

Year 7 Annual Report
Massachusetts Small MS4 General Permit
Reporting Period: July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025

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, 2024 and June 30, 2025 unless otherwise requested.

Part I: Contact Information

Name of Municipality or Organization: City of Fitchburg

EPA NPDES Permit Number: MAR041189

Primary MS4 Program Manager Contact Information

Name: Nicholas Erickson, PE Title: Commissioner of Public Works

Street Address Line 1: Fitchburg DPW

Street Address Line 2: 301 Broad Street

City: Fitchburg State: MA Zip Code: 01420

Email: nerickson@fitchburgma.gov Phone Number: (978) 829-1905

Stormwater Management Program (SWMP) Information

SWMP Location (publicly available web address): <https://www.fitchburgma.gov/463/Stormwater-Management-Program>

Date SWMP was Last Updated: September 2025

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)

- ☒ Bacteria/Pathogens
 ☐ Chloride
 ☐ Nitrogen
 ☒ Phosphorus
☐ Solids/ Oil/ Grease (Hydrocarbons)/ Metals

TMDL(s)

- In State:**
☐ Assabet River Phosphorus
 ☐ Bacteria and Pathogen
 ☐ Cape Cod Nitrogen
☐ Charles River Watershed Phosphorus
 ☐ Lake and Pond Phosphorus
Out of State:
☐ Bacteria/Pathogens
 ☐ Metals
 ☐ Nitrogen
 ☐ 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.

Year 7 Requirements

- ☒ Completed catchment investigations associated with Problem Outfalls
☒ Completed catchment investigations where information gathered on the outfall/interconnection indicated sewer input

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:

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 F and H 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:

Phosphorus (Combination of Impaired Waters Requirements and TMDL Requirements as Applicable)

Annual Requirements

*Public Education and Outreach**

- ☒ Distributed an annual message in the spring (April/May) encouraging the proper use and disposal of grass clippings and encouraging the proper use of slow-release and phosphorus-free fertilizers

- ☒ Distributed an annual message in the summer (June/July) encouraging the proper management of pet waste, including noting any existing ordinances where appropriate
 - ☒ Distributed an annual message in the fall (August/September/October) encouraging the proper disposal of leaf litter
- * Public education messages can be combined with other public education requirements as applicable (see Appendix H and F for more information)*

Good Housekeeping and Pollution Prevention for Permittee Owned Operations

- ☒ Increased street sweeping frequency of all municipal owned streets and parking lots subject to Permit part 2.3.7.a.iii.(c) to a minimum of two times per year (spring and fall)

Structural BMPs

- ☐ Installed a structural BMP as a demonstration project within the drainage area of the water quality limited water or its tributaries. The type of BMP installed is (*e.g. biofiltration*):

Any structural BMPs already existing or installed in the regulated area by the permittee or its agents was tracked and the phosphorus removal by the BMP was estimated consistent with Attachment 3 to

- ☒ Appendix F. The BMP type, total area treated by the BMP, the design storage volume of the BMP, and the estimated phosphorus removed in mass per year by the BMP were documented.

- ☐ No BMPs were installed
- ☒ The above referenced BMP information is attached to the email submission
- ☐ The above referenced BMP information can be found at the following publicly available website:

Total estimated phosphorus removed in **lbs/year** from the installed BMPs: 13.95

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 City performed maintenance efforts including brush clearing, tree cutting, and debris removal at fourteen (14) BMPs during the reporting year to improve their performance and functionality. See BMPs maintained: 19 Watts Way, 26 Castle Road, 71 Ethier Street, 17 Aimees Way, 80 Bilotta Way, 68 Bilotta Way, 173 Roosevelt Street, 299 Roosevelt Street, 176 Victoria Lane, 20 Victoria Lane, 12 Victoria Lane, 105 Tibbett Circle, 213 Bishop Road, 109 Hemlock Drive. The City's Phosphorus Source Identification Report includes a list of BMPs the City will consider as well as potential concepts for the first five sites.

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

The City advanced a BMP to construction to be installed as part of the CSO-032 and CSO-045 separation. Construction is scheduled for 2026.

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:

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:[Message name here]

Message Description and Distribution Method:

Targeted Audience:

Responsible Department/Parties:

Measurable Goal(s):

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:

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**:

Consistent with the City's approved NOI, the SWMP was posted to the City web page with the public encouraged to submit comments to DPW Engineering.

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 City held a public Household Hazardous Waste Day in partnership with the Town of Westminster on November 16, 2024.

The Stormwater Management Program was presented and discussed during City council meetings held during the current reporting period.

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 Mapping

Percent of Phase II map complete:

Optional: Provide additional status information regarding your map:

MS4 System mapping is being updated as catchment area investigations proceed.

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: 0

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

Percent of outfalls screened: 100

Optional: Provide additional information regarding your outfall/interconnection screening:

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: 10

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

Percent of total catchments investigated: 23

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

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: 1

Number of illicit discharges removed: 1

Estimated volume of sewage removed: 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:

Total number of illicit discharges removed:

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

The Jackson Avenue illicit, Pearl Street illicit, and 16 York Avenue illicit are scheduled to be removed as part of the ongoing combined sewer system separation work in the area for CSO-032 and CSO-045. Additionally, an illicit located at 222 Blossom Street was identified in October 2024 and was repaired by the City in April 2025. The illicit discharges identified have been updated in the Illicit Connections Inventory Appendix.

Employee Training

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

Good Housekeeping and IDDE Training video was recorded December 2020 and then distributed accordingly. The City utilizes the services of a consultant to complete IDDE investigations. Consultant IDDE employee training was hosted on June 4, 2025. Two City of Fitchburg employees attended the consultant IDDE training session.

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

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:

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:

Green Infrastructure Report

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

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):

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.

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: 3,257

Number of catch basins cleaned: 3,210

Total volume or mass of material removed from all catch basins: 2,407.5 tons

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

Total number of catch basins: 3,848

If applicable:

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

Street Sweeping

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

☒ Number of miles cleaned: 288.6

☐ Volume of material removed: [Select Units]

☐ Weight of material removed: [Select Units]

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:

Paint cans left previously left outdoors were brought inside and either put on secondary containment or properly disposed of.

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.

During the current reporting period, through the ongoing combined sewer separation work, the City was able to fully separate CSO-010. Approximately 1,000 linear feet of sanitary sewer were separated as part of CSO-010. Separation work is ongoing in CSO-032, CSO-045, and CSO-083.

Year 8

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 8 requirements summarized below. (Note: impaired waters and TMDL requirements are not listed below)

Yes, I agree ☒

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 8 below:

Part V: Certification of Small MS4 Annual Report 2025

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:

Samantha M. Squailia

Title:

Mayor

Signature:



Date:

9.26.2025

[Signatory may be a duly authorized representative]