

Chapter 12: Public Information and Education Plan

12.1 Requirement

Section 4.2.1 of the State of Tennessee Small MS4 NPDES Permit issued on 9/1/2022 states:

“Permittees shall develop and implement an education and outreach program that includes public education and outreach on stormwater impacts as a component of the stormwater management program. The objective of this program is to reduce or eliminate behaviors and practices that cause or contribute to the impacts of stormwater discharges on water bodies and the steps that the audiences can take to reduce pollutants in stormwater runoff to the maximum extent practicable.”

12.2 Public (Activities: 6 per year)

Use Social Media and the County Stormwater website to improve general awareness of stormwater and its effects on water quality and the environment.

- 1.) Inform the operators/owners of Stormwater Control Measures of the importance of proper maintenance.
- 2.) Generate awareness of proper storage, use and disposal of herbicides, insecticides, fertilizers, oil and other automotive fluids.
- 3.) General awareness of the importance of Illicit Discharge effects on water quality and procedures for reporting illicit connections/discharges, sanitary sewer seepage, spills and other

The Montgomery County Stormwater website (<https://mcgtn.org/stormwater>) provides the public with information on stormwater program regulations, policies and practices, educational and guidance materials, flood information and current land disturbance project status.

12.3 Engineering and Development Community (Activities: 2 per year)

- 1.) Use the Stormwater website to raise awareness of the rules, regulations and policies of the Montgomery County Stormwater program in the engineering and development community.
- 2.) Use email to send out reminders of design requirements for the engineer community, and the long term impact on water quality.

- 3.) Use email to send out reminders of the rules, regulations and policies of the Montgomery County Stormwater program to developers and the need for construction sites to adhere to the requirements of the Construction General Permit.
- 4.) Communicate the rules, regulations and policies of the County Stormwater program, as well as the requirement to follow the Construction General Permit obligations during preconstruction meetings (held for all projects).

12.4 Employees (Ongoing)

- 1.) Require appropriate departments to train their employees using the website video located at: <https://mcgtn.org/stormwater/training>
- 2.) Use email to communicate the importance of Good Housekeeping
- 3.) Use email to raise awareness of illicit discharge identification and reporting procedures

12.5 Program Documents and Forms

Montgomery County Stormwater Regulations can be viewed and/or downloaded at <https://mcgtn.org/stormwater/regulations>

Information on pollution prevention can be viewed and downloaded at <https://mcgtn.org/stormwater/pollution-prevention>. The web page also has:

- Suggested green building practices
- Pollution Prevention Fact Sheets
- Information on sinkholes

Web links to relevant websites are located at <https://mcgtn.org/stormwater/links>.

12.6 Public Comment and Input

The Stormwater Board of Appeals and the Montgomery County Commission Building and Codes Committee meetings provide the public with opportunities to comment on issues related to the Stormwater Program. Meeting dates and times are announced on the main County website, the Stormwater Program website and in the local news paper.

Public meetings are held to discuss specific issues that will affect area citizens. These are advertised by email notifications to area watershed groups, development professionals, engineers

and construction professionals. Flyers for these events are posted in the public areas of County offices.

12.7 Project Information

Information on current projects can be viewed at <https://mcgtn.org/stormwater/current-projects>
A list of projects, project status and other information can be viewed online and downloaded in PDF format.