



VILLAGE OF STEGER – STORM WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN
December 2020

Introduction

The Village of Steger holds a General National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit for storm water discharges from its municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4 Permit). The MS4 Permit requires that the Village develop, implement, and enforce a storm water management program designed to reduce the discharge of pollutants from its storm water system to the maximum extent practicable to protect water quality. Storm water runoff from the Village’s separate storm sewer system area discharges to the Thorn Creek, Tributary A watershed.

Storm water is the direct byproduct of rain and snow precipitation as it hits surfaces within the environment. The storm water flows over surfaces like parking lots, roadways, lawns, and sidewalks, picking up debris, chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants along the way, and makes its way to curb drains and storm water basins. Storm water management takes into consideration those things that individuals, households, and the public can do to reduce the pollutants that enter local waters. Practicing healthy household habits, homeowners can keep common pollutants like pesticides, pet waste, grass clippings, and automotive fluids off the ground and out of the storm water system.

This Storm water Management Plan (SWMP), along with the annual program report and Notice of Intent to comply with the storm water permit, is designed to provide the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) and Village residents with a better understanding of the control measures implemented to meet permit requirements and water quality goals.

Program Administration

Village ordinance has been developed to provide the authority to implement MS4 Permit requirements. Public Works is the lead Village department for MS4 program implementation. Public Works staff work with other Village staff to implement the SWMP. Village residents can provide input on the SWMP and the overall MS4 program at Village Board meetings, as well as directly to the Public Works Department. The Village evaluates the effectiveness of program implementation activities annually and provides an “Annual Facility Inspection Report” by June 1st of each year. Annual reports are kept on the Village website for a period of five years.

The MS4 permit requires implementation of control measures and best management practices (BMP) in six programmatic areas:

- 1) Public Education and Outreach on Storm Water Impacts,
- 2) Public Involvement and Participation,
- 3) Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination,
- 4) Construction Site Storm Water Runoff Control,
- 5) Post Construction Storm Water Management in New Development and Redevelopment,
- 6) Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping for Municipal Operations.

The management practices and activities performed by the Village within each of the program areas are described below.



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1) Public Education and Outreach

- The Village maintains a website with information about the Village government, Village services, and upcoming events. This website also includes educational information for the public regarding storm water management.
- Local recycling and special waste disposal events are publicized on the Village website and e-news for residents.
- The “Annual Facility Inspection Report” is posted on the Village website.
- The Village plans the following each MS4 cycle:
 - Host a household hazardous waste drive,
 - Publish information/directions on used oil collection stations,
 - Publish information on pollution hotlines,
 - Host a Village-wide cleanup day.

2) Public Involvement and Participation

- The Village publishes a contact number on the website that allows residents to report storm water-related issues and follows-up on all reports. If you should see a storm water quality issue or suspect any violation of the Village storm water management efforts, please contact the Village Hall immediately at 708-754-3395.
- This SWMP is posted to the Storm water Management page of the Village website, along with the Notice of Intent (NOI) and “Annual Facility Inspection Report”, for resident review and comment. Village residents can provide input on the SWMP and the overall MS4 program at Village Board meetings, as well as directly to the Public Works Department.
- The Village of Steger places a high priority on environmental justice and actively seeks funding to address needed improvements village-wide. Cook County Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds and Invest in Cook funds awarded to Village will be put to work in areas of need in the near future. Public outreach meetings are routinely offered as part of proposed Village improvements. Individual outreach to Village residents through in-person meetings as well as available resources that provided opportunity to stay connected are vital to understanding the needs of the community.
- The Village plans the following each MS4 cycle:
 - Host a household hazardous waste drive,
 - Publish information/directions on used oil collection stations,
 - Publish information on pollution hotlines,
 - Host a Village-wide cleanup day.

3) Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination

- The Village is developing a program to detect and eliminate illicit discharges into storm drains and local waterways. The Village has adopted and enforces an ordinance that provides the regulatory authority to detect, investigate, and eliminate potential illicit discharges.
- The Village inspects its storm sewers, manholes, catch basins, and inlets during dry weather periods each year. Any evidence of non-storm water discharges is documented and investigated.
- The Village keeps and maintains a storm sewer atlas that is used to trace suspicious discharges to

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their source. The atlas is updated whenever the storm sewer system is modified by a Village project or by private development.

- The Village is currently studying storm water control Village-wide. Detailed hydrologic and hydraulic studies have been undertaken to model existing conditions and determine proposed improvements that will improve storm water controls and associated runoff.



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4) Construction Site Storm Water Runoff Control

- Village ordinance has been developed to provide the authority to implement MS4 permit requirements.
- The Village ordinance procedures require the review of Best Management Practices (BMP) for proposed developments prior to construction. The intent of these procedures is to reduce or prevent the discharge of pollutants from construction site activities.
- Erosion and sediment control BMPs are required by ordinance and enforced through the plan review process. Site reviews are undertaken by village staff and engineering consultants. The NOI is required for projects over 1 acre, which includes the preparation of a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP).
- Weekly inspection reports are required from developers of active projects. Periodic and unannounced audit inspections are conducted by Village or consultant staff.

5) Post-Construction Storm Water Management for New Development and Re-Development

- The Village and consultant staff perform site inspections throughout the entirety of construction activities.
- Post-construction, the Village and consultant staff continue inspection of completed construction sites to assure that storm water controls are functioning as intended.
- Post-construction, the Village inspects storm sewer pipes, structures – and will clean and vacuum, each as needed, as well as address any other issues preventing proper function.
- Post-construction, the Village continues routine operation and maintenance inspections of storm water systems.

6) Storm Water Pollution Prevention for Municipal Operations

- The Village implements an operation and maintenance program designed to prevent or reduce the discharge of pollutants to the storm sewer system. The Public Works Department conducts regular employee training for municipal operations and safety protocol. Training is provided to educate staff on pollution prevention and reduction of storm water pollution from municipal activities. The training addresses activities such as park and open space maintenance, fleet and building maintenance, operation of storage yards, snow disposal, new construction and land disturbance, and storm system maintenance. The training also addresses the hazard associated with illegal discharges and improper disposal of waste.
- Road salt is stored in a covered permanent structure to protect it from precipitation. The Village roadway deicing operators receive specific training on best management practices for snow and ice removal, and use only the amount of deicing chemical needed for each weather event.
- The Village performs street sweeping to clean up roadways and keep dirt, debris, and other pollutants from entering the storm sewer system.
- The Village performs regular inspection and routine maintenance of streets, storm sewer, ditches, creeks, and storm water control facilities.
- The Village keeps maintenance records and logs for maintenance of Village vehicles and equipment, including disposal of associated hazardous materials.

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Reporting

- The term of the Village General MS4 Permit from IEPA is five years. At the end of each permit term, the Village submits a Notice of Intent (NOI) to comply with the conditions of the General Permit. The NOI describes the practices the Village intends to implement in order to meet the conditions of the permit.
- The Village evaluates the effectiveness of program implementation activities each year and provides an “Annual Facility Inspection Report” report by June 1st. Annual reports are kept on the Village website for a period of five years.

Contacts and Additional Information

To report water quality issues within the Village, contact the Public Works Department at 708-755-3888. If after normal business hours, call the police non-emergency number at 708-754-8121.

For questions or additional information on the SWMP or implementation of the MS4 program, contact the Public Works Department at 708-755-3888.

Additional MS4 Permit program information can be found at IEPA MS4 webpage located here: <https://www2.illinois.gov/epa/topics/forms/water-permits/storm-water/Pages/ms4.aspx>.