



*Oficina del Alcalde*  
*José M. Rodríguez Estrada*  
*Vice-Alcalde*

*Estado Libre Asociado de Puerto Rico*  
*Gobierno Municipal*  
*de Canóvanas*  
*PO Box 1612*  
*Canóvanas, P.R. 00729-1612*  
*Tel (787) 876-2328, Ext: 224, 225, 226 y 230*  
*Fax: (787) 256-7269*

## 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 managed 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.”

Hon. José M. Rodríguez Estrada  
Deputy Mayor  
Municipality of Canóvanas

5-16-08  
Date



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**Notice of Intent**  
**Storm Water Management Program**  
**Municipality of Canóvanas**

- 1) The municipality is defined by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as an urbanized area based on the 2000 Census. The Municipality of Canóvanas operates a municipal separate storm sewer system located in an urbanized area of the municipality. Canóvanas is located in the Northeast region of Puerto Rico.
- 2) Operator General Information:  
**Name:** Municipality of Canóvanas, Puerto Rico  
**Representative:** Hon. José R. Soto Rivera, Mayor  
**Mailing Address:** P.O. Box 1612 Canóvanas, Puerto Rico 00729  
**Location of representative's office:** City Hall located at Munoz Rivera Street of Downtown Canóvanas.  
**Telephone numbers:** (787) 876-5100 extension 226 and 224.  
**Bordering Municipalities:** To the North it is limited by the municipality of Loíza, to the East it adjoins the municipality of Río Grande, to the South it borders the municipalities of Las Piedras and Juncos, and to the West it adjoins the municipality of Carolina.
- 3) The SIC Code established by the federal Office of Management and Budget for public administration for local government activities is 9199.
- 4) The Municipality of Canóvanas is a local government public entity. The person responsible for the preparation of this document is:  
**Name:** Lydia E. Perez Plaza, Planning and Development Office Director.  
**Mailing Address:** P.O. Box 1612 Canóvanas, Puerto Rico 00729  
**Telephone numbers:** (787) 256-6878, 876-2328 extension 266.
- 5) The municipality does not own or operate a waste water treatment unit or a potable water plant; therefore has not NPDES Permit. The lists of permits or construction approvals in the municipal territory have been requested from specific federal and state agencies. We are waiting response from the following agencies: Environmental Quality Board, Natural Resources and Environmental Department. The Appendix A includes copies of the letters requesting information on granted permits.
- 6) The municipality's storm water sewer system map is being developed, as well as the municipality Stormwater Management Program implementation has commenced, at this moment. In the Appendix B of this document we are including a map of the Municipality of Canóvanas.



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As a summary, the most important body of water in Canóvanas is the Río Grande de Loíza, the river with greatest discharge in Puerto Rico. This river flows in an almost straight line from the Southwest, until its waters reach the Atlantic Ocean. Its tributaries in the Municipality of Canóvanas include San Isidro Creek, Río Canovanillas and Río Canóvanas, which in turn is fed by the waters of Río Cubuy. All these rivers spring from the Western foothills of the Sierra de Luquillo. Most of the water that falls in the mountainous region of the municipality flows through these rivers and streams, until they merge with the Río Grande de Loíza.

The aquifers in the area are located essentially in the alluvial valleys of the rivers that flow in the coastal plain. The rocks in the Central Interior Mountains are not a significant source of groundwater, except for places in which wells have been dug in zones where faults and diaclosed or fractured rocks are found. In areas of low relief in the coastal plain of Canóvanas there are wetlands that serve as stormwater storage, and as sanctuaries for birds and other animal and plant species. Unfortunately, significant portions of these wetlands are being used for the construction of illegal housing which; being in a flood-prone area, enhance the risk of loss of life and property of their occupants.

- 7) The Municipality of Canóvanas is located in the Northeast region of Puerto Rico. It comprises an area of approximately 85.0 km<sup>2</sup> (32.3 mi<sup>2</sup>) and is part of the Metropolitan Region of Puerto Rico, as defined by the Planning Board of the Government of Puerto Rico. The territory of Canóvanas extends from the Northern coast of Puerto Rico to the foothills in the Northern face of the Cordillera Central. Canóvanas shares with the municipalities of Luquillo, Río Grande, Juncos, Naguabo, Las Piedras, Ceiba and Fajardo an area of environmental and scenic interest which includes the Caribbean National Forest (El Yunque). This is the only forest in Puerto Rico under the administration of the U.S. Forest Service. Due to its ease of access and singular vegetation it has been the focus of many scientific research projects. The wards that comprise the Municipality of Canóvanas are Torrecilla Alta, Lomas, Hato Puerco, Cubuy, Canóvanas, and Barrio Pueblo.

The main transportation route that connects the Municipality of Canóvanas to the Metropolitan Area of San Juan towards the West, and to towns located in the Eastern part of the Island, is road PR-3 and Route 66. The secondary roads PR-188, to the East of the town's center, which connects with the San Isidro community and the industrial park; and PR-185, which leads to the

communities of Campo Rico, Las 400 and Cubuy. Road PR-186, in the Southern portion of the municipal territory, connects with barrio Lomas and Cubuy. Road PR-9959 is the main street, and the main access to Barrio Pueblo and Palmer Street, and it is crossed by a network of traditional two lane streets. The rest of the municipality is served by many tertiary roads which include PR-874, PR-907, PR-951, PR-953, PR-954, PR-957, PR-962, PR-9959 and PR-9948; as well as vicinal roads cover the territory from North to South.



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In terms of drinking water, the Municipality of Canóvanas has distribution lines connected to the Aqueducts and Sewers Authority system throughout most of its territory. The urban areas of Barrios Pueblo and Canóvanas are connected to the Authority's sewers system. The municipality also has a water filtration plant in the central portion of Barrio Canóvanas, a pumping station in Barrio Torrecilla Alta, and two water tanks in Barrio

Hato Puerco. Most water supply wells are located in barrios Canóvanas and Pueblo. Another two are located in the central portion of Barrio Hato Puerco and to the East of Barrio Lomas.

The Municipality of Canóvanas experienced a marked increase in birth rate from 1980 to 2000. According to the most recent census (Census 2000), the total population of Canóvanas was 43,335, which corresponds to a population density of 595 inhabitants per square mile.

| POPULATION OF CANÓVANAS<br>(Census 2000) |            |          |
|--|------------|----------|
| Year                                     | Population | % change |
| 1980                                     | 31,880     | ---      |
| 1000                                     | 36,816     | 15.5%    |
| 2000                                     | 43,335     | 17.7%    |

- 8) The Municipality of Canóvanas territorial extension is approximately 32 square miles (estimate).
- 9 & 10) The descriptions of the best management practices to be implemented for each of the six storm water minimum control measures and the measurable goals for each BMP, with the months and years in which the action will be taken, including milestones and the frequency of the action are explained in detail as part of the SWMP implementation (See Attachment).
- 11) The person responsible for coordinating the Municipality of Canóvanas Storm Water Management Program is:

**Name:** Lydia E. Pérez Plaza, Planning and Development Office Director  
**Mailing Address:** P.O. Box 1612 Canóvanas, Puerto Rico 00729  
**Telephone numbers:** (787) 876-2328 extension 266, Fax (787) 256-1455