

**Year 5 Annual Report**  
**Massachusetts Small MS4 General Permit**  
**Reporting Period: July 1, 2022-June 30, 2023**

*\*\*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, 2022 and June 30, 2023 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)

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.

### 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 2 as necessary

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:

Annual training was provided on August 28, 2023.

## **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:

Pamphlets for septic maintenance were handed out to new owners upon issuance of permit.

## **Nitrogen** (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) that encourages the proper use and disposal of grass clippings and encourages the proper use of slow-release 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***

Completed the evaluation of all permittee owned properties identified as presenting retrofit

opportunities or areas for structural BMP installation under permit part 2.3.6.d or identified in the Nitrogen Source Identification Report, including: *(select the items of the evaluation that have been completed below)*

Next planned infrastructure, resurfacing, or redevelopment activity planned for the property  
(if applicable) OR planned retrofit date

Estimated cost of redevelopment or retrofit BMPs

Engineering and regulatory feasibility of redevelopment or retrofit BMPs

Completed a listing of planned structural BMPs and a plan and schedule for implementation

The BMP list and implementation schedule is attached to the email submission

The BMP list and implementation schedule can be found at the following publicly available website:

Any structural BMPs listed in Table 3 of Attachment 1 to Appendix F already existing or installed in the regulated area by the permittee or its agents was tracked and the nitrogen removal by the BMP was

estimated consistent with Attachment 1 to Appendix F. The BMP type, total area treated by the BMP, the design storage volume of the BMP, and the estimated nitrogen 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 nitrogen removed in lbs/year from the installed BMPs:  0

*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:

Stormwater BMP improvements are currently under design. DPW improvements have been designed and are currently in permitting. Funding for these improvements are being sought at the Spring 2024 Town meeting. BMP improvements at the Cedar Hill Golf Course are currently under design. BMPs at the elementary schools are being re-evaluated, as part of a Town-wide school re-districting study.

***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:

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*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 of Stoughton continued to improve its outfall inventory this year. Updates to the inventory were based on field observations during catchment investigation work. In total, 15 new outfalls were identified in the field and added to the outfall inventory and 11 outfalls were removed from the inventory. Outfalls removed from the inventory were either identified as being private, part of a different Town's collection system, or re-classified as a culverted stream. As such, with the new outfall count has been updated to 152 outfalls.

## 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:** 16

*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: Maintain Educational Website**

Message Description and Distribution Method:

Maintained a comprehensive educational website to servethe Neponset Stormwater Partnership service area as a primary resource for key information for all four target audiences.

Targeted Audience: Residents, Businesses, Industry and Developers

Responsible Department/Parties: Neponset River Watershed Association and the Town of Stoughton

Measurable Goal(s):

Achieve at least 500 unique site visits every year.

Message Date(s): Ongoing

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:

[Redacted]

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#### **BMP: Operate Stormwater Hotline**

Message Description and Distribution Method:

Operated a regional “stormwater hotline” to field questions and problem reports regarding stormwater from across the region. Reports were collected via a website form hosted at [yourcleanwater.org](http://yourcleanwater.org), via email submissions to [stormwater@neponset.org](mailto:stormwater@neponset.org), and phone calls to 781-575-0354 x 300. Responses to reports included answers to questions, additional information or follow up investigation, and/or referral of inquiries/ reports to the appropriate municipalities. Anonymity of inquiries was maintained as requested.

Targeted Audience: Residents, Businesses, Industry, and Developers

Responsible Department/Parties: Neponset River Watershed Association and the Town of Stoughton

Measurable Goal(s):

Provide immediate answers to inquiries generated by regionalized outreach activities.

Message Date(s): Ongoing

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:Distribute Pet Waste Information with Dog Licenses**

Message Description and Distribution Method:

Educational “rack cards” regarding proper pet waste disposal were printed and provided to town clerks’ offices in member towns to distribute with dog licenses, either in person or via mail. The number of rack cards distributed correlated to the number of dogs licensed per town to ensure all dog owners received the information. In towns where online renewal is available, online graphics that link to the pet waste page of the NSP website were provided.

Targeted Audience: Residents

Responsible Department/Parties: Neponset River Watershed Association and the Town of Stoughton

Measurable Goal(s):

Participation by 100% of Town Clerks to reach 80% of dog owners annually with pet waste management information. Over the 5-year permit period achieve a reduction in the number of pet waste bags found when cleaning catch basins in the member communities that track this information.

Message Date(s): November and December 2022

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:Summer Pet Waste Campaign**

Message Description and Distribution Method:

Prepared one paid Facebook/Instagram ad campaign about the proper disposal of pet waste. Additionally, the same messaging was shared as a social media post to the Neponset River Watershed Association’s social media accounts including Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. Neponset Stormwater Partnership member communities were asked to share/retweet it on their own social media accounts where available. Additionally, towns were tagged on their respective town accounts (where available) for ease in distribution. Below highlights the days posted, content, and reach. (Note that Twitter posts were shortened to meet character requirements.) The social media post read as follows on July 12, 2022: “Pet waste contains bacteria and parasites that get washed to the nearest waterway when it rains. Every time you walk your dog, please:

- carry a bag to pick up pet waste,
- dispose of waste in a trash can,
- never toss anything down a storm drain!

Learn more about keeping your local waterways clean at [yourcleanwater.org](http://yourcleanwater.org)"

The Town of Stoughton reshared the social media post on the Stoughton Recreation Department Facebook page. Additionally, the paid Facebook ad campaign reached 14,680 Stoughton residents.

Targeted Audience: Residents, Business, and Industry

Responsible Department/Parties: Neponset River Watershed Association and the Town of Stoughton

Measurable Goal(s):

Participation by 100% of NSP communities and reach at least 1,000 people in the NSP region through social media.

Message Date(s): July 5 through July 29, 2022.

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:Fall Leaf Waste Campaign**

Message Description and Distribution Method:

Prepared one paid Facebook/Instagram ad campaign about the proper disposal of leaf waste. Additional social media materials were posted to the Neponset River Watershed Association's social media accounts including Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. Neponset Stormwater Partnership member communities were asked to share/retweet it on their own social media accounts where available. Additionally, towns were tagged on their respective town accounts (where available) for ease of distribution. Below highlights the days posted, content, and reach. (Note that Twitter posts were shortened to meet character requirements.) The following social media messages were posted throughout the campaign period:

- The October 5, 2022, social media post reached 539 on Facebook, 837 on Twitter, and 79 on Instagram. The post read as follows:

“Cleaning out your catch basins of leaves and other debris can reduce flooding in your neighborhood and keep trash from entering our waterways.

For more tips on managing your yard waste visit: <https://yourcleanwater.org/yard-waste-disposal/>”

- The October 11, 2022 social media post reached 143 on Facebook, 198 on Twitter, and 86 on Instagram. The post read as follows:

“You've raked your leaves! Now what? Know how to properly dispose of yard waste in your town by following this link! Properly disposing of leaves can reduce water pollution and prevent flooding. <https://yourcleanwater.org/yard-waste-disposal/>”

- The October 17, 2022, social media post reached 534 on Facebook, 1,145 on Twitter, and 89 on Instagram. The post read as follows:

“Don't forget to add leaves to your compost! Composting with leaves contribute to healthy nutrient rich soil. Many composting companies have started servicing towns and cities within the watershed and do leaf pick-up

during the fall months! For more information on proper leaf and yard waste disposal visit: <https://yourcleanwater.org/yard-waste-disposal/> “

• The October 25, 2022 social media post reached 1,124 on Facebook, 1,123 on Twitter, and 148 on Instagram. The post read as follows:

“As leaves and grass clippings decay, they release nutrients that can cause harm to our waterways. If the decay happens in water, such as a slow-flowing stream, it also uses up oxygen in the water and suffocates organisms that need it. If you are concerned about improper leaf disposal in your neighborhood please feel free to report it anonymously to our Stormwater Hotline by either visiting <https://yourcleanwater.org/report/> or calling us at 781-575-0354 x 300”

The Town of Stoughton posted on a flyer on the Town’s Stormwater webpage. The paid Facebook/Instagram social media campaign reached 13,936 Stoughton residents.

Targeted Audience: Residents, Businesses, Industry

Responsible Department/Parties: Neponset River Watershed Association and the Town of Stoughton

Measurable Goal(s):

Participation by 100% of NSP communities and reach to at least 1,000 people in the NSP region through social media.

Message Date(s): October 2022

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:Spring Fertilizer and Grass Clipping Campaign**

Message Description and Distribution Method:

Prepared one paid Facebook/Instagram ad campaign directed at the proper disposal of leaf waste. Additional social media materials were posted to the Neponset River Watershed Association’s social media accounts including Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. Neponset Stormwater Partnership member communities were asked to share/retweet it on their own social media accounts where available. Additionally, towns were tagged on their respective town accounts (where available) for ease of distribution. Below highlights the days posted, content, and reach. (Note that Twitter posts were shortened to meet character requirements.) The social media post on April 10, 2023 reached 1,006 on Facebook, 467 on Twitter, and 205 on Instagram. The post read as follows:

“Please don’t ‘P’ on your lawn! We know better! Adding fertilizer with phosphorous (P) is illegal in Massachusetts without a soil test stating it is necessary. UMass Amherst offers convenient soil testing options. For more information regarding testing and application visit: <https://yourcleanwater.org/lawn/>”

A second post regarding fertilizer use was also shared across NepRWA’s social media platforms on April 20, 2023. Similarly with the intent that town’s had multiple options for sharing/retweeting. The fertilizer and lawn care section of the NSP website was included in the post. Below highlights the days posted, content, and reach. Please note that Twitter posts were shortened in order to meet character requirements, however the

content was similar to what is described below. The social media post reached 2,258 on Facebook, 955 on Twitter, and 195 on Instagram. The post read as follows:

“Be careful where you put your lawn fertilizer! Rain or irrigation runoff can wash fertilizer into ponds and streams - and harm fish and wildlife, cause smelly algae blooms, and affect our drinking water. Learn more about how to protect our waterways at: <https://yourcleanwater.org/lawn/>”

The Town of Stoughton shared the social media post from 4/20 on the Public Works and Recreation Department’s Facebook pages. The Town requested a flyer with fertilizer and lawn maintenance information, which they posted online and in a few public offices. The paid Facebook/Instagram social media campaign reached 16,740 Stoughton residents.

Targeted Audience: Residents, Businesses, Industry

Responsible Department/Parties: Neponset River Watershed Association and the Town of Stoughton

Measurable Goal(s):

Participation by 100% of NSP communities and reach to at least 1,000 people in the NSP region through social media.

Message Date(s): April 10 – May 6, 2023

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:School Outreach Program**

Message Description and Distribution Method:

During the 2022-2023 school year all lessons took place in person. The program focused on drinking water, stormwater infrastructure, local water resources, wastewater systems, water conservation, and stormwater pollution prevention techniques, and the curriculum aligned with the MA 5th grade science curriculum standards. Information was presented using a PowerPoint presentation, a groundwater model, and an enviroscape model. The program was delivered at the individual classroom level by a watershed educator over the course of TWO VISITS. Each visit took 45-60 minutes. The educator also provided teachers with followup materials to share with students and families.

Targeted Audience: Residents

Responsible Department/Parties: Neponset River Watershed Association and the Town of Stoughton

Measurable Goal(s):

Reach at least 80% of households with 5th grade children in participating communities, and 100% positive feedback from participating classroom teachers.

Message Date(s): September 2022 through June 2023

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:Regional Education Mailing**

Message Description and Distribution Method:

An educational mailing was prepared and distributed to all residential and business addresses in participating communities (Avon, Canton, Dedham, Foxborough, Medfield, Milton, Norwood, Randolph, Sharon, Stoughton, Westwood, and Walpole) totaling 112,889 mailing addresses in all. The mailing was an 11x6 postcard that highlighted general stormwater pollution prevention tips. The mail piece referenced key information on fertilizer, lawn maintenance, methods to reduce stormwater runoff, pet waste management, and septic system maintenance, and referred readers to additional information available at the NSP website and the stormwater hotline.

Targeted Audience: Residents and Businesses

Responsible Department/Parties: Neponset River Watershed Association and the Town of Stoughton

Measurable Goal(s):

Reach 100% of addresses in participating towns, including those who do not use social media or follow town government communication channels.

Message Date(s): June 2023

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:Outreach to Septic System Owners**

Message Description and Distribution Method:

Prepared five social media posts directed at septic system owners in member communities. The campaign was designed to coordinate with the U.S. EPA's SepticSmart Week in the month of September and included EPA developed graphics. NepRWA's shared the campaign on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram and tagged available municipal social media accounts for ease of sharing within each community. Below highlights the days posted, content, and reach. Please note that for Instagram posts a photo was used in lieu of a video, however the videos were linked in the description.

- The September 19, 2022, social media post reached 737 accounts on Facebook and 107 on Instagram.

The post read as follows:

“Sept 19-23 is the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency #SepticSmartWeek

A septic system is an underground wastewater treatment structure that treats wastewater from bathrooms, showers, kitchens and laundry.

Maintain your septic system to save thousands of dollars in repairs AND help keep our groundwater clean. Do your part to be #SepticSmart For more information visit: <https://yourcleanwater.org/septic-system-maintenance/>

- The September 20, 2022, social media post reached 693 accounts on Facebook and 121 on Instagram.

The post read as follows:

“A septic system is an underground wastewater treatment structure that treats wastewater from bathrooms, showers, kitchens and laundry. Maintain your septic system to save thousands of dollars in repairs AND help keep our groundwater clean. Do your part to be #SepticSmart Don't overload the commode! A toilet is not a trash can and putting unnecessary items down the toilet can ruin your septic system.”

- The September 21, 2022, social media post reached 429 accounts on Facebook and 70 on Instagram.

The post read as follows:

“A septic system is an underground wastewater treatment structure that treats wastewater from bathrooms, showers, kitchens and laundry. Maintain your septic system to save thousands of dollars in repairs AND help keep our groundwater clean. Do your part to be #septicsmart

Learn the importance of testing your well water and its relationship with your septic tank with this helpful video.”

Video link can be found [here](#).

- The September 22, 2022, social media post reached 695 accounts on Facebook and 88 on Instagram

The post read as follows:

“A septic system is an underground wastewater treatment structure that treats wastewater from bathrooms, showers, kitchens and laundry. Maintain your septic system to save thousands of dollars in repairs AND help keep our groundwater clean. Do your part to be #SepticSmart

Learn more about septic drainfields, including how it works, and how to protect it in this short video.”

Video link can be found [here](#).

- The September 23, 2022, social media post reached 1,184 accounts on Facebook and 79 on Instagram.

The post read as follows:

“A septic system is an underground wastewater treatment structure that treats wastewater from bathrooms, showers, kitchens and laundry. Maintain your septic system to save thousands of dollars in repairs AND help keep our groundwater clean. Do your part to be #SepticSmart

Don't strain your drain! Running water in multiple areas around the home at once can be overwhelming on your septic system. Try to conserve water as much as possible. It's good for the environment and for your wallet!” Additionally, 35 written letters were mailed to new owners of homes with septic systems within participating towns along with an informational rack card.

700 rack cards were distributed to 7 of the top real estate agencies within the watershed to distribute to homeowners purchasing a home on septic systems.

Targeted Audience: Septic System Owners

Responsible Department/Parties: Neponset River Watershed Association and the Town of Stoughton

Measurable Goal(s):

Participation by 100% of NSP communities and reach to at least 1,000 people in the NSP region through social media.

Message Date(s): September 19-23, 2022

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:

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### **BMP:“Problem Area” Outreach**

Message Description and Distribution Method:

Maintain a list of “problem areas” relying on the knowledge of Town officials as well as communications via the stormwater hotline. Address these “problem areas” with methods designed to correct stormwater pollution problems.

Targeted Audience: Residents, Businesses, Industry, Developers

Responsible Department/Parties: Neponset River Watershed Association and the Town of Stoughton

Measurable Goal(s):

Respond to identified “problem areas” with methods designed to correct specific pollution-generating behaviors.

Message Date(s): 2022/2023

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:

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### **BMP:Storm Drain Marking**

Message Description and Distribution Method:

This program consists of providing volunteers with all materials and information they need to mark storm drains and draw public attention to their function. Aluminum medallions are attached to the curb or pavement adjacent to storm drains using construction adhesive. The medallions have one of 3 messages “No Dumping, Only Rain in the Drain,” “Drains to Neponset,” or “No Dumping, Drains to Ocean.” Volunteers are assigned areas that have been identified by NepRWA or Municipal Staff as high traffic and/or problem areas. Records of which catch basins have been marked are maintained by the NSP in a GIS database.

Targeted Audience: Residents, Businesses, and Institutions

Responsible Department/Parties: Neponset River Watershed Association and the Town of Stoughton

Measurable Goal(s):

Regularly distribute drain marking kits to interested volunteers.

Message Date(s): Ongoing throughout year

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:Regional Water Quality Forum**

Message Description and Distribution Method:

Organized a public presentation on data from the 2022 Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring Program (Public Participation BMP 2). The presentation covered the results from the 2022 sampling season and how they fit into the broader context of long-term water quality trends in the watershed. Also discussed were remaining challenges facing various waterways in the Watershed, and actions individuals can take to address those challenges. Due to COVID protocols, the event was held in a hybrid model, both in person at the Canton Library and live via Zoom.

Additionally, a recording of the presentation was posted to the NepRWA website and YouTube. Results from 2021 water quality season were also used to generate a Boston Harbor report card (with the Charles River Watershed Association, Mystic River Watershed Association, and EPA). River segments were graded on how well they met bacteria swimming and boating standards. An event was held July 15, 2022 with all 3 watershed associations, with remarks from US Senator Ed Markey, as well as EPA Region 1 Deputy Director of Water Thelma Murphey, MassDEP Commissioner Martin Suuberg, MWRA Exec. Director Fred Laskey, and Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Member Hartman Deetz.

Targeted Audience: Residents

Responsible Department/Parties: Neponset River Watershed Association and the Town of Stoughton

Measurable Goal(s):

Deliver detailed site-specific water quality data to interested residents and local officials in addition to general “state of the watershed” information for broader audiences.

Message Date(s): Regional Forum: February 6, 2023  
Report Card Event: July 15, 2022

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:Educational Outreach Evaluation**

Message Description and Distribution Method:

Conducted a survey that was included in the general mailer (BMP 8) to over 112K residents to determine the extent of the public’s knowledge regarding stormwater pollution prevention and the impact of the outreach campaigns thus far. The survey also served as an educational opportunity, as information on why a particular answer was correct was revealed after the user submitted their responses. The survey was also advertised via social media channels. The intent is to repeat this survey regularly and monitor results over time.

Targeted Audience: Residents, Businesses, Institutions

Responsible Department/Parties: Neponset River Watershed Association and the Town of Stoughton

Measurable Goal(s):

Produce results to compare future surveys against. In the results, determine the number of respondents who recall seeing previous NSP outreach materials, and quantify the correct responses to basic stormwater pollution prevention questions.

Message Date(s): June 2023

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 Education Presentations**

Message Description and Distribution Method:

Delivered several stormwater-related presentations to various groups of residents. At these events, residents received basic information on stormwater pollution and tips to prevent it around their own residences and places of business. At some presentations, residents were also educated on stormwater utility programs and how they can help to provide the funding needed for stormwater systemmanagement, upgrades, and enhancements.

Targeted Audience: Residents, Businesses, Developers and Industry

Responsible Department/Parties: Neponset River Watershed Association and the Town of Stoughton

Measurable Goal(s):

Present pertinent stormwater-related information to gathered groups as the opportunity arises.

Message Date(s): Throughout the Permit Year

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:Developer/Construction Outreach**

Message Description and Distribution Method:

Prepared and provided a construction-focused stormwater pollution prevention brochure for Building Departments and Conservation Commissions to distribute with permits involving earth work related activities,

or display with online permit applications. Additionally, in cooperation with the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission and the Center for Watershed Protection, NepRWA coordinated the development of four training workshops for the developer/construction community. The workshops were promoted on NepRWA's Facebook and Twitter accounts, through the NSP network, and through statewide organizations. The trainings were held live online, and edited as an on-demand series, which is available through the NSP website. These trainings were made possible through an MS4 Municipal Assistance Grant provided through MassDEP.

Targeted Audience: Developer and Construction

Responsible Department/Parties: Neponset River Watershed Association and the Town of Stoughton

Measurable Goal(s):

Provide construction-focused stormwater pollution prevention information to companies who engage in land disturbing activities in participating towns.

Message Date(s): Spring 2023

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:Industrial Outreach**

Message Description and Distribution Method:

Prepared and provided stormwater best management practice information to over 1000 industrial facilities in participating towns.

Targeted Audience: Industry

Responsible Department/Parties: Neponset River Watershed Association and the Town of Stoughton

Measurable Goal(s):

Provide industrial land use-focused stormwater pollution prevention information to all industrial properties in participating towns as determined by GIS.

Message Date(s): Spring 2023

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:**

Annual review of the Stormwater Management Plan; posting of plan on website and annual public 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:**

Stoughton participates in various organizations, including MA Statewide Municipal Stormwater Coalition (Statewide Coalition). Think Blue MA fosters regional collaboration on stormwater at the following public events: Metrowest/495 Partnership, Metrowest stormwater round-table hosted by MWRC of MAPC, MMA meeting & trade show, New England Water Environment Association annual conference, MACC annual conference, MA congress of Lake and Pond associations annual workshop, New England public works association spring conference, Ecotarium Earth Day, New England Water Environment Association spring meeting.

## 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: 1

Number of SSOs removed: 1

### MS4 System Mapping

*Optional: Provide additional status information regarding your map:*

The Town of Stoughton continues to make improvements to its stormwater geodatabase through digitizing engineering drawings, inventorying new assets, improving the attribute data on existing assets, beginning to refine catchment delineations, and continually improving mapping during all field activities. The Town uses PeopleGIS to host mapping and inspection forms. An increasing amount of staff are using the platform while in the field and conducting inspections. The GIS is regularly improved by the Town's GIS Manager. This year, the Stormwater GIS was updated based on the Year 5 catchment investigations and BMP investigations, to

accurately reflect the up to date inventory. The Town continues to work on mapping natural stormwater items, including Ditches and Detention Basins.

### **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: 15

*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:*

New outfalls were identified during catchment investigations and were screened and added to the outfall inventory.

### **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: 72

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

Percent of total catchments investigated: 48

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

During dry weather conditions, 92 catchments were visited between March 21, 2023, and April 27, 2023. Catchment investigations at 72 catchments were fully completed, initial field investigations were completed at 10 catchments and require additional Town follow up, and catchment investigation at 10 catchments are

incomplete and require Town assistance to complete the field work.

Catchment investigations were completed at 48 percent of the Town's outfall-catchments (72 out of 152)

### **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: 0

Total number of illicit discharges removed: 0

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

During the year 5 catchment investigations, grease and floatables were found within a catch basin in front of 14 Chase Run. The Town was alerted within the same day. About a few months, grease and floatables within the catch basin were no longer observed, either indicating that dumping within the catch basin has seized or the catch basin had been cleaned. The Town is aware of the issue within that area and will continue to monitor any additional dumping that may occur.

The Town is also aware of two possible illicit discharges and investigating.

### **Employee Training**

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

Annual training was held on August 28, 2023 with DPW staff.

## 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: 13

Number of inspections completed: 58

Number of enforcement actions taken: 2

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

The Town of Stoughton Engineering Department and Conservation office performs regular inspections of construction sites including the review of erosion and sedimentation control measures. Copies of all site inspections are kept within the Town's Asset Management system. Engineering staff routinely inform contractors when erosion and sedimentation controls need to be maintained.

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

### Ordinance or Regulatory Mechanism

Date update was completed (due in year 3): October 19, 2021

Website of ordinance or regulatory mechanism:  
<https://stoughton.org/DocumentCenter/View/1283/Stormwater-Regulations-Final---Updated-October-19-2021-PDF>

### As-built Drawings

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

Number of as-built drawings received: 7

*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:

The Town has not made any changes.

### **Green Infrastructure Report**

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

The Town has not made any changes.

### **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):

1. DPW Garage
2. Cedar Hill Golf Course
3. Jones Early Childhood Center
4. Dawe Elementary School
5. West Elementary School, Fields & Deborah L. Levitz Playground

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. 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: 125

Number of catch basins cleaned: 441

Total volume or mass of material removed from all catch basins: 3,638 cubic feet

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

Total number of catch basins: 3,369

*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: 301

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: 3

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

The Town is currently in the process of designing two new stormwater BMPs at the Public Works facility on Central Street. This project will address stormwater quality and groundwater recharge issues at this facility.

## 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):

<https://www.neponset.org/happenings/stoughton-climate-resilience-project-3/>

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:

The Town of Stoughton is currently working with Kleinfelder consultants and the Neponset River Watershed Association (NepRWA) to study flooding within the Town. This project includes developing a computer based "flood model" which maps present areas of concern and projects what may happen in the future as the climate continues to warm up and rain patterns continue to change. Additionally, with the NepWRA, they are also joining with their neighboring communities on a regional climate adaptation project.

### **Additional Information**

*Optional:* 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. If any of the above year 5 requirements could not be completed due to the impacts of COVID-19, please identify the requirement that could not be completed, any actions taken to attempt to complete the requirement, and reason the requirement could not be completed below:

N/A

### **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 6 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 6 below:

The Town hired a consulting company to complete and help get Stoughton up-to-date on MS4 Permit requirements which include:

- Continued program meetings with the Town to discuss the MS4 program status.
- Continued Stormwater Management Plan updates, documenting progress made annually
- Continued annual training to the Stoughton employees involved in the IDDE program
- Continued IDDE catchment investigations and mapping updates
- Continued IDDE Plan updates
- Continued of the the 59 BMP structures throughout the Town.
- BMP design assistance (optional)
- Quarterly SWPPP inspections

## Part V: Certification of Small MS4 Annual Report 2023

### **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:

Title:

Signature:

Date:

*[Signatory may be a duly authorized  
representative]*