

FACT SHEET
WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PROPOSED RE-ISSUANCE OF PERMIT FOR THE CITY OF OAK CREEK
MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEM (MS4)
WPDES Permit No. WI-S049905-2
February 22, 2006

Purpose

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (the Department) is proposing to re-issue the Wisconsin Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (WPDES) permit for discharges of storm water to waters of the state from the City of Oak Creek municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4). This permit requires the City of Oak Creek to implement storm water management practices to reduce pollutants that are discharged from the City of Oak Creek's MS4 to waters of the state. Waters of the state includes surface waters, groundwater and wetlands.

Background

On August 2, 1996, the City of Oak Creek was designated by the Department to obtain a municipal storm water discharge permit. The City was issued WPDES permit No. WI-SO49905-1 on July 1, 2000. This permit expired on June 30, 2005.

On December 20, 2004, the City of Oak Creek submitted an application to the Department for re-issuance of the municipal storm water discharge permit. WPDES permit No. WI-SO49905-2 is the proposed re-issued permit.

Applicability

This permit covers all areas within the jurisdiction of the City of Oak Creek contributing to the municipal separate storm sewer system. This permit authorizes storm water point source discharges to waters of the state in the Oak Creek, Root River and Lake Michigan watersheds from the municipal separate storm sewer system in the permitted area.

Compliance with water quality standards will not be determined by numeric effluent limits. Rather, compliance will be addressed by adherence to narrative-type storm water discharge limitations and implementation of storm water management programs and practices. This approach recognizes the highly variable nature of storm water discharges and the difficulty associated with the measurement of storm water discharges at numerous outfall locations with the precision necessary to establish effluent limits and monitor compliance.

Permit Conditions

The permit conditions include the following general categories:

- Public Education and Outreach
- Public Involvement and Participation
- Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination
- Construction Site Pollutant Control

- Post-Construction Storm Water Management
- Pollution Prevention
- Storm Water Quality Management
- Impaired Water Body & Total Maximum Daily Load
- Storm Sewer System Map
- Annual Report

Due to the fact that this is a re-issued permit, most of the permit conditions are essentially implementation of programs and procedures that were developed and approved during the initial permit period. Notable exceptions are the “Storm Water Quality Management” and “Impaired Water Bodies & Total Maximum Daily Loads” permit conditions:

- This permit requires compliance with the developed urban area performance standards of s. NR 151.13(2), Wis. Adm. Code. Specifically, the City of Oak Creek must implement storm water management practices necessary to achieve a 20% reduction in the average annual total suspended solids load discharged to waters of the state by March 10, 2008. Compliance with this permit condition will be determined using WinSLAMM. WinSLAMM is a computer model developed to calculate storm water pollutant concentrations and loadings from storm water outfalls in urban areas.
- The City of Oak Creek’s MS4 discharges to Oak Creek, which has been identified as an impaired water body. As such, the City of Oak Creek is required to implement management practices and control measures that will control the discharge of the pollutant(s) of concern that is causing the impairment of the Oak Creek. However, Oak Creek is a somewhat unique impaired water body because a pollutant(s) of concern has not been determined at this time. However, it is known that the source of the impairment of Oak Creek is spills that have discharged toxic substances to the Creek in the past. Although the City of Oak Creek’s MS4 was not the source of these spills, it is understood that the City of Oak Creek’s MS4 is a potential source of future spills to Oak Creek from illicit discharges. Thus, this permit requires the City to identify and implement specific illicit discharge monitoring, control and education measures that will be used in the Oak Creek watershed.
- Although the Department has not determined a pollutant(s) of concern or developed a total maximum daily load (TMDL) allotment for Oak Creek, this permit does specify that the City of Oak Creek must address these requirements if established before the permit expires.

For Further Information

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