2025 MS4 STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (SWMP) PLAN

IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE EASTERN WASHINGTON PHASE II MUNICIPAL STORMWATER PERMIT

City of Spokane Valley
Public Works Department
Stormwater Utility

March 2025

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Document Purpose

The city's Stormwater Management Program (SWMP) Plan is a set of actions and activities the City of Spokane Valley takes to meet the requirements under the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Eastern Washington Phase II Municipal Stormwater Permit (Permit). The SWMP plan specifically lists the requirements under section S5 of the Permit and how the City has and will continue to meet the requirements through its actions and goals. The 6 program elements under section S5 are:

1. Public Education and Outreach
2. Public Involvement and Participation
3. Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination
4. Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control
5. Post-Construction Stormwater Management for New Development and Redevelopment
6. Municipal Operations and Maintenance

The SWMP Plan is updated annually by city Stormwater Utility (Utility) staff, with input from the public and management for various activities and projects that the Utility performs.

The current year plan and other related documents are available on the city's Stormwater website: http://www.spokanevalley.org/stormwater

The City of Spokane Valley is required to comply with State and Federal stormwater regulations related to the Safe Drinking Water Act and the Clean Water Act to improve and protect water quality.

Surface Water Protection, Clean Water Act

- In 1972, Congress enacted the Clean Water Act (CWA) and charged the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) with restoring the nation's waters to fishable and swimmable conditions. Under the CWA, point source discharges, or pollution released at a specific point, to the nation's waters require National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits. In 1987, Congress broadened the CWA definition of "point source" to include municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s).
- The 1987 expansion of the CWA was promulgated in two phases; the City of Spokane Valley fell under the second phase and is regulated by the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) on behalf of the EPA. On January 17, 2007, Ecology issued to the City the "Eastern Washington Phase II Municipal Stormwater Permit". The Permit requires the City to address the quality of its stormwater discharged through the outfalls the City owns to surface waters of the State.
- Seventeen other cities and six counties in eastern Washington are also covered under the Permit.
- Permits are issued every 5 years. The first Permit term became effective February 16, 2007, and expired July 31, 2014. The second Permit term became effective August 1, 2014, and expired July 31, 2019. The third Permit term became effective August 1, 2019, and expired July 31, 2024. City operations are currently authorized under the fourth Permit term that became effective August 1, 2024, and expires July 31, 2029.
- The first Permit term was designed to give jurisdictions an opportunity to develop their SWMPs and prepare for the subsequent terms which require additional actions and an increased level of management and oversight. Since inception, the City has been developing its SWMP in accordance with the requirements of the Permits, including adoption of new ordinances, policies and procedures, contractor specifications, purchasing equipment, and staff training.

The current Permit can be viewed in its entirety on Ecology's website below.

https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/Permits-certifications/Stormwater-general-permits/Municipal-stormwater-general-permits/Eastern-Washington-Phase-II-Municipal-Stormwat-(1)

Drinking Water Protection, Safe Drinking Water Act

- Congress enacted the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) in 1974 to protect public health by regulating the nation's drinking water supply through the EPA. Under the SDWA, the EPA designated the Spokane Valley-Rathdrum Prairie as one of the nation's first Sole Source Aquifers.
- The SDWA established the Underground Injection Control (UIC) Program to safeguard underground sources of drinking water. The EPA delegated UIC authority in 1984 to Ecology.
- Most of the city's streets discharge runoff through drywells, which are underground drain fields considered by Ecology to be UICs, therefore most all the City of Spokane Valley falls under regulations administered by Ecology's UIC program WAC 173-218.

- According to WAC 173-218-070, all owners (both public and private) of UIC wells are required to register their well(s) with Ecology, which includes the requirement to implement best management practices (BMPs) to protect groundwater quality.
- The City has managed its UIC SWMP since its incorporation in 2003. Application of the current program has allowed the City to receive rule-authorization for all registered new and existing UICs. In 2020-2021, the City developed a UIC SWMP plan to represent the program. The latest version of the city's UIC SWMP can be found on the city's Stormwater website: http://www.spokanevalley.org/stormwater

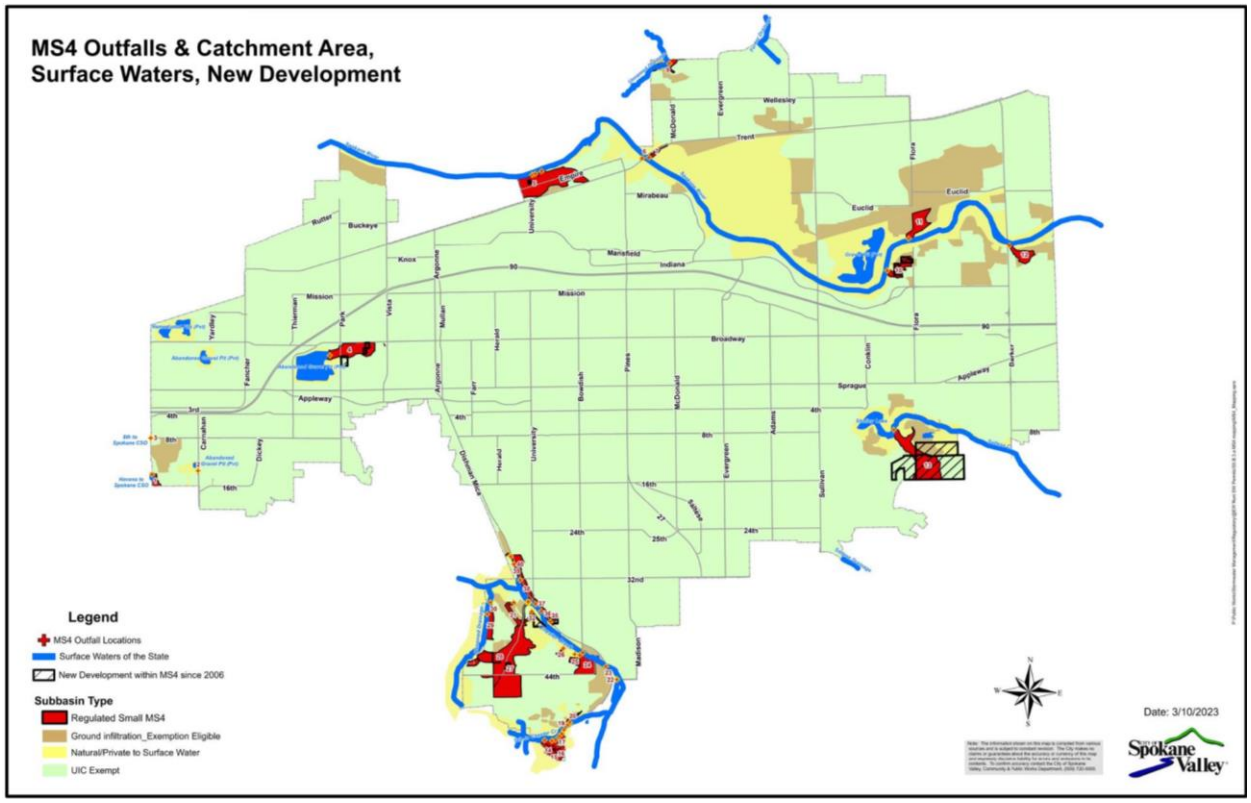
Water Quality

Stormwater runoff is rainfall or snow melt that flows over the ground surface. It is created when rain falls on roads, driveways, parking lots, rooftops and other paved surfaces that do not allow water to soak into the ground. As it runs off these surfaces, pollutants like heavy metals, oils, fertilizers, and pesticides are collected. These pollutants are harmful to our environment, particularly waters such as the Spokane River or Spokane Valley-Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer.

According to Ecology, stormwater runoff is the leading threat to Washington's urban waters, streambeds, banks, and habitats. Keeping Waters of the State clean and protected from runoff that could be carrying pollutants is very important, which is why the City engages in and updates its annual SWMP Plan.

Because of the relatively unique geologic conditions within city limits, approximately 98.5% of the city's stormwater infiltrates into the ground, is taken up by plants, or is discharged by UICs. The city's UIC SWMP Plan manages these areas where city infrastructure infiltrates into the ground and does not have the potential to outfall to surface waters.

This SWMP applies to the stormwater facilities classified by the EPA as municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s), which covers approximately 1.5% of the City. This area was modeled to identify which areas of the City drain to surface waters of the state during the 100-year rain event (shown in Figure 1). Even though this SWMP covers a small percentage of the city's geographic area, the many actions and goals are applied city-wide and overlap with program elements in the city's UIC SWMP.



City map of MS4 regulated areas and areas which do not drain to surface waters (UIC Exempt).

Establishment of Storm and Surface Water Utility

Stormwater management efforts have existed in the Spokane Valley area ever since the earliest settlers manipulated the landscape with the construction of irrigation canals, agricultural fields and roads. Continued development over the past century has added additional roads, neighborhoods, and commercial and industrial zones, infilling previous undeveloped areas. Alongside the natural development and added populations, a better understanding of the negative impacts of stormwater on natural waterbodies has pushed new legislation and laws to further protect surface and groundwaters. Since incorporation, the city's Stormwater Utility has existed with goals to:

- Protect the quality of the Spokane Valley-Rathdrum Prairie aquifer
- Protect the quality of local streams, lakes, rivers, and wetlands
- Mitigate flooding
- Reduce erosion from stormwater
- Protect and preserve public drainage infrastructure

To support the activities of the city's Storm and Surface Water Management Program and to track associated costs, the City Council formed a Storm and Surface Water Utility (Utility) and corresponding financial enterprise fund. The Utility was formed when the City incorporated on March 31, 2003. The Spokane Valley Municipal Code (SVMC) Chapter 3.80 outlines the establishment of the Utility. This provides a permanent tracking and financial planning mechanism as part of the city's overall budget development process.

Utility fees are collected based on the amount of impervious surface area on developed properties within the City. For 2025, residential units pay $61.00/year and commercial properties are charged $61.00 per 3,160 square feet of impervious surfacing on the property. See the stormwater website www.spokanevalley.org/stormwater for more information about the city's Stormwater Utility.

City Ordinances, Codes, and Adopted Standards

The City enacted ordinances and codes that address runoff pollution protection such as: illicit discharge detection and elimination (IDDE), runoff from construction sites, and post-construction stormwater management. The City adopted Stormwater Management Regulations which can be found in Chapter 22.150 of SVMC. The City also adopted the Spokane Regional Stormwater Manual (SRSM) which establishes the stormwater requirements for new development, redevelopment, maintenance, and capital projects. The City of Spokane Valley Street Standards and Plans (SVSS) also establish the minimum design and construction standards for all street related improvements that convey, collect, store, and treat stormwater runoff.

The enforcement of these regulations for private development is regulated through the permitting process, staff reviews & inspections, and through citizens reporting issues. When necessary, the City actively utilizes its Compliance and Enforcement rules that are found in Chapter 17.100 SVMC to assist in conformity with its stormwater regulations.

Stormwater Management Program (SWMP) Plan

General Program Administration (including S5.A. and S9)

The City of Spokane Valley has developed and implements this Stormwater Management Program (SWMP) as it pertains to regulated MS4 areas. The SWMP Plan is a set of actions and activities comprising the components listed in S5 of the Permit. The 2025 actions and activities will include:

2025 Continued Actions and Activities

- Complete the 2025 SWMP Plan by March 31.
- Implement the SWMP to reduce the discharge of pollutants from the regulated small MS4 to satisfy Water Pollution Control per RCW 90.48.
- Continue ongoing program of gathering, tracking, maintaining, and using information to evaluate SWMP.
- Continue internal coordination mechanisms to assure compliance with Permit requirements.
- Coordinate with Ecology on Permit implementation.
- Coordinate with other permittees through participation in the Eastern Washington Stormwater Group.

Program Goals For 2025

- Continue the implementation schedule for the 2024-2029 Eastern Washington Phase II NPDES Permit for new and continued Permit requirements.
- Develop additional coordination mechanisms and efforts with other jurisdictions where MS4s are interconnected.
- Update the MS4 SWMP to better measure and define each area of the program to see what is needed for continuous improvement, which may include increases or decreases in service levels.

Public Education and Outreach (S5.B.1.)

The City of Spokane Valley implements a public education and outreach program to educate the community and priority audiences about the impacts of stormwater discharge to surface waters and the steps to take to reduce pollutants to stormwater.

The City has a variety of education and outreach efforts targeted at general public, businesses, engineers, construction contractors, developers, and planners. These efforts resulted in thousands of people hearing and learning about the effects of stormwater and the water bodies around us.

General Public

General public efforts include, but are not limited to, participation by the city's Stormwater Utility, Spokane County Water Resources, and the Spokane Aquifer Joint Board. Activities include community events, meetings and education, billboards, city media releases, websites, citizen inquiries, and construction project neighborhood meetings.

Through Aquifer Protection Area (APA) funds, the City supports the Spokane County Water Resources education program which reaches out to hundreds of school age children and teachers in Spokane Valley. This includes field trips to their Water Resources Learning Center, the Doris Morrison Learning Center at Saltese Wetlands, and visits to Central Valley School District classrooms. Full time water resource educators teach a wide range of students about the water cycle both in the watershed and in our engineered environment, and how humans use and impact this system. Students learn about locally relevant water education and promote stewardship of water quality and quantity. Not only are classes educational, but educators provide a fun and memorable experience for students.

Pictured: Students at the Doris Morrison Learning Center learn about "Freddy the fish" and how different stormwater pollutants impact his ecosystem.

Businesses

Spokane Valley Stormwater Utility and Spokane Regional Heath District visit local business to provide applicable information regarding prevention of illicit discharges, proper management of waste disposal,

and the use and storage of chemicals. Activities include Local Source Control visits and fats, oils, and grease outreach.

Engineers, Contractors, Developers, and Planners

City staff educates property owners, developers, engineers, and contractors on requirements of the SRSM, communicates upcoming training events, notifies applicants of the need to obtain Washington State Construction Stormwater General Permits, and notifies applicants of the 60-day registration requirement for new Underground Injection Control (UIC) drywells.

Pictured: Stormwater Management Requirements Overview Brochure for Engineers, Development Review Staff, and Land Use Planners and Municipal Stormwater Management Overview Booklet for Construction Contractors.

In partnership with the Washington Stormwater Center, the City worked to develop two educational documents targeted for two groups:

1. Engineers, development review staff, land use planners and
2. Construction contractors.

These template documents were tailored specifically to Spokane Valley and are distributed during preconstruction meetings and as requested by the city's construction inspector and posted on the city's stormwater webpage.

2025 Continued Actions and Activities

- Partner with multi-jurisdictional agencies to educate the public about the importance of water quality protection and the impacts of stormwater discharge and the steps that can be taken to reduce pollutants in stormwater. These agencies may include:
    - Spokane County Water Resources
    - Spokane Regional Health District
    - Spokane Aquifer Joint Board (SAJB)
    - Idaho Washington Aquifer Collaborative (IWAC)
    - EnviroCertified Steering Committee
- Post quarterly education stormwater information though the city's ENewsletter to reach the general public and businesses. Postings will include information on topics such as:
    - The importance of water quality protection
    - Potential impacts from stormwater discharges
    - methods to avoid, reduce and/or eliminate adverse impacts of stormwater discharges
    - Proper management of waste disposal
    - Use and storage of chemicals
    - Actions the public/businesses can take to improve water quality

Public Education and Outreach Goals For 2025

- Update educational resources available on the city's stormwater webpage.

- Continue developing a more coordinated plan between the Utility and Spokane Regional Health District to provide education and outreach to targeted businesses best management practices, proper management of waste disposal and source control to prevent illicit discharges to surface water.
- Partner with Spokane County and City of Spokane in the Spokane Regional Grass Roots Stormwater Stewardship Campaign, a multi-media public education and outreach campaign.

Public Involvement and Participation (S5.B.2.)

The City of Spokane Valley provides for ongoing public involvement and participation through several documented opportunities.

2025 Continued Actions and Activities

- Coordinate internally with public communications staff to improve the city's efforts to allow the public to provide feedback on the SWMP and the city's Stormwater Utility operations.
- Post 2025 SWMP Plan on the city's stormwater website by May 31.
- Post Phase ll Municipal Stormwater Permit Annual Report on website by May 31.
- As needed, prepare for and attend City Council meetings.
- As needed, prepare for and attend planning commission meetings.
- Coordinate with city staff regarding regulatory requirements.
- Communicate with the public and response to citizen complaints regarding city's stormwater programs.
- Keep records of public communication and response to citizen complaints in QAlert.
- Respond to public records requests.
- Respond to public inquiries regarding the city's stormwater program.

Public Involvement and Participation Goals For 2025

- Include public involvement and participation efforts in the development of a stormwater outreach plan to improve ways to involve the public in the development, implementation, and update of the SWMP.
- Coordinate with the City of Spokane and Spokane County on coordinated outreach to overburdened communities across the 3 jurisdictions.

Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (S5.B.3.)

IDDE Program Plan

The City operates an IDDE Program Plan which documents how the City works to prevent, detect, characterize, trace, and eliminate illicit discharges and connections to the city stormwater systems. Program goals are to:

1. Meet regulatory requirements.
2. Identify, prevent, or stop actual and potential ID/ICs from harming local surface and groundwaters.
3. Document procedures for responding to hazardous/emergency and non-hazardous/ emergency spills within city limits.
4. Educate the public on the state laws and local codes for allowable, conditionally allowable, and prohibited discharges into stormwater and natural waterbody systems.
5. Utilize enforcement procedures to cause behavioral change or, if necessary, abate and remediate water quality threats to city-owned stormwater systems.
6. Notify other authoritative agencies of IDDE cases they are responsible for regulating.

The plan can be found in the Resources list at https://www.spokanevalleywa.gov/325. Included in the plan are field screening and source tracing methodologies that staff take when dealing with potential or actual illicit discharges or connections. It also includes an illicit discharge or connection response plan which guides staff through proper steps to take when an illicit discharge or connection is found, including timelines, location variables, how to identify the polluter, enforcement actions, and reporting and recordkeeping requirements. See Appendix A for the IDDE Screening, Tracing, and Response Plan.

Spill Response

The IDDE Program Plan also includes procedures on spill response. Spills are unplanned releases of materials and are the most common illicit discharge in Spokane Valley. Spill events can widely vary depending on the severity of the situation. Quantity, type, location, and the possible/actual threat to health and/or the environment will all drive the response for containment and clean up. See Appendix B for the Stormwater Spill Response Plan.

The City has generalized spills into two categories: Emergency/hazardous spills and non-emergency/non-hazardous spills.

Emergency Spills

Emergency spills are situations where a spill is involved in an emergency that involves fire, paramedic, police, or other first responders where there are human safety concerns. Typical emergency spills deal with vehicle collisions or firefighting incidents. Just as emergency situations vary in severity, so also are the severity of emergency spills.

Hazardous Spills

Hazardous spills can also be emergency spills but involve spills that are large quantities of hazardous or dangerous materials and can be an actual or potential threat to human health, safety, or the environment.

Non-Emergency or Non-Hazardous Spills

Non-emergency or non-hazardous spills are real or potential illicit discharges to stormwater systems or waters of the state that do not pose an immediate threat to human health, welfare, or the environment. The City has set a threshold of less than 30 gallons spilled to be considered non-emergency or non-hazardous. The City typically handles these spills either with stormwater staff, city maintenance staff, or contracted companies with the City for vactor, cleaning, and disposal.

City Response and Clean Up

The City has both interest and responsibility for the response and clean-up of spills on city property, city right of way, and to city owned/maintained stormwater systems. If a spill is on private property or within another's jurisdiction (such as WSDOT) and has no potential to impact city responsible areas, then the City is not the authoritative agency to respond and clean up the spill. In the case a spill is on private property, the City will contact the Department of Ecology to be the lead agency for spill response clean up. The City will also contact other agencies depending on the situation. This may include the Spokane Valley Fire District, Spokane County Emergency Management, or EPA National Response Center. Stormwater staff provides Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination incident-specific information through the Department of Ecology WQwebIDDE Incident Reporting portal.

Pictured: Fuel Spill on Broadway Avenue Contained by Spokane Valley fire Department.

Mapping Requirements

The City maintains a map of its stormwater system and all elements required by the NPDES permit under S5.B.3.a-vii. These mapping layers include:

- Known outfalls and known discharge points including each size and material, where known.
- Receiving waters, other than ground.
- Areas served by the MS4 that discharge to ground.
- Permanent stormwater facilities owned or operated by the Permittee.
- All connections to the MS4 authorized or approved by the Permittee after August 1, 2019
- All known connections from the MS4 to a privately owned stormwater system.
- Connections between the MS4 owned and operated by the Permittee and other municipalities or public entities.

These layers are crucial to not only asset management, but in tracing illicit discharges or connections. The City annually updates mapping as new public and private infrastructure is constructed, abandoned, or existing structures are discovered through field inspections and in-office mapping exercises.

City stormwater structures can be viewed using the Spokane Valley Viewer online mapping application here: https://www.spokanevalleywa.gov/267. Other mapping layers are available upon request.

IDDE Training

All city staff who might encounter or observe an illicit discharge go through IDDE training annually. IDDE training outlines the characteristics of and illicit discharge/connection, what is and what is not an allowable discharge, and the proper reporting procedures for each situation. Training materials are updated on an as-need basis.

2025 Continued Actions and Activities

- Document through the WQwebIDDE portal all responses to illicit discharge and connection.
- Investigate potential illicit discharges through facility inspections, outfall inspections, storm drain cleaning program, and through public involvement.
- Screen for potential illicit discharges through field assessment of known outfalls.
- Continue training city staff in illicit discharge detection and elimination.
- As necessary, apply enforcement strategies per Chapter 17.100 SVMC.
- Provide education and outreach information about IDDE via city-wide email list, website, and social media platforms.
- Execute procedures for response, investigation, tracing, notification, providing technical assistance, and follow up inspections per illicit discharge response plan and spill plans.

Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Goals For 2025

- Share the mapping layers via a webmap posted on the city's stormwater web page.
- Coordinate with the Spokane Regional Health District to provide education and outreach to targeted businesses regarding illicit discharge to MS4.
- Assess current training programs and update if needed.
- Assess current field screening procedures to identify IDDE potential sources and update if needed.

Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control (S5.B.4.)

The City of Spokane Valley implements and enforces a program to reduce pollutants in any stormwater runoff to the MS4 from construction activities that disturb one acre or more and from construction projects of less than one acre that are part of a larger common plan of development or sale. The requirements of this program apply to both public and private projects.

2025 Continued Actions and Activities

- Require erosion and sediment controls at new development and redevelopment projects per the requirements of Chapters 22.130, 22.150, and 24.50 of SVMC, SVSS Chapter 4.9, and the SRSM.
- Adhere to Chapter 22.150 SVMC, Chapter 24.50 SVMC and the SRSM to comply with erosion and sediment control requirements.
- Require qualified Certified Erosion Sediment Control Lead trained (CESCL) personnel conduct the inspections of construction phase best management practices on properties that meet the regulatory threshold that discharge to the MS4.
- Review private development site plan as part of the permitting process for potential water quality impacts per Chapter 22.150 SVMC, SVSS Chapter 4.8 and SRMS Chapter 9.
- Provide information of available training through the permitting application process and the Utility website.
- Retain inspection records for private development, building permits and capital improvement projects.

Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control Goals For 2025

- Assess current training programs and update if needed.

Post-Construction Stormwater Management (S5.B.5.)

The City of Spokane Valley implements and enforces a program to address post-construction stormwater runoff to the MS4 from new development and redevelopment projects, that disturb one acre or more. Both public and private projects shall be included in this program.

2025 Continued Actions and Activities

- Ensure that private projects incorporate best management practices that protect water quality, provide flow control, and provide source control per Chapter 22.150 SVMC, the SRSM, and SVSS Chapter 4.
- Implement best management practices that protect water quality and prevent impact with capital improvement projects to per Chapter 22.150 SVMC, the SRSM and SVSS Chapter 4.
- Inspect post-construction stormwater control on private projects per Chapter 22.150.060 SVMC and the private development Permit requirements.
- Comply with post-construction stormwater control requirements on public projects through inspection by following procedures in the city's operation and maintenance plan.
- Continue to adhere to Chapter 22.150.040 SVMC and the basic requirements of the SRSM to meet requirements of Appendix 1 of the Permit.
- Continue to preserve the natural locations of drainage systems per Section 8.3.4 of the SRSM.
- When feasible, allow low impact development in accordance with Chapters 2 and 6 of the SRSM.
- Ensure proper implementation, operation and maintenance, and inspection of water quality, flow control and source control BMPs through SVMC 22.150 and the SRSM.
- When necessary, apply enforcement strategies per Chapter 17.100 SVMC.
- Review private development site plans to ensure they meet the regulatory threshold per Chapter 22.150 SVMC and the SRSM.
- Implement procedures for inspection of post construction per Chapter 22.150.090 SVMC and SVSS Chapter 9.
- Provide training information to design professionals and city staff through process and procedural references to the SRSM.
- Maintain records of projects disturbing one acre or more.

Post-Construction Stormwater Management Goals For 2025

- Review GIS data for stormwater facilities and update as needed.

Municipal Operations and Maintenance (S5.B.6.)

The City of Spokane Valley implements an operation and maintenance program for its regulated MS4 areas to prevent or reduce pollutant runoff from municipal operations into surface waters of the state. For those areas within city limits that are outside the regulated MS4 areas, the City implements a separate UIC O&M plan to ensure compliance with other state regulations.

2025 Continued Actions and Activities

- Execute the city's Stormwater Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Plan.
- Develop long term plan to manage maturing infrastructure.
- Perform, evaluate and modify as necessary the inspection cycles of city treatment and flow control facilities and catch basins.
- As needed, check city stormwater treatment and flow control facilities after major storm events (10-yr, 24-hr storm event or larger).
- Perform routine and preventative maintenance on city stormwater facilities.

Municipal Operations and Maintenance Goals For 2025

- Procure and implement asset management software for stormwater O&M activities.

Compliance with TMDLs (S7)

In 2011, Utility staff applied for and received $250,000 in grant funding to eliminate the last of the city's stormwater outfalls to the Spokane River. In 2015, the final outfalls from city-owned roadways that discharged into the Spokane River were eliminated and a new stormwater system conveyed the storm sewer to new bio-infiltration swales. This project ensured that the City would not be included in current and future TMDL regulation discussions or allocations. It is estimated that this one project saved the City $50,000 a year in continued fees and staff time attending meetings regarding Dissolved Oxygen, Phosphorous, Heavy Metals, and PCB's as well as handling additional reporting requirements in the Permit.

Monitoring and Assessment (S8)

Monitoring and assessment has been replaced with continued involvement and implementation of effectiveness studies. Eight Ecology-approved studies were selected pursuant to requirement S8.B in the Eastern Washington Phase ll Municipal Stormwater Permit (2014-2019). A number of these studies are completed while others are in the final stages of development. The City of Spokane Valley participated in four of these effectiveness studies.

Two studies were completed in 2020:

1. Mobile Contractor E&O (Wenatchee) – Role as reviewer.
2. Street Cleaning and Catch Basin Cleaning (Ellensburg). Role as TAG member and reviewer.

One study was completed in 2021:

1. Bioretention Soil Media (Spokane County). Role as TAG member and reviewer.

One study was completed in 2022:

1. Drain Rangers Elementary School Children Program (Kennewick). Role as reviewer.

Effectiveness study requirements are also associated with the 2025-2029 Permit. The City of Spokane Valley has partnered with the City of Spokane, Spokane County and Evergreen StormH2O consultants to meet these requirements. A non-vegetated bioretention soil mix will be studied for effectiveness of treatment and seasonal variability of treatment. A brief description of this study was submitted to Ecology on June 28th, 2021. A Detailed Study Design Proposal was submitted to Ecology on September 29th, 2022. The study will be cooperatively performed and funded by the City of Spokane, City of Spokane Valley, and Spokane County. The study will be implemented through Evergreen StormH2O consultants. Costs will be split equally among permittees. The City of Spokane will serve as the lead entity, while the City of Spokane Valley and Spokane County will be contributing entities.

2025 Continued Actions and Activities

- Continue participation for the 2019-2024 Bioretention Soil Media effectiveness study. The Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) is set to be approved in the first Quarter of 2025. The project will consist mainly of data collection under the Technology Assessment Protocol (TAPE) program in 2025. Data will then be used for the effectiveness study after the TAPE is approved.

Monitoring and Assessment Goals For 2025

- Continue participation for the 2019-2024 Bioretention Soil Media effectiveness study.

Financial

This section deals with how the Stormwater Utility is paid for and annual budgeting.

Need Based

When the City incorporated in 2003, the initial revenue request was based on projected program needs. At that time, the new Utility faced several unknowns including:

- new water quality regulations
- newly incorporated city
- an incomplete drainage structure inventory
- an unknown maintenance backlog

Since incorporation, Utility staff has responded to immediate needs, while closing the knowledge gap about regulations, system inventory, and maintenance backlog.

Enterprise Funds

The Stormwater Utility receives revenues from two local funds to accomplish its work, as well as grant funding from state and Federal agencies for specific projects and activities.

The Stormwater Utility rates for 2025 generate approximately $6.35 million. The 2025 rate is the equivalent of $61/year for a single-family residence and commercial properties paying a commensurate rate based on the amount of impervious surface on the parcel (1 Equivalent Residential Unit equal to 3,160 square feet of impervious surface area). Rates apply to both private and publicly owned properties. Rates are collected with the County Property Tax & Fee bill. The fee calculation is explained further under the “Stormwater Utility Fee Calculation” tab on the Stormwater webpage: http://www.spokanevalley.org/stormwater

The Aquifer Protection Area fee is a voter-approved fee used to provide water quality and quantity programs and projects, including but not limited to, water monitoring, project improvements, planning studies, and educational partnerships throughout the region. In Spokane Valley, the APA generates approximately $700,000 in annual revenue. The current rate is $1.25 per month for each water service within the City and $1.25 per month for each sewer service within the City. The fee is set to sunset in 2025 and requires a public vote for continuation in 2026. For more information, see Spokane County’s Aquifer Protection Area webpage: https://www.spokanecounty.org/1530/Aquifer-Protection-Area

2025 Budget

The annual budget for the Utility is adopted as part of the annual city budget. The budget process for the Utility starts in Spring of the year prior, with staff proposing requests based on the needs of individual areas discussed in this Plan. The draft plan of the SWMP for the following year starts at this point.

To review the current 2025 Stormwater Utility budget, see the following site: https://www.spokanevalleywa.gov/DocumentCenter/View/3096/Adopted-2025-Budget-Book

Financial Goals for 2025

- Continue coordination with the city Finance Department regarding expenditures for the SWMP.

Contacts

Questions about the city of Spokane Valley's SWMP can be directed to:

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