports or studies are attached to the email submission
- ☐ The results from additional reports or studies can be found at the following publicly available website(s):

If such monitoring or studies were conducted on your behalf or if monitoring or studies conducted by other entities were reported to you, a brief description of the type of information gathered or received shall be described below:

Additional Information

Enter any additional information relevant to your stormwater management program implementation during the reporting period. Include any BMP modifications made by the MS4 if not already discussed above.

The Town completed a Stormwater Master Plan, including a stormwater related Capital Improvement Plan, during this permit year. The Stormwater Master Plan was developed to provide the Town with information to understand the condition of their drainage infrastructure, support and inform future capital improvement planning efforts, supplement resiliency planning, comply with regulatory requirements, and provide proactive approaches toward sustainably and holistically managing their drainage infrastructure. The Town is reviewing the findings and recommendations from the Stormwater Master Plan and will be integrating them into future stormwater related work.

The Town provides educational flyers in their lobby and at the Conservation office for visitors to pick up/read. The North/South River Water Association sends out targeted educational flyers to residents in the area.

Wompatuck Road/Planters Field Lane rain gardens and stormwater improvement projects were started in permit year 6 and will be completed in permit year 7.

Year 7

Activities Planned for Next Reporting Period

Please confirm that your SWMP has been, or will be, updated to comply with all applicable permit requirements including but not limited to the year 7 requirements summarized below. (Note: impaired waters and TMDL requirements are not listed below)

Yes, I agree ☒

- Complete investigations of catchments associated with Problem Outfalls
- Complete investigations of catchments where any information gathered on the outfall/interconnection identifies sewer input

Annual Requirements

- Annual report submitted and available to the public
- Annual opportunity for public participation in review and implementation of SWMP
- Keep records relating to the permit available for 5 years and make available to the public
- Properly store and dispose of catch basin cleanings and street sweepings so they do not discharge to receiving waters
- Annual training to employees involved in IDDE program
- Update inventory of all known locations where SSOs have discharged to the MS4
- Continue public education and outreach program
- Update outfall and interconnection inventory and priority ranking and include data collected in connection with the dry weather screening and other relevant inspections conducted
- Implement IDDE program
- Review site plans of construction sites as part of the construction stormwater runoff control program
- Conduct site inspection of construction sites as necessary
- Inspect and maintain stormwater treatment structures
- Log catch basins cleaned or inspected
- Sweep all curbed streets at least annually
- Continue investigations of catchments associated with Problem Outfalls
- Implemented SWPPPs for all permittee owned or operated maintenance garages, public works yards, transfer stations, and other waste handling facilities
- Review inventory of all permittee owned facilities in the categories of parks and open space, buildings and facilities, and vehicles and equipment; update if necessary
- Review O&M programs for all permittee owned facilities; update if necessary
- Implement all maintenance procedures for permittee owned facilities in accordance with O&M programs
- Implement program for MS4 infrastructure maintenance to reduce the discharge of pollutants
- Enclose all road salt storage piles or facilities and implemented winter road maintenance procedures to minimize the use of road salt
- Review as-built drawings for new and redevelopment to ensure compliance with post construction bylaws, regulations, or regulatory mechanism consistent with permit requirements
- Inspect all permittee owned treatment structures (excluding catch basins)
- Identify additional permittee-owned properties that could potentially be modified or retrofitted with BMPs to reduce impervious areas so that the permittee maintains a minimum of 5 sites in their inventory, until such a time when the permittee has less than 5 sites remaining

Provide any additional details on activities planned for permit year 7 below:

Part V: Certification of Small MS4 Annual Report 2024

40 CFR 144.32(d) 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, I certify that 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.

Name:

Thomas Mayo

Title:

Town Administrator

Signature:



Date:

10/2/24

[Signatory may be a duly authorized representative]