

FLORIDA'S NPDES EVOLUTION

COURSE N: Comprehensive Watershed Evaluation, Planning and Management

Florida Chamber 28th Annual Environmental Permitting Summer School

Marco Island, Florida

July 23, 2014

OUTLINE

- ✓ Brief History of NPDES
- ✓ Permit Expectation Evolution
- ✓ Changes to Florida MS4 Permits
- ✓ Impacts to Local Managers

NPDES BRIEF HISTORY

- The National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program under the Clean Water Act (CWA) is the primary federal vehicle to regulate the quality of the nation's waterbodies.
- This program was initially developed to reduce pollutants from industrial process wastewater and municipal sewage discharges. These point sources were known to be responsible for poor, often drastically degraded conditions in receiving waterbodies. They were easily regulated because they emanated from identifiable locations, such as pipe outfalls.
- To address the role of stormwater in causing or contributing to water quality impairments, in 1987 Congress wrote Section 402(p) of the CWA, bringing stormwater control into the NPDES program, and in 1990 the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued the Phase I Stormwater Rules.



NPDES BRIEF HISTORY

- The sources of stormwater discharges regulated under the NPDES program fall into three categories:
 - Industrial Activity
 - Construction Activity
 - *Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s)*

NPDES BRIEF HISTORY

- The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) developed the federal National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) stormwater permitting program in two phases.
 - **Phase I, promulgated in 1990, addresses the following sources:**
 - "Large" and "medium" municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s) located in incorporated places and counties with populations of 100,000 or more, and
 - Eleven categories of industrial activity, one of which is large construction activity that disturbs 5 or more acres of land.
 - **Phase II, promulgated in 1999, addresses additional sources**, including MS4s not regulated under Phase I, and small construction activity disturbing between 1 and 5 acres.
- In October 2000, **EPA authorized the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to implement the NPDES stormwater permitting program in the State of Florida** (in all areas except Indian Country lands). DEP's authority to administer the NPDES program is set forth in Section 403.0885, Florida Statutes (F.S.). The NPDES stormwater program regulates point source discharges of stormwater into surface waters of the State of Florida from certain municipal, industrial and construction activities.
- As the NPDES stormwater permitting authority, DEP is responsible for promulgating rules and issuing permits, managing and reviewing permit applications, and performing compliance and enforcement activities.

NPDES REGULATIONS

- Florida Rules Related to Stormwater / NPDES
 - Chapter 62-620 - Wastewater Facility and Activities Permitting
 - Chapter 62-621 - Generic Permits
 - Chapter 62-624 - Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems
 - Chapter 62-25 - Regulations of Stormwater Discharge

PHASE I MS4S

"Large" and "medium" municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s) located in incorporated places and counties with populations of 100,000 or more

Permitted Phase I MS4s in Florida

Permit Name	Permit ID Number
City of Miami	FL5000001
Miami-Dade County	FL5000002
Bal Harbour Village	FL5000003
City of Aventura	FL5000004
City of Coral Gables	FL5000005
City of Hialeah Gardens	FL5000006
City of Homestead	FL5000007
City of Miami Beach	FL5000008
City of Miami Springs	FL5000009
City of North Bay Village	FL5000010
City of North Miami	FL5000011
City of North Miami Beach	FL5000012
City of Opa-Locka	FL5000013
City of South Miami	FL5000014
City of West Miami	FL5000015
FDOT District 6	FL5000016
FDOT Turnpike District	FL5000017
Indian Creek Village	FL5000018
Sunny Isles Beach	FL5000019
Town of Bay Harbor Islands	FL5000020
Town of Golden Beach	FL5000021
Town of Medley	FL5000022
Town of Miami Lakes	FL5000023
Town of Surfside	FL5000024
Village of El Portal	FL5000025
Village of Key Biscayne	FL5000026
Village of Miami Shores	FL5000027
Village of Pinecrest	FL5000028
City of North Port	FL5000029
City of Sarasota	FL5000030
City of Venice	FL5000031
FDOT District 1	FL5000032
Sarasota County	FL5000033
Town of Longboat Key	FL5000034
City of Belleair Beach	FL5000035
City of Belleair Bluffs	FL5000036
City of Clearwater	FL5000037
City of Dunedin	FL5000038
City of Gulfport	FL5000039
City of Indian Rocks Beach	FL5000040
City of Largo	FL5000041
City of Madeira Beach	FL5000042
City of Oldsmar	FL5000043
City of Pinellas Park	FL5000044
City of Safety Harbor	FL5000045
City of Seminole	FL5000046
City of South Pasadena	FL5000047
City of St. Pete Beach	FL5000048
City of Tarpon Springs	FL5000049

Permitted Phase I MS4s in Florida

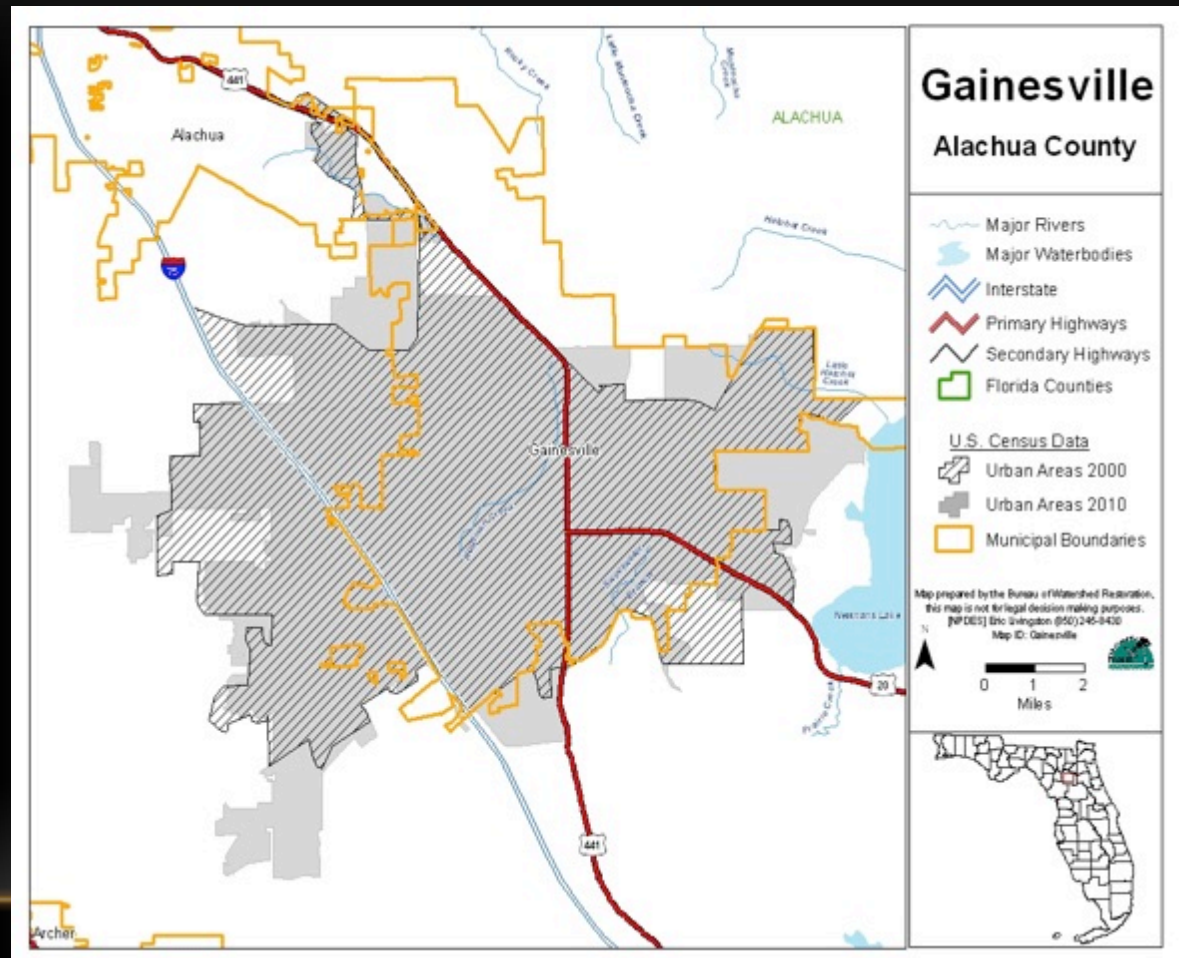
Permit Name	Permit ID Number
City of Treasure Island	FL5000050
FDOT District 7	FL5000051
Pinellas County Government	FL5000052
Town of Belleair	FL5000053
Town of Kenneth City	FL5000054
Town of North Redington Beach	FL5000055
Town of Redington Beach	FL5000056
Town of Redington Shores	FL5000057
City of Plant City	FL5000058
FDOT District 7	FL5000059
Hillsborough Co. Public Works	FL5000060
City of St. Petersburg	FL5000061
City of Tampa	FL5000062
City of Temple Terrace	FL5000063
Reedy Creek Improvement District	FL5000064
City of Apopka	FL5000065
City of Belle Isle	FL5000066
City of Edgewood	FL5000067
City of Maitland	FL5000068
City of Ocoee	FL5000069
City of Winter Garden	FL5000070
City of Winter Park	FL5000071
FDOT District 5	FL5000072
Orange County	FL5000073
Town of Eatonville	FL5000074
Valencia Water Control District	FL5000075
FDOT District 2	FL5000076
City of Atlantic Beach	FL5000077
City of Jacksonville	FL5000078
City of Neptune Beach	FL5000079
City of Jacksonville Beach	FL5000080
City of Orlando	FL5000081
City of Auburndale	FL5000082
City of Bartow	FL5000083
City of Davenport	FL5000084
City of Eagle Lake	FL5000085
City of Fort Meade	FL5000086
City of Frostproof	FL5000087
City of Haines City	FL5000088
City of Lake Alfred	FL5000089
City of Lake Wales	FL5000090
City of Lakeland	FL5000091
City of Mulberry	FL5000092
City of Polk City	FL5000093
City of the Village of Highland Park	FL5000094
City of Winter Haven	FL5000095
FDOT District 1	FL5000096
Polk County	FL5000097
Town of Dundee	FL5000098

Permitted Phase I MS4s in Florida

Permit Name	Permit ID Number
Town of Hillcrest Heights	FL5000099
Town of Lake Hamilton	FL5000100
Broward County	FL5000101
City of Coconut Creek	FL5000102
City of Cooper City	FL5000103
City of Coral Springs	FL5000104
City of Dana Beach	FL5000105
City of Deerfield Beach	FL5000106
City of Hallandale Beach	FL5000107
City of Lauderdale Lakes	FL5000108
City of Lauderhill	FL5000109
City of Lighthouse Point	FL5000110
City of Margate	FL5000111
City of Miramar	FL5000112
City of Maitland	FL5000113
City of North Lauderdale	FL5000114
City of Oakland Park	FL5000115
City of Parkland	FL5000116
City of Pembroke Pines	FL5000117
City of Plantation	FL5000118
City of Pompano Beach	FL5000119
City of Sunrise	FL5000120
City of Tamarac	FL5000121
City of Weston	FL5000122
City of Wilton Manors	FL5000123
FDOT Turnpike District	FL5000124
FDOT District 4	FL5000125
Town of Davie	FL5000126
Town of Lauderdale-By-The-Sea	FL5000127
Town of Pembroke Park	FL5000128
Town of Southwest Ranches	FL5000129
Village of Sea Ranch Lakes	FL5000130
City of Ft. Lauderdale	FL5000131
FDOT District 4	FL5000132
City of Atlantis	FL5000133
City of Belle Glade	FL5000134
City of Boca Raton	FL5000135
City of Boynton Beach	FL5000136
City of Delray Beach	FL5000137
City of Greenacres	FL5000138
City of Lake Worth	FL5000139
City of Palm Beach Gardens	FL5000140
City of Riviera Beach	FL5000141

EXAMPLE PHASE II MS4

- Urban Census Areas
- Clean Water Partnership
 - Alachua County
 - Gainesville
 - FDOT



EPA'S EFFECTIVENESS EVOLUTION

- Purposes of Program Evaluation
 - Meet regulatory requirements
 - Document progress toward water quality goals
 - Justify commitment of resources
 - Provide feedback to the management program
 - Assess reductions in pollutants of concern

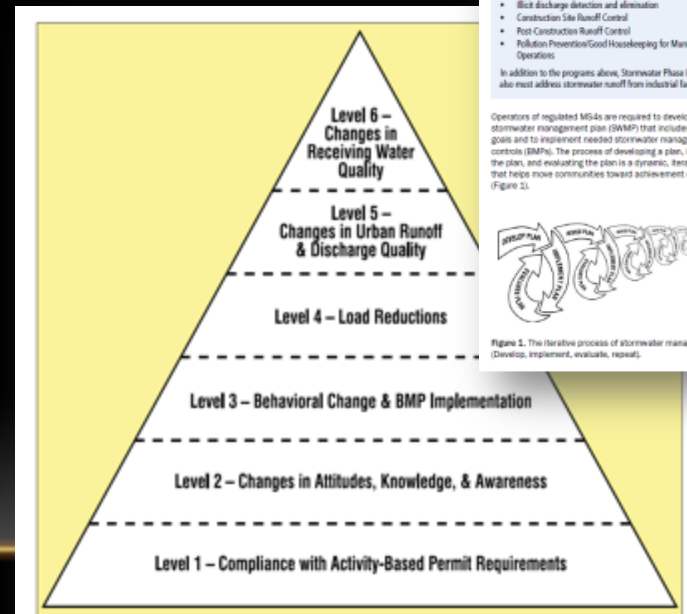
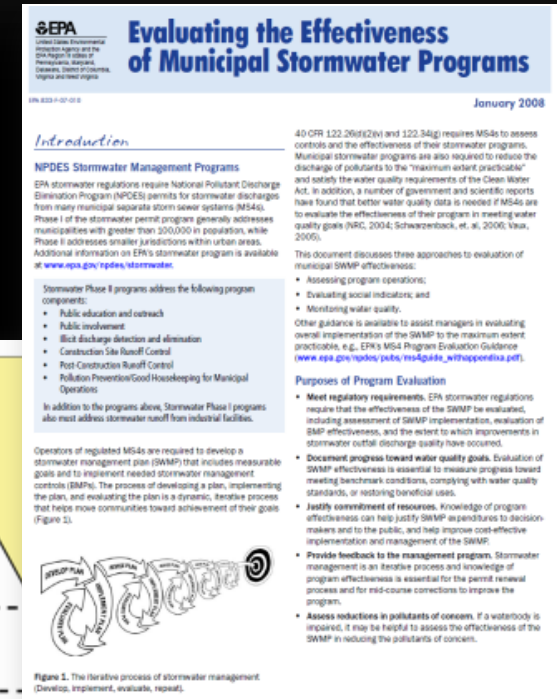
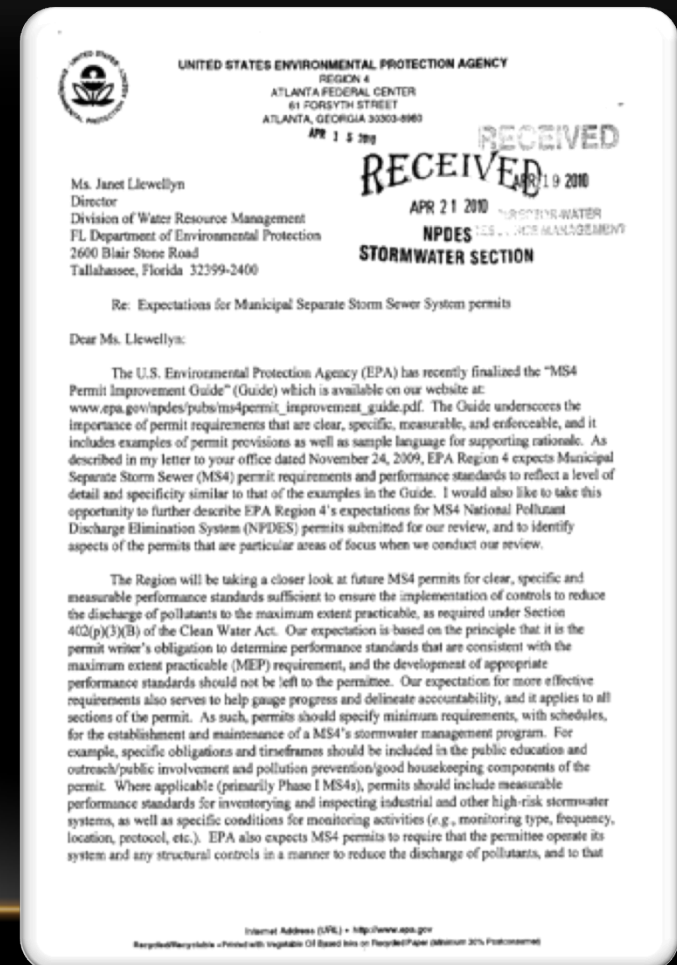


Figure 2. Approaches to evaluation of stormwater program effectiveness. (Source: CASQA, 2007)

EPA'S MS4 EXPECTATIONS

- EPA Region 4 to FDEP - April 2010
- Expectations based on *MS4 Permit Improvement Guide*
- Underscores the **importance of permit requirements that are clear, specific, measurable, and enforceable**
- Performance Standards Consistent with the *Maximum Extent Practicable* (MEP) Requirement
- **Permit Elements of Focus:**
 - Implementation of TMDLs
 - Stormwater Controls for Construction Activities
 - Stormwater Controls for New Development and Redevelopment - Post Construction
 - Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Program



FDEP'S REACTION

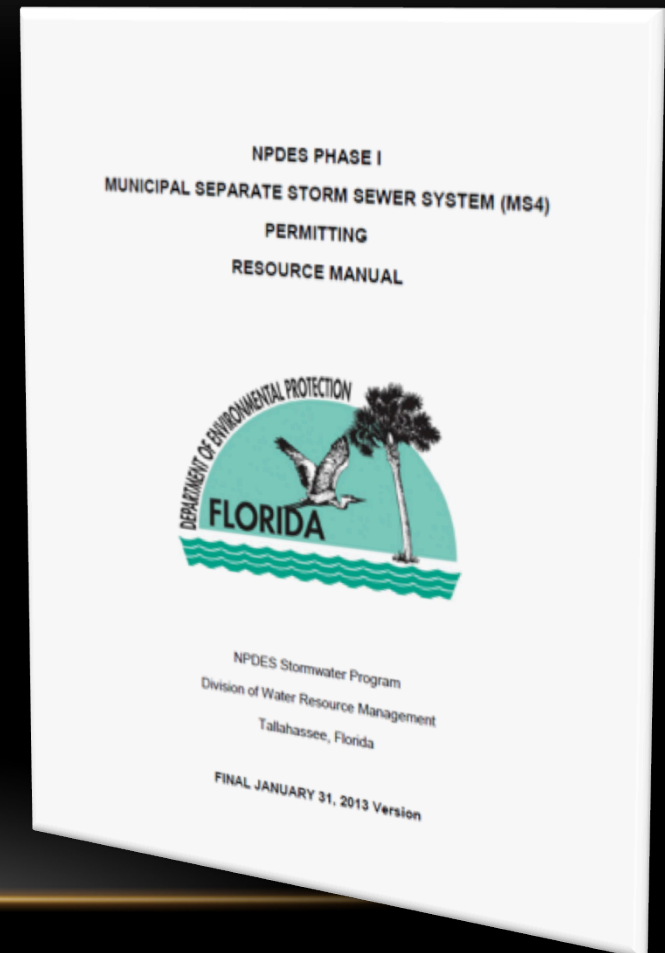
- Permit Expectations Embraced by FDEP
 - Increased accountability and measurable permit requirements – enforceability
 - Focus areas: TMDL implementation, construction sites, post-construction SWM, illicit discharge detection/elimination
 - Stormwater system inspection, O&M
 - Require written plans, SOPs, schedules, milestones, etc.
 - Antidegradation policy implementation
- Increased Load Reductions

FDEP'S REACTION

- Permit Expectations Not Embraced by FDEP
 - Annual MS4 system-wide inspections
 - Monitoring of all stormwater outfalls
 - Implementation of post-development stormwater regulatory program
 - Minimum number of construction site inspections set by State
 - Expanded MS4 regulatory program for industrial dischargers
 - Mandatory use of “Green Infrastructure” BMPs

FDEP MS4 PERMITTING RESOURCE MANUAL

- Components
 - Structural Controls and Stormwater System Operation
 - Areas of New Development and Significant Redevelopment
 - Roadways
 - Minimizing Water Quality Impacts from Flood Control Projects
 - Municipal Waste Treatment, Storage, or Disposal Facilities Not Covered by an NPDES Stormwater Permit
 - Pesticides, Herbicides, and Fertilizer Application
 - Illicit Discharges
 - Industrial and High Risk Runoff
 - Construction Site Runoff Management
 - Monitoring Requirements.
 - Annual Reporting
 - TMDL Implementation



CHANGES TO PERMITS (CYCLE 3)

- Inventory, Inspection, & Maintenance
- Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)
- Training Plans & Public Ed Plans
- Accountability Reporting – Load Reductions
- TMDL Implementation

INVENTORY, INSPECTION, MAINTENANCE

- Better inventory of stormwater system
- More detailed maintenance items
- Inspection schedule changes
(closer agreement with WMD ERP requirements)
 - Outfalls – annual unless historical records
 - Pipes, culverts – 10% of assets per year
 - Inlets, catch basins, - 10% of assets per year
 - *Note that EPA wanted annual inspections of all assets*

SOP'S

- What is a written Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) ?
 - Management tool
 - What makes sense for your MS4 and local government departments
 - Organizes processes and procedures
 - Includes coordination policies among local government departments
 - Includes prioritization factors, checklists, flow charts, etc.
 - Assures continuity when staff changes
- Develop written standard implementation procedures
- Perform annual review and revise as necessary

SOP'S

- Conducting MS4 system inspections/O&M
- Roadway litter program
- Street sweeping, road repair/O&M
- Equipment & maintenance yards
- Waste TSD facility inspections
- Minimize use of and properly store and use pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers
- Conducting pro-active and reactive illicit discharge inspections
- Conducting/coordinating spill prevention and response
- Reducing & responding to sanitary sewer overflows or spills
- Conducting high risk facility inspections
- Conducting site plan reviews
- Conducting construction site inspections

TRAINING & PUBLIC EDUCATION

- Develop and implement a written training plan for personnel and contractors, including refresher training, for:
 - Identifying illicit discharges and knowing how to report them and deal with them
 - Proper spill prevention, containment, and response techniques and procedures
 - Conducting construction site plan reviews and inspections
- Develop and implement a written public education plan on how to minimize stormwater impacts associated with:
 - Use of pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers including Florida-friendly landscaping principles
 - Promote identification and reporting of illicit discharges and improper disposal
 - Promote proper use and disposal of used vehicle fluids, household hazardous wastes, etc.

ACCOUNTABILITY REPORTING

- Monitoring and Loadings
 - Use state EMCs to calculate Year 3 pollutant loadings – in MS4 Permit Resource Manual
 - Standard set of six parameters (TN, TP, TSS, BOD, Zinc, Copper)
 - Not required to do seasonal loadings
 - No change in monitoring
- Annual Report on the effectiveness of SWMP in reducing pollutant loads
 - Compare with previous two Year 3 outfall or watershed loadings
 - If no load reduction, explain why not and revise your SWMP to make it more effective in reducing stormwater loads
 - Which components of the SWMP are working & effective in reducing SW loadngs?
 - Which components of the SWMP are not working well & need revised to make them more effective?
 - Which components of the SWMP do not contribute to reducing SW loads and could be revised or de-emphasized?
 - Is the monitoring program providing data that assesses SWMP effectiveness, BMP effectiveness, retrofitting locations?

ACCOUNTABILITY REPORTING

- Conducting construction site plan reviews and inspections
 - Do we have requirements that exceed ERP or CGP?
 - If no, four checks needed:
 1. ES control plan included
 2. Stormwater plan included
 3. ERP obtained or applied for?
 4. CGP needed? Obtained or applied for?

TMDL IMPLEMENTATION

- Fact sheet lists DEP adopted and EPA established TMDLs at time of permit issue as starting list
- TMDLs with BMAPs – stay the course
- TMDLs without BMAPs
 - Prioritization report (Months 1–6)
 - Monitoring & assessment plan (Months 6-12)
 - TMDL outfall storm event monitoring of 1 outfall (Months 12-36)
 - Supplemental SWMP = TMDL implementation plan (Months 24-48)

TMDL IMPLEMENTATION

- TMDL Implementation Prioritization Report
- Each permittee that discharges to a water body with an adopted TMDL is responsible for reporting - individually or with other permittees
- Prioritization factors might include:
 - For a verified impaired water body? If not, suggest monitoring to delist
 - BMAP development underway?
 - Public access? Significance to community?
 - Used for swimming or fishing?
 - DO or nutrient impairment vs coliform?
 - For water body with SW master plan?

OTHER NEW REQUIREMENTS

- Fertilizer applicators must receive training through Green Industry BMP Program
- Adopt Florida-friendly ordinance if within watershed of impaired water
- Notify DEP if industrial facility does not have coverage under MSGP
- Develop and implement procedures to ensure that ERP and CGP permits have been obtained prior to issuing local grading, clearing, or building permits

CONSTRUCTION DEWATERING

- Revisions to the Generic Permit for Stormwater Discharge from Large and Small Construction Activities, Rule 62-621.300(4) (a), F.A.C.
- COMMENTS: From 6/19/2014 To 7/10/2014 (closed)

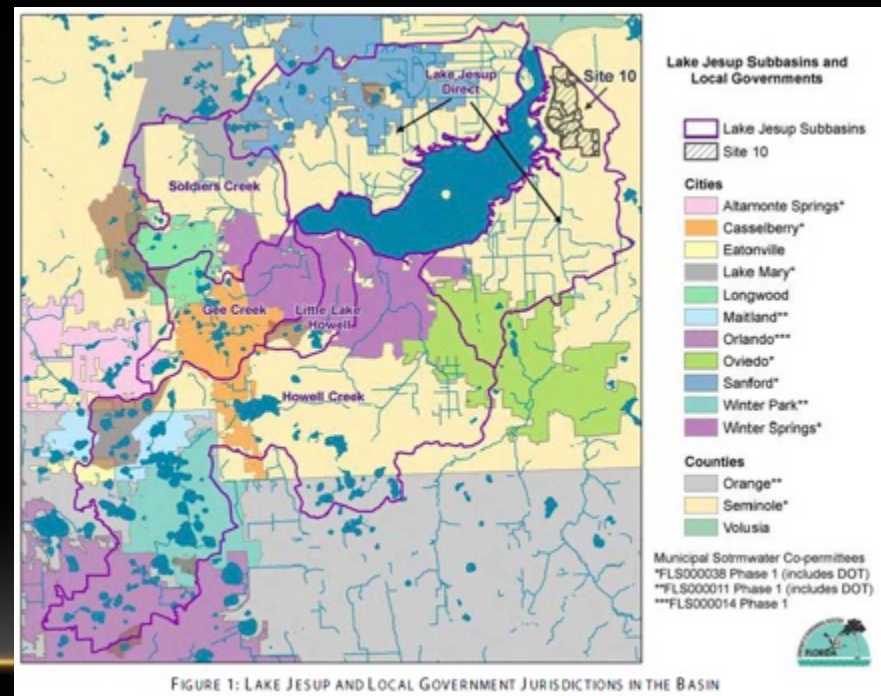
*The proposed revisions to the stormwater NPDES generic permit include provisions authorizing construction dewatering for non-contaminated ground water, with appropriate control measures for non-stormwater discharge. **Revisions to the dewatering permit will provide that sites covered under the CGP that also have dewatering operations do not need separate coverage under the industrial wastewater generic permits.** The combined revisions will have the effect of allowing sites covered by the CGP to conduct dewatering operations without the need to obtain a separate NPDES permit under the Industrial Wastewater Program.*

IMPACT TO LOCAL NPDES MANAGERS

- Impacts to Local Manager
 - Time
 - Budgets
 - Staffing
- Stakeholder Coordination
 - Municipal Partners
 - Public
 - Regulatory
- Practical Pollutant Load Reduction
 - Accountability
 - BMP benefit/cost
- Rallying Support from the Powers that Be

IMPACT TO LOCAL NPDES MANAGERS

- TMDL /BMAP vs. NPDES
 - NPDES = Outfall – centric
 - TMDLs = Watershed – centric
 - Multiple Stakeholders
 - Multiple Permittees
 - Approach:
 - Prioritize TMDL waters
 - Prioritize Outfalls
 - Monitor Priority Outfall
 - Assess Reductions
 - Report Progress



IMPACT TO LOCAL NPDES MANAGERS

- Code Review
 - Stormwater Regulations
 - WMD Concurrency
 - Illicit Discharges
 - Floodplains
 - Lake Management
 - Stormwater Utility

Seminole County Final Permit Permit Number: FL9000038-003

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM:		
2. Areas of New Development and Significant Redevelopment.		
PERMITTEE	ACTIVITY	REPORTING REQUIREMENT
ALL Except FDOT District Five	<p>Conduct an inter-departmental review of the permittee's current local codes and land development regulations to identify potential changes to existing codes and regulations that will further reduce the stormwater impacts of new development and areas of significant redevelopment. In particular, focus on changes to the code that will promote: reductions in impervious surfaces, the use of swales, the incorporation of low impact development principles, reduction in flow and volume of stormwater, increase in natural hydrology, and adherence to the principles of the Florida Yards and Neighborhoods program in new landscaping.</p> <p>Develop a summary report of the review activity that includes the following information: all applicable local code and regulation citations reviewed (both current and draft); a description of the current and proposed techniques aimed at reducing the stormwater impacts of new development and areas of significant redevelopment that are included within the applicable codes and regulations; a description of innovative stormwater planning techniques, including those described above, recommended for possible future incorporation into the codes and regulations (beyond what may be currently in draft); and, a plan for implementing changes to codes and regulations.</p> <p>In addition, develop a follow-up report that summarizes plan implementation to change the local codes and regulations and promote reducing stormwater impacts from new development and areas of significant redevelopment.</p>	<p>Provide in the Year 2 ANNUAL REPORT the summary report of the review activity.</p> <p>Provide in the Year 4 ANNUAL REPORT the follow-up report on plan implementation.</p>

IMPACT TO LOCAL NPDES MANAGERS

- Code Review

- Innovative Stormwater Practices
- Green infrastructure
- LID

Each section of the Land Development Code should be reviewed to identify possible impediments to using newer, more sustainable techniques such as “Low Impact Design” or “LID”. In addition, this is an excellent time to revise and correct any references to statutes, rules of other agencies, or your own legal authority to implement and enforce the various components of your MS4 permit.

*In recent years there has been increased interest in LID which seeks to minimize the hydrologic and water quality changes that result as part of site development. **Low impact design principles seek to integrate the following concepts into the design process:***

- **Use hydrology as the integrating framework**
- **Think micromanagement**
- **Control stormwater at the source**
- **Use simplistic, non-structural methods**
- **Create a multi-functional landscape and infrastructure**

LID provides the opportunity to recharge groundwater supplies, protect surface waters, and reduce waste and disposal through the use of natural processes with waste that can be composted. It reduces potable water demand through the use of cisterns and also improves air quality and reduces urban heat island effects through the use of vegetation and trees. LID also improves neighborhoods by beautifying the common spaces and adding aesthetic value. One of the reasons that LID is a sustainable solution is the fact that it addresses more than just one issue.

WOTUS

- April 2014 EPA and USACE jointly propose revising definition of **Waters of the United States**
- Purpose to clarify what waters are and are not covered by CWA
- Representing that new language will not substantially impact MS4s
- Traditional definition of WOTUS: *those waters that are susceptible for use in interstate or foreign commerce, interstate waters, certain wetlands, territorial seas and impoundments of these waters, and tributaries thereto.*
- Definition being expanded to include:
 - Adjacent Waters
 - Tributaries
 - Waters with “Significant Nexus”

WOTUS

- Adjacent Waters
 - “Adjacent” not specifically defined
 - All waters including wetlands
 - Neighboring waters within the floodplain
 - EPA will use best professional judgment
- Tributaries
 - “Tributary” not specially defined
 - Includes man-altered or man-made ponds, canals, ditches
- Waters with “Significant Nexus”
 - On a case-specific basis, the proposed regulations provide that other waters and wetlands, alone or in combination with other waters, that have a significant effect on WOTUS in the region, are also considered jurisdictional waters.

WOTUS

- Exclusions
 - Ditches that are excavated entirely from uplands, drain only upland areas, and have less than perennial flow
 - Ditches that do not contribute flow to a WOUS
 - Waste treatment systems, such as ponds or lagoons that are used for stormwater/water quality treatment that are designed to meet requirements of the CWA
 - Prior converted cropland, where wetlands were converted to farmland, prior to the “Swampbuster” provision of the Food Security Act of 1985
 - Artificial features, such as:
 - Irrigated areas that would revert to uplands if irrigation applications ceased;
 - Man-made lakes or ponds created by excavating and/or diking uplands and used exclusively for livestock watering, irrigation, settling basins, or rice growing;
 - Aesthetic pools, such as reflecting pools, swimming pools, or ornamental waters that were excavated/constructed in uplands;
 - Depressional areas that may fill with water that were incidentally created during construction activities;
 - Groundwater, including groundwater drained through subsurface drainage systems; and,
 - Gullies, rills, and non-wetland swales.

WOTUS

- Potential consequences for MS4s
 - Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System permit requirements and water quality standards must be met in stormwater conveyances and retention structures that are determined to be WOTUS, including numeric nutrient criteria applicable to Class III ("recreational") water bodies, antidegradation requirements and other permit conditions.
 - Dredge and fill permitting policies of the Corps will be applicable to stormwater attenuation ponds, drainage ditches and other conveyances that are determined to be WOTUS- even during routine maintenance activities.

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REFERENCES

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- MS4 Improvement Guide, USEPA #833-R-10-001, April 2010.
- New Permit Conditions for Phase I MS4 Permits, E. Livingston, FDEP NPDES Section, Presentation from FSA New Directions in Stormwater Permits & Programs Seminar, September 2011.
- New & Improved NPDES MS4 Permits – Challenges from a Local Perspective, K. Ornberg & R. Potts, Presentation from ASCE EWRI Seminar, March 2012.
- NPDES Phase I MS4 Permitting Resource Manual, FDEP, January 2013.
- NPDES Phase II MS4 Generic Permit and Rule Revisions, Workshop/Webinar, FDEP, April 2013.
- Urban Stormwater in the United States, National Research Council, National Academies Press, 2008.

Thank you !

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