

Year 8 Annual Report

Massachusetts Small MS4 General Permit

Reporting Period: July 1, 2025-June 30, 2026

*****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, 2025 and June 30, 2026 unless otherwise requested.

Part I: Contact Information

Name of Municipality or Organization: Department of Conservation and Recreation

EPA NPDES Permit Number: MAR043001

Primary MS4 Program Manager Contact Information

Name: Robert Lowell Title: Deputy Chief Engineer

Street Address Line 1: 10 Park Plaza

Street Address Line 2: Suite 6620

City: Boston State: MA Zip Code: 02116

Email: robert.lowell@mass.gov Phone Number: (508) 509-1757

Stormwater Management Program (SWMP) Information

SWMP Location (publicly available web address): <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/dcr-stormwater-management>

Date SWMP was Last Updated: 6/4/2026

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 the outfall and interconnection inventory and priority ranking as necessary
 - ☐ The priority ranking of outfalls/interconnections is attached to the email submission
 - ☒ The priority ranking of outfalls/interconnections can be found at the following website:

<https://www.mass.gov/doc/illicit-discharge-detection-and-elimination-idde-plan/download>

- ☒ Updated system map due in year 10 with information from completed catchment investigations
☒ 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:

DCR inspected 294 (100%) DCR maintained subsurface and 543 (100%) DCR maintained surface treatment structures (BMPs) in Permit Year 8. DCR has utilized ArcGIS Dashboards and webmaps to help track progress towards inspecting all BMPs. DCR will continue to use these tools for Permit Year 8 and will continue working to optimize maintenance activities that need to occur based on the inspections.

DCR has continued to expend significant resources including consultant and subcontractor budget and DCR staff resources to investigate problem and highest priority (where information gathered on the outfall/interconnection indicated sewer input) outfalls in PY8. Since highest priority outfalls are based on sewer input indicators during dry weather sampling some of these issues have only recently been identified, as new outfalls are added to the IDDE program. To date, DCR has been able to identify the illicit discharge source or confirm that no illicit discharge is present for 14 of 21 problem outfall catchments and 11 of 19 highest priority outfall catchments. DCR has invested significant time and resources identifying illicit discharges including CCTV investigations, dye testing, sampling of parameters not traditionally required by the permit including bacteriodes, and extensive coordination with interconnecting drainage system and adjacent sewer systems owners. Where illicit discharges have been identified, DCR has made considerable efforts to remove discharges including lining and regrouting drainage systems, capping laterals, and coordination with other agencies in the removal of illicit connections. The urban nature, age of systems, and interconnection with other MS4 systems has complicated many of these investigations. Catchment investigations are actively underway for all of the remaining problem and highest priority outfalls. Due to issues with DCR's maintenance contract, DCR was limited in its ability to implement these remediation efforts in PY8 but pushed to make progress as much as possible. DCR expects to continue efforts in PY9 without issues.

DCR will prioritize completing the remaining problem and highest outfall catchment investigations in PY9. The attached Permit Year 8 IDDE Summary Report provides the status of each problem and highest priority catchment investigation as well as DCR's next steps for closing any investigations currently open.

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 F and H 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:

Chloride

Annual Requirements

Public Education and Outreach

- Included an annual message in November/ December to private road salt applicators and commercial
- ☐ industrial site owners on the proper storage and application rates of winter deicing material, along with the steps that can be taken to minimize salt use and protect local waterbodies

The following type(s) of salt were applied **during this reporting period (year 8)**:

- ☒ Sodium chloride
- ☐ Calcium chloride
- ☐ Potassium chloride
- ☐ Magnesium chloride
- ☐ Brine solution

Total amount of salt applied **during this reporting period (year 8) including units:**

14,141.6 tons

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:

DCR is responsible for maintenance of all DCR-owned surfaces which have snow and ice removal, therefore DCR follows the requirements for municipally maintained surfaces in Appendix H Part IV.4.a for snow and ice removal activities. An annual message in November/ December to private road salt applicators and commercial industrial site owners is a requirement from Appendix H Part IV.4.b for private applicators which is not applicable for DCR.

Winter maintenance at DCR facilities is usually performed by either DCR or MassDOT, depending on the road. Both DCR and MassDOT provide annual trainings to their winter maintenance operators, which cover proper storage and application rates of winter deicing material along with the steps that can be taken to minimize salt use and protect waterbodies. DCR uses contractors to help with winter maintenance at certain facilities. DCR is working to confirm that all contractors follow the best practices in Appendix H Part IV.4.a,

but since DCR is the owner and maintainer of these facilities, public education and outreach requirements (Appendix H Part IV.4.b) for privately maintained facilities do not apply. More information about DCR's salt practices can be found in the Salt Reduction Plan and O&M Plan found here: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/dcr-stormwater-management>

Salt application amount listed above is an approximated combined total from all DCR depots (note that DCR shares salt bins with MassDOT at the Blue Hills and Stoneham depots).

DCR also uses social media to educate the public on winter maintenance activities. See MCM 2 for specific statistics about the interaction on each of these posts about salt reduction methods the public can use.

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 F and H for more information)*

Good Housekeeping and Pollution Prevention for Permittee Owned Operations

- ☒ Increased street sweeping frequency of all permittee 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

- ☒ Installed a structural BMP as a demonstration project within the drainage area of the water quality limited water or its tributaries (due in Year 6). The type of BMP installed is (*e.g. biofiltration*):

The MS4 Permit requires DCR to install a minimum of one structural BMP as a demonstration project within six years of the permit effective date. Prior to PY8, demonstration BMPs were installed in all the watersheds where a Nitrogen Source Identification Report (NSIR) is required (Proctor Brook PSIR-NSIR, Mount Hope Bay PSIR-NSIR, Long Island Sound PSIR-NSIR, and Outer New Bedford Harbor PSIR-NSIR watersheds). The 67.6 lb/yr total noted below is a sum of all creditable structural control measures in NSIR watersheds.

Total estimated nitrogen removed in lbs/year from the installed BMP: 67.6

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

- ☒ the BMP was estimated consistent with Attachment 3 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:

<https://vhb.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=1fffa8d7b9e144e793dcffb0445846e2>

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:

The BMP type, total area treated by the BMP, estimated nitrogen and phosphorus removed, and Design Storage Volume (DSV), where available, for all structural BMPs can be found on the publicly available website linked above. Currently, most BMPs in NSIR watersheds use a conservatively assumed runoff depth of 0.5 inches. DCR is working to refine all BMP credit calculations to use individually estimated DSV to provide the most accurate credit calculations. To date, DCR has completed this recalculation for BMPs in PCP watersheds to meet PY8 targets and will continue to update for NSIR watersheds and elsewhere in the next several years, prioritizing BMPs for which supporting information is more readily available.

DCR's MS4 regulated property extends into 4 watersheds that require Nitrogen Source Identification Reports (NSIRs). The sum of nitrogen removed in these watersheds is 67.6 lb/yr with the following existing treatment in each watershed:

Long Island Sound: 53.6 lb/yr

Mount Hope Bay: 4.3 lb/yr

Outer New Bedford Harbor: 4.8 lb/yr

Proctor Brook: 4.9 lb/yr

DCR has BMPs throughout the state that remove nitrogen from runoff. The treatment tallied above is only for MS4-creditable BMPs within DCR's NSIR watersheds. DCR has implemented a variety of BMP types in these watersheds including infiltration basins/swales, water quality swales, bioretention basins, leaching basins, and leaching galleys. Specific BMP types and the location of each BMP in a NSIR watershed can be found here: <https://vhb.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=1fffa8d7b9e144e793dcffb0445846e2>

Based on DCR's review of the 2022 303d list, DCR addressed three additional waterbody segments newly impaired for nitrogen, all of which are segments of the Taunton River (MA62-02, MA62-03, MA62-04). Since the watersheds associated with these segments are all nested within the existing Mount Hope Bay Watershed, DCR created an addendum to the Mount Hope Bay NSIR to address these changes. They can be viewed at <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/dcr-stormwater-management>

Phosphorus (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) encouraging the proper use and disposal of grass clippings and encouraging the proper use of slow-release and phosphorus-free 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 permittee 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

- ☒ Installed a structural BMP as a demonstration project within the drainage area of the water quality limited water or its tributaries (due in Year 6). The type of BMP installed is (*e.g. biofiltration*):

The MS4 Permit requires DCR to install a minimum of one structural BMP as a demonstration project within six years of the permit effective date. Prior to PY8, demonstration BMPs have been installed in all the watersheds where a Phosphorus Source Identification Report (PSIR) is required (Blackstone River PSIR, Merrimack River PSIR, Mother Brook PSIR, Mystic River PSIR, Ten Mile River PSIR, Proctor Brook PSIR-NSIR, Mount Hope Bay PSIR-NSIR, Long Island Sound PSIR-NSIR, and Outer New Bedford Harbor PSIR-NSIR watersheds). The 45.9 lb/yr total noted below is a sum of all creditable structural control measures in PSIR watersheds.

Total estimated phosphorus removed in **lbs/year** from the installed BMP: 45.9

Any structural BMPs listed in Attachment 3 of Appendix F already existing or installed in the regulated area of the catchment/watershed by the permittee or its agents was tracked and the phosphorus removal

- ☒ by the BMP was estimated consistent with Attachment 3 to Appendix F. The BMP type, total area treated by the BMP, the design storage volume of the BMP, and the estimated phosphorus 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:

<https://vhb.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=1fffa8d7b9e144e793dcffb0445846e2>

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:

The BMP type, total area treated by the BMP, estimated phosphorus removed, and Design Storage Volume (DSV), where available, for all structural BMPs can be found on the publicly available website linked above. During PY8, DCR calculated or refined DSV values for selected BMPs to confirm that the more accurate treatment information continued to satisfy the applicable PY8 phosphorus reduction requirements. For BMPs without available DSV information, DCR continues to conservatively assume a runoff depth of 0.5 inches when calculating pollutant reductions. DCR will continue refining credit using individually estimated DSV values for the remaining BMPs over the next several years, prioritizing BMPs for which supporting information is more readily available.

DCR MS4 regulated property extends into 9 watersheds that require PSIRs and 4 watersheds that require Phosphorus Control Plans (PCPs). The sum of phosphorus removed in these watersheds is 125.5 lb/yr, which includes both structural and non-structural reduction methods. Reduction from each structural BMP can be found at the link above. The existing treatment in each watershed is as follows:

PSIR Watersheds:

Mystic River: 18.5 lb/yr
 Blackstone River: 11.0 lb/yr
 Long Island Sound: 6.2 lb/yr
 Merrimack River: 4.2 lb/yr

Mother Brook: 4.0 lb/yr
 Outer New Bedford Harbor: 0.6 lb/yr
 Ten Mile River: 0.5 lb/yr
 Mount Hope Bay: 0.5 lb/yr
 Proctor Brook: 0.4 lb/yr

PCP Watersheds:

Charles River: 79.6 lb/yr
 Lake Quinsigamond & Flint Pond: 8.9 lb/yr*
 Bents Pond/Ramsdall Pond: 0.5 lb/yr*
 Auburn Pond/Leeseville Pond: 1.8 lb/yr*

*Treatment in the 3 PCP watersheds with an asterisk are not summed in the total listed in the box above (11.2 lb/yr) to avoid double-counting treatment because the treatment in these watersheds are also within a PSIR watershed.

DCR has BMPs throughout the state that remove phosphorus from runoff. The treatment tallied above is only for MS4-creditable BMPs within DCR's PSIR and PCP watersheds. DCR has implemented a variety of BMP types in these watersheds including infiltration basins/swales, water quality swales, bioretention basins, leaching basins, and leaching galleys. Specific BMP types and the location of each BMP in a PSIR or PCP watershed can be found here: <https://vhb.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=1fffa8d7b9e144e793dcffb0445846e2>

Based on DCR's review of the 2022 303d list, DCR addressed one additional waterbody segment of the Taunton River newly impaired for phosphorus, and two de-listed segments of the Nashua River which were previously impaired for phosphorus (segments MA81-07 & MA81-09). Since the watershed associated with newly added Taunton River segment is within the existing Mount Hope Bay Watershed, DCR created an addendum to the Mount Hope Bay NSIR to document this update and updated Mount Hope Bay to become a PSIR-NSIR. An addendum was also created for the Merrimack River PSIR to document the two de-listed segments of the Nashua River. Neither of these updates have a functional impact on the NSIR/PSIRs since these changes will not add or remove DCR facilities from the reports. These addenda can be viewed at <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/dcr-stormwater-management>

Solids, Oil and Grease (Hydrocarbons), or Metals

Annual Requirements

Good Housekeeping and Pollution Prevention for Permittee Owned Operations

- ☒ Increased street sweeping frequency of all permittee 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:

<https://www.mass.gov/guides/dcr-street-sweeping>

- ☒ 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:

DCR developed a ranking system to prioritize catch basin inspections and cleaning so that no sump is more than 50 percent full. The rankings recalculate based on new inspections records. DCR created a ArcGIS dashboard and map to show the catch basins that require cleaning and suggested cleaning frequency. This process has allowed DCR field staff to focus efforts on catch basins that need immediate attention and plan out cleaning schedules. This system has been in use for multiple years now and has proven successful for DCR's MS4 program. This system provides a centralized location for inspection and cleaning data. In PY9, DCR plans to evaluate crediting pollutant reduction from catch basin cleaning for the Charles River PCP.

Charles River Watershed Phosphorus TMDL

Below, calculate your current phosphorus export rate by first filling out the individual phosphorus loading components (labeled [A], [B], [C], and [D]) and then computing your current phosphorus export rate using the equation provided.

Baseline phosphorus export rate from PCP Area, as identified in Appendix F (**lbs/year**) [A]:

873

Total phosphorus reduction from all nonstructural controls implemented **this reporting period (lbs/year)** [B]:

31

Total phosphorus reduction from all structural controls installed this reporting period and all previous years (**lbs/year**) [C]:

48.6

Phosphorus load increase due to development incurred since 2005 in **lbs/year** [D]:

2.1

Current phosphorus export rate from the PCP Area in **lbs/year** [=A-(B+C)+D from above]:

795.5

- The current phosphorus export rate from the PCP Area is equal to or less than the applicable Allowable
☒ Phosphorus Load plus the applicable Phosphorus Reduction Requirement multiplied by 0.8 (the year 8 milestone)

- I certify under penalty of law that all source control and treatment Best Management Practices being claimed for phosphorus reduction credit have been inspected, maintained and repaired in accordance
☒ with manufacturer or design specification. I certify that, to the best of my knowledge, all Best Management Practices being claimed for a phosphorus reduction credit are performing as originally designed.

- ☒ All municipally owned and maintained turf grass areas are being managed in accordance with Massachusetts Regulation 331 CMR 31 pertaining to proper use of fertilizers on turf grasses

- ☒ Implemented all nonstructural control measures in the watershed **during this reporting period** and documented the measures and their phosphorus reduction. The nonstructural control measure information:

- ☐ is attached to the email submission
☒ can be found at the following publicly available website:

Found in Section 4.1 of the Charles River PCP available here: <https://www.mass.gov/info->

details/dcr-stormwater-management

- Documented the structural control measures implemented in the watershed during **this reporting period and all previous years**, including location, phosphorus reduction in mass/year, and date of last completed maintenance and inspection for each control. The structural control measure information:

- ☐ is not applicable; no structural control measures were implemented
☐ is attached to the email submission
☒ can be found at the following publicly available website:

<https://vhb.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=1fffa8d7b9e144e793dcffb0445846e2>

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:

DCR is currently meeting all requirements listed above, including the PY8 phosphorus reduction requirement for the Charles River Watershed Phosphorus TMDL and continues to evaluate opportunities to incorporate BMPs into planned projects and add retrofit BMPs where feasible. DCR is also evaluating non-structural control credit options including catch basin cleaning credit.

NON-TRADITIONAL AND TRANSPORTATION MS4s ONLY- municipalities please skip this section:

Describe the planned phosphorus reduction activities on site and coordination progress with the applicable municipality:

Planned phosphorus reduction activities are addressed in the Charles River PCP. Because DCR has already met its Phase 1 PCP target with existing BMPs, significant coordination with municipalities has not been necessary yet. However, DCR continues to coordinate with municipalities working to compare and coordinate on mapping data updates and is open to pursuing partnership BMPs with municipalities when opportunities arise.

Lake and Pond Phosphorus TMDL

Below, calculate your current phosphorus export rate by first filling out the individual phosphorus loading components (labeled [A], [B], [C], and [D]) and then computing your current phosphorus export rate using the equation provided.

Baseline phosphorus export rate from LPCP Area (lbs/year) [A]:

27.5

Total phosphorus reduction from all nonstructural controls this reporting period (lbs/year) [B]:

0.04

Total phosphorus reduction from all structural controls installed this reporting period and all previous years (lbs/year) [C]:

11.2

Phosphorus load increase due to development incurred since baseline loading was calculated in lbs/year [D]:

-0.1

Current phosphorus export rate from the LPCP Area in lbs/year [=A-(B+C)+D from above]:

16.16

The current phosphorus export rate from the LPCP Area is equal to or less than the applicable

- ☒ Allowable Phosphorus Load plus the applicable Phosphorus Reduction Requirement multiplied by 0.8 (the year 8 milestone)

I certify under penalty of law that all source control and treatment Best Management Practices being claimed for phosphorus reduction credit have been inspected, maintained and repaired in accordance

- ☒ with manufacturer or design specification. I certify that, to the best of my knowledge, all Best Management Practices being claimed for a phosphorus reduction credit are performing as originally designed.
- ☒ All municipally owned and maintained turf grass areas are being managed in accordance with Massachusetts Regulation 331 CMR 31.00 pertaining to proper use of fertilizers on turf grasses

Implemented all nonstructural control measures in the watershed **during this reporting period** and

- ☒ documented the measures and their phosphorus reduction. The nonstructural control measure information:

- ☐ is attached to the email submission
- ☒ can be found at the following publicly available website:

Found in Section 4.1 of the LPCP document available here: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/dcr-stormwater-management>

Documented the structural control measures implemented in the watershed during **this reporting**

- ☒ **period and all previous years**, including location, phosphorus reduction in weight/year, and date of last completed maintenance and inspection for each control. The structural control measure information:

- ☐ is not applicable; no structural control measures were implemented
- ☐ is attached to the email submission
- ☒ can be found at the following publicly available website:

<https://vhb.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=1fffa8d7b9e144e793dcffb0445846e2>

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:

DCR is currently meeting all requirements listed above, including the PY8 phosphorus reduction requirement for Lake and Pond Phosphorus TMDLs. DCR MS4 regulated property extends into 3 watersheds that require Lake Phosphorus Control Plans. The sums from all three of DCR's LPCP watersheds are provided in the boxes above, but the breakdown for each watershed is as follows:

[A] Baseline phosphorus export rate:

Lake Quinsigamond & Flint Pond: 20.4 lb/yr
Bents Pond/Ramsdall Pond: 1.7 lb/yr
Auburn Pond/Leeseville Pond: 5.4 lb/yr

[B] TP reduction from all nonstructural controls:

Lake Quinsigamond & Flint Pond: 0.03 lb/yr
Bents Pond/Ramsdall Pond: 0.00 lb/yr
Auburn Pond/Leeseville Pond: 0.01 lb/yr

[C] Total phosphorus reduction from installed BMPs:

Lake Quinsigamond & Flint Pond: 8.9 lb/yr

Bents Pond/Ramsdall Pond: 0.5 lb/yr

Auburn Pond/Leeseville Pond: 1.8 lb/yr

[D] DCR evaluated each PCP watershed for changes to baseline load due to development. In PY8 there was a 0.1 lb/yr reduction in the Lake Quinsigamond and Flint Pond Watershed.

Current Phosphorus Export Rate:

Lake Quinsigamond & Flint Pond: 11.4 lb/yr

Bents Pond/Ramsdall Pond: 1.2 lb/yr

Auburn Pond/Leeseville Pond: 3.6 lb/yr

DCR has met the pollutant reduction target for Auburn Pond/Leeseville Pond and plans to document completion in PY9. DCR is currently designing BMPs in the Lake Quinsigamond & Flint Pond and Bents Pond/Ramsdall Pond watersheds with the intention of meeting the final pollutant reduction targets for each PCP in PY9. This will allow DCR to direct resources towards progressing treatment for the Charles River PCP.

Optional: Use the box below to provide any additional information you would like to share as part of your self-assessment:

As a statewide agency with hundreds of facilities and over 1,700 MS4 regulated outfalls, DCR has invested significant effort over the past 8 years developing a geodatabase of facilities, drainage systems, and BMPs. Continued refinement of the stormwater data has allowed DCR to develop a better understanding of the regulated drainage system and prioritize efforts to meet the MS4 requirements including crediting structural BMPs for pollutant removal throughout the state, but most specifically the PCP and NSIR/PSIR watersheds.

DCR has developed ArcGIS dashboards and web applications to help track and visualize data as well as plan for inspections and maintenance activities for catch basins, BMPs, and quarterly SWPPP inspections. DCR will continue to use these tools to improve the process for field inspections to meet the permit requirements.

DCR continues to require stormwater improvements on projects in line with our Stormwater Handbook and the Stormwater Group reviews plans for compliance.

The size of DCR's regulated area results in DCR being required to develop and implement 4 PCPs and 9 NSIR/PSIRs. Through DCR's work in Permit Years 4 through 7 DCR was able to calculate credit for existing BMPs in all 9 of the PSIR/NSIR watersheds to meet the demonstration BMP requirements. DCR's continued emphasis on implementing BMPs into DCR projects allows DCR to maximize treatment in PCP watersheds. Because of DCR's efforts to incorporate BMPs into programmed projects DCR is currently meeting the Charles River Phase 1 PCP phosphorus reduction requirements and working to implement BMPs to meet the Phase 2 required reduction. Additionally, DCR began tracking leaf and yard waste disposal amounts in Permit Year 6 and is continuing to do so in PY8 to help understand the increased effort needed to potentially receive treatment credit in the future. In Permit Year 8, DCR removed over 3,656 cubic yards of leaf litter and yard waste.

DCR continues to make progress on IDDE requirements, has expended significant resources towards identifying and removing sources of non-stormwater flows, and has field staff performing catchment investigations to the extent funding allows to try to make progress toward closing catchment investigations in

the DCR drainage system. DCR's work continues to focus on the remaining, complicated, problem and highest priority catchments. In PY8, there was a gap in contract coverage with DCR's maintenance contract which caused delays in some of the problem and highest follow-up activities though DCR was still able to make progress in narrowing down the sources of non-stormwater flows. DCR also continued routine catchment investigations and dry and wet weather screening efforts. Weather conditions meeting the wet weather requirements are very limited, making it difficult to progress efforts, but DCR aims to maximize sampling opportunities when rainfall meets the requirements.

DCR has added full-time staff to the stormwater team to help meet the MS4 requirements and hopes to add additional staff dedicated to the stormwater program. Additionally, the hiring of construction inspection staff has helped better track the completion of construction site inspections and enforcement actions in Permit Year 8.

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:

Since submitting the NOI, we completed a GIS analysis of DCR-owned and maintained properties in Year 1 and have further refined the list of regulated facilities in each permit year as DCR's GIS drainage mapping is refined and facilities are evaluated more closely in support of the development of PCPs and NSIRs.

In Permit Year 8, along with refining certain facility boundaries, 1 facility was added and 1 facility was removed. See the attached facility update memo for more information on this review.

Newly mapped outfalls and interconnections were added to the database in Permit Year 8 through continued field mapping. Each new outfall/interconnection was evaluated by DCR and assigned a regulated status, IDDE priority status and receiving waterbody based on its location. New outfalls that are not exempt from IDDE requirements get prioritized for dry weather screening. The regulated facilities and outfalls can be viewed online at: <https://vhb.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=1fffa8d7b9e144e793dcffb0445846e2>

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:**

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: 1-1 Social Media Public Service Messages

Message Description and Distribution Method:

All messages are shared and viewable on DCR's X (formerly Twitter) and Instagram feeds @MassDCR

- Fall message was focused on leaf litter pollution and proper collection
- Spring message was focused on managing grass clippings and fertilizers
- Summer message was focused on dog waste management
- SWMP posting message noting updated SWMP and encouraging public's review

Targeted Audience:

Responsible Department/Parties:

Measurable Goal(s):

@MassDCR X (formerly Twitter) account has 26,900 followers

@MASSDCR Instagram has 26,700 followers

- Fall message: leaf litter - X: 1 repost/1 like/1400 views. Instagram: 45 likes
- Spring message: grass clippings: X: 1 repost/2 likes/345 views. Instagram 36 likes
- Spring message: fertilizer - X: 3 reposts/4 likes/812 views. Instagram: 39 likes
- Summer message: pet waste - X: 6 reposts/17 likes/2,700 views. Instagram: 821 likes
- SWMP message - X: 2 likes/2 reposts/1,600 views. Instagram: 54 likes

Message Date(s):

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:

Social media public service messages have replaced the 'Downstream Newsletter' which is no longer being published. The increased use of X (formerly Twitter) and Instagram has allowed DCR to share stormwater messages with a larger audience and better track engagement. DCR's SWMP has been updated to reflect this in BMP 1-1.

BMP:1-2: Signs about Not Feeding Gulls

Message Description and Distribution Method:

DCR continued to post and maintain signs around Wachusett Reservoir and the Wachusett Reservoir watershed informing public not to feed seagulls, as part of an ongoing water quality protection program.

Targeted Audience: Visitors, General Public, Staff

Responsible Department/Parties: Division of Water Supply Protection, Office of Watershed Management

Measurable Goal(s):

Signs are posted in 3 locations in Leominster, 1 in Shrewsbury, 1 in Northborough, 2 in Clinton, 4 in Worcester, 1 in Hudson, 1 in Marlborough, 2 in Fitchburg, 1 in Medway, 1 in Framingham, 1 in Charlton, 1 in Dorchester.

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:1-3 Stormwater Posters and Brochures**Message Description and Distribution Method:**

DCR displays educational signage and distributed brochures about water quality and stormwater pollution prevention.

Brochures include information about water supply watershed protection, surface water quality, winter salt usage, stormwater pollution and proper disposal of pharmaceuticals.

- Brochures are available at various Water Supply/Reservoir facilities and are distributed to town halls, businesses, and others as applicable in water supply watersheds.

Brochures, fact sheets and poster examples are available in the Public Education Program section on DCR's stormwater page:

<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/dcr-stormwater-management>

The Lakes and Ponds Program has educational guides available at:

<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/lakes-and-ponds-program-educational-materials-resources>

Targeted Audience: Visitors, Staff

Responsible Department/Parties: External Affairs

Measurable Goal(s):**Educational Signage:**

2 signs at Wachusett Reservoir about Direct Discharge Elimination

2 signs at Longfellow Bridge/Charles River Reservation about Clean Water/Green Infrastructure

5 signs at Magazine Beach/Charles River Reservation about watersheds

1 sign at Bajko Rink about the subsurface infiltration system under the parking lot

1 sign at Kings Beach/Stacy Brook/Lynn Shore Reservation about why swimming isn't allowed at the beach

7 signs total at the salt/sand sheds in the watershed towns of the Quabbin Reservoir about "Salt Smarter not Harder"

2 interpretive boards at J Harry Rich State Forest in Groton on water quality to improve river health
 2 water quality signs at Myles Standish State Forest in Carver/Plymouth for ponds.

DCR also partners with various groups that provide educational signage for rain garden installations.

Brochures:

DCR staff provided outreach brochures and the hands-on EnviroScope model at the Fall Wachusett Dam Day. Updated Road Salt outreach palm cards were provided for the Massachusetts Municipal Association annual conference trade show. DCR created Wachusett /Sudbury Region printed calendars that included stormwater and water quality tips that have been supplied to watershed town offices and given out to the public. Provided DCR Stormwater Brochures, "Salt Smarter not Harder" and Salt Brine Recipe cards. Stormwater postcards were given out at other events throughout the year.

Clean water outreach:

"Clean Water Makes Great Coffee, Please Don't Litter" posters were distributed to coffee shops and convenience stores in the watershed.

"Clean Water Makes Great Beer, Protect the Watershed" lawn signs were printed and placed at Breweries during festival days.

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:1-4: Dog Waste Management

Message Description and Distribution Method:

Continued to post signs at DCR properties about dog waste management. Provided mutt mitt stations at high-use dog walking areas. Initiated commercial dogwalker permit program. Maintained website with educational materials about dog waste management.

Targeted Audience: Visitors

Responsible Department/Parties: External Affairs/Operations

Measurable Goal(s):

- Maintained Dog Waste Signage at Quabbin Reservoir available at:
<https://www.mass.gov/doc/quabbin-reservoir-dog-brochure/download>
- Maintained Dog Waste Signage at Watershed Protection Areas: Ware River/Wachusett Reservoir/Sudbury Reservoir Facilities - <https://www.mass.gov/doc/dog-waste-and-surface-water-quality-0/download>
- Maintained mutt-mitt stations and signage at various park facilities (including Lake and Pond watershed locations) - mutt-mitt stations/dogwalking permit information
- Commercial Dog Walker Permits with brochures - 122 permits
- Commercial Dog Walker Application available at:
<https://www.mass.gov/how-to/apply-for-a-commercial-dog-walking-permit>
- DCR Parks Dog Rules and Regulations: <https://www.mass.gov/guides/dogs-in-dcr-parks>

Message Date(s): Watershed Protection Facilities signage - ongoing
Park Facility mutt mitt stations/ dog walking permit information - Ongoing
All website locations - Ongoing
Dog Walking Permit Information - permits issued annually

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:1-5 Stormwater Management Website

Message Description and Distribution Method:

Posted permit documents to DCR Stormwater Management website
<https://www.mass.gov/service-details/dcr-stormwater-management>

Targeted Audience: Staff, Visitors, General Public, Designers/Contractors

Responsible Department/Parties: Engineering/External Affairs

Measurable Goal(s):

SWMP document downloads - 43 downloads
IDDE Plan downloads - 13 downloads
O+M Plan downloads - 24 downloads

Message Date(s): SWMP Permit Year 8 version updated 6/4/2026, posted on DCR Stormwater Management website (linked above) on 7/17/2026, comment period announcement made on 7/23/2026. The PY7 SWMP was posted on June 30th 2025.

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:1-6 Project Kick-off Meeting

Message Description and Distribution Method:

DCR will discuss relevant stormwater and permitting requirements at project kick-off meetings with contractors to inform them about relevant stormwater issues. These meetings will highlight expectations related to Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (MCM 3), Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control (MCM 4), and Post-Construction Stormwater Management (MCM 5).

Targeted Audience: Contractors

Responsible Department/Parties: Design and Engineering

Measurable Goal(s):

Number of kick-offs held in permit year: 7

Message Date(s): various dates based on project start dates

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:**

The Permit Year 8 version of the SWMP was updated on 6/4/2026 and was posted on 7/17/2026.

<https://www.mass.gov/service-details/dcr-stormwater-management>.

DCR X (Twitter) and Instagram, both @MassDCR, posted about the comment period on 7/23/2026. No comments were received during this period.

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:**

DCR continues to increase efforts to use social media, including Instagram, X (previously known as Twitter), and YouTube, to educate the public about water quality and the MS4 permit requirements as well as encourage them to get involved in environmental efforts. During PY8, DCR shared posts addressing pet waste, responsible fertilizer use, grass clippings, leaf litter, salt brine, floating wetlands, and the availability of DCR's Stormwater Management Program Plan. DCR also published several posts promoting Park Serve Day. In total, the 12 posts on X received approximately 12,247 views, 59 likes, and 26 reposts, while 11 corresponding Instagram posts received 3,060 likes. The floating wetland post received the most Instagram engagement, with 1,179 likes, while posts about pet waste, salt brine, and Park Serve Day also generated substantial public engagement.

DCR hosted or supported at least 16 cleanup events during PY8 at parks, beaches, rivers, marshes, islands, and other natural areas throughout Massachusetts. These activities included cleanups at Salisbury Beach, Alewife Brook, Belle Isle Marsh, the Muddy River, Carson Beach, the Neponset River, Gateway Park, Macdonald Park, the Charles River, the Malden River, Moakley Park, Waquoit Bay, Peddock's Island, and Winthrop Shores. Several cleanups were held in connection with Park Serve Day on April 25, 2026, and additional cleanup activities occurred throughout the permit year, including the Muddy River Goats'N'Boats

event in July 2025. The Muddy River Initiative also held 7 cleanup events in the fall of 2025 where DCR removed 5 tons of trash.

DCR also supported public participation in shoreline cleanup activities through COASTSWEEP 2025. A total of 3,287 volunteers removed nearly 47,500 pounds of trash from more than 200 sites and cleaned over 156 miles of shoreline. Cigarette butts were the most commonly collected item, with 10,553 removed, followed by 8,673 pieces of glass. Volunteers also collected approximately 16,400 plastic and foam items, including bags, bottles, caps, straws, utensils, cups, food containers, foam packaging, fishing line, and strapping bands. Other unusual items collected included a trampoline, grill, steering wheel, traffic cones, shopping carts, a sail, and a garage door opener.

DCR conducted 21 interpretive programs between July 1, 2025, and June 30, 2026 that incorporated messages related to stormwater pollution prevention and watershed protection. These programs reached 705 participants, including 145 adults and 560 children. Programs included six Water Science Summer Library Series events, with educational handouts provided to caregivers, as well as library and school programs focused on water science, the water cycle, watershed modeling, macroinvertebrates, water quality, climate, and human impacts on aquatic systems. Specific events included the Fay School Water Symposium, a high school water quality field trip, fifth-grade programs on the journey of a water drop and watershed models, a seventh-grade Watershed Detectives program, an eighth-grade Trees and Climate program, a Scout presentation and tour at Wachusett Dam, and an eighth-grade Human Impact on Earth Systems program. DCR also provided watershed protection and water quality outreach at Wachusett Dam Day, Wachusett Nature Stories, the Clinton Halloween Walk, and the West Boylston Scarecrow Festival.

DCR has made efforts to highlight the MS4 program and share best practices at industry and educational events, including the Massachusetts Municipal Association annual conference trade show where DCR provided updated road salt outreach palm cards, the Fall Wachusett Dam Day where DCR provided outreach brochures and the hands-on EnviroScape model, and the West Boylston, Sterling, and Clinton Touch a Truck event where DCR talked to the public about the importance of watershed protection.

DCR was also awarded the Stormy Award in September 2025 at the annual New England Water Works Association (NEWWA) Conference. The Stormy Awards program seeks to identify New England's most unique, innovative, and imaginative stormwater ideas. DCR's Catch Basin Inspection and Cleaning Optimization project received the program's top scores in the category of Program Efficiency and Technology Support. DCR presented the catch basin cleaning program at part of the Stormy Award session of the NEWWA conference.

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:

Number of SSOs removed:

MS4 System Mapping

Percent of Phase II map complete:

Optional: Provide additional status information regarding your map:

DCR is continuously updating and refining our drainage infrastructure mapping in GIS as we conduct our infrastructure and maintenance program and IDDE investigation work. The percentage above reflects a weighted average of all DCR drainage infrastructure (26,928 structures, 99% complete) and all mapped catchments (1,558 catchments, 65.2% complete). Additionally, while DCR generally does not own sewer or combined systems, DCR has collected municipal sanitary sewer systems and combined sewer systems on 37 municipalities and state organizations where DCR has facilities to help inform catchment investigations.

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:

<https://vhb.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=87a35a2683aa4478a07ade7ffb7c1b2a>

*Below, report on the number of outfalls/interconnections screened **during this reporting period**.*

Number of outfalls screened:

*Below, report on the percent of outfalls/interconnections screened **to date**.*

Percent of outfalls screened:

Optional: Provide additional information regarding your outfall/interconnection screening:

The percent outfalls shown reflects the percent of all regulated outfalls. As DCR continues to update mapping, including defining interconnections, new regulated outfalls have been mapped and therefore the overall number of regulated outfalls has increased each year since the original outfall inventory was finished in Permit Year 3. Newly identified regulated outfalls/ interconnections are the reason why the percent complete is not 100%.

The number of outfalls will continue to be updated as new outfalls are located and existing outfalls are further reviewed for ownership/maintenance responsibility, location, outlet discharge type, and drainage infrastructure mapping. DCR will continue to screen newly identified outfalls each year and will screen those that were not addressed in PY8 early in PY9 to try to maintain 100% screening.

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:

<https://vhab.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=87a35a2683aa4478a07ade7ffb7c1b2a>

*Below, report on the number of catchment investigations completed **during this reporting period**.*

Number of catchment investigations completed this reporting period: 82

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

Percent of total catchments investigated: 34.08

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

As a statewide agency with over 1,500 outfalls in the IDDE program, completion of IDDE catchment investigations is a massive undertaking for DCR. In PY8, DCR focused on further refining catchment watersheds with key junction manholes and identifying those where catchment investigations should be performed to continued focused field work efforts. DCR will continue this work in PY9.

Additionally, DCR has continued refining and reviewing catchments without key junction manholes that may be closed based on screening data. DCR has made progress on these effort in PY8, increasing closed catchment investigations from 31.8% to 34.1%. The age and complexity of DCR's drainage system requires detailed review of the drainage system to understand the catchment areas and connectivity of the systems.

DCR will continue efforts to close catchments in PY9 and plans on completing problem and highest catchments as soon as possible. Refer to the IDDE Summary Report, included as an attachment and available on line, for records on historic and planned actions for each problem/highest priority catchment: www.mass.gov/info-details/dcr-stormwater-management

DCR has also focused on field work and collaboration with adjacent municipalities for problem and highest priority (where information gathered on the outfall/interconnection indicated sewer input), which is time-intensive and requires significant coordination. DCR has expended significant resources identifying and removing illicit discharges in these catchments as detailed in the Permit Year 8 IDDE Summary Report attached.

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: Number of illicit discharges removed: Estimated volume of sewage removed: 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: Total number of illicit discharges removed:

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

Details about each illicit discharge are included in the IDDE Summary Report included as an attachment to this annual report. The 3 illicit discharge identified in PY8 and the illicit discharges identified prior to PY8 all have planned actions to eliminate the discharges in PY9, which are documented in the summary report and DCR's database. Removal of these discharges is a priority for DCR to reduce pollutants to our waterbodies.

Employee Training

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

DCR has provided annual Stormwater Unit staff training to employees in February and March 2026 which focused on IDDE investigations, GIS mapping, SWPPP inspections, and BMP inspections.

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: Number of inspections completed: Number of enforcement actions taken:

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

DCR ensures construction site erosion and sediment controls for stormwater management through compliance with the NPDES Construction General Permit (CGP). These are completed by another department at DCR currently and the DCR Stormwater Team is working with the other group to get a summary of number of inspections completed for future permit years. DCR includes special provisions in construction documents for projects which meet or exceed the one-acre land disturbance threshold. The special provisions require preparation of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and ongoing site inspections in accordance with the CGP.

DCR has begun incorporating site plan reviews into our overall project review process - DCR's Green Docket process. This process flags when a project is subject the CGP requirements and that appropriate staff has reviewed the site plans for appropriate controls.

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

As-built Drawings

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

Number of as-built drawings received:

Optional: Enter any additional information relevant to the submission of as-built drawings:

DCR's general construction specifications requires as-built drawings at the completion of a project. The Engineering group has been developing a procedure to gather the submitted as-builts and add new or re-constructed drainage infrastructure and treatment to the MS4 GIS database. DCR will continue to work on building out this procedure in PY9. While final, designer-confirmed as-builts have not been formally received, DCR's stormwater team is actively involved in projects and has received final plans for 16 projects with drainage and/or BMPs in PY8 which have been mapped and credited in DCR's database.

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:

DCR does not have the authority to develop ordinances or regulations and relies on master planning and professional design standard practices, such as MassDOT's Project Design and Development Guide (PDDG) for project designs. DCR's review of Street Design and Parking Lot guidelines concluded that DCR's current approach, using the PDDG and the DCR Stormwater Handbook, along with DCR's focus on facility context and landscape consistency in its parks encourages LID measures. DCR will continue to provide training to project managers on the Handbook and encouraging LID measures as the first step to design. DCR's Stormwater Group will continue using the Green Docket review process to ensure projects are maximizing the use on LID measures.

Green Infrastructure Report

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

Since DCR is a non-traditional MS4, DCR is not subject to the requirements of Section 2.3.6.c of the MS4 Permit and does not have the authority to create regulations. DCR did complete this evaluation in parallel with the evaluation of street design and parking lot guidelines to review if there were improvements DCR can make to best support green infrastructure. DCR's Stormwater Handbook includes an initial review of green infrastructure that can be incorporated into designs. DCR will continue to encourage designers to first consider LID measures and green infrastructure in their designs.

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. Quincy Shore Drive – Quincy Shore Drive, Quincy
2. Christian A. Herter Park Master Plan – 1255 Soldiers Field Rd, Boston
3. Memorial Drive Phase 3 – Memorial Drive, Cambridge
4. Hammond Pond Parkway – Hammond Pond Parkway, Newton
5. Chicopee State Park – Chicopee
6. Charlesbank Landing – Boston
7. Birmingham Parkway – Boston
8. West Roxbury Parkway – Boston
9. Arborway – Boston

See attached DCR Retrofit Opportunities Memo summarizing the planned and constructed retrofit BMPs at each location listed above.

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 and the type of BMP(s) implemented. 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.

*Sites with asterisks were included in the original Retrofit Opportunity List submitted in Permit Year 4

1. Nantasket Beach*, Hull - 27 leaching basins
2. Arborway, Boston - 2 leaching galleys
3. Lawrence W. Llyod Swimming Pool, Melrose - 1 leaching basin
4. Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, Falmouth - 1 infiltration swale
5. Blue Hills Reservation, Milton - 2 infiltration basins
6. Gusctav A. - Swede - Johnson Swimming Pool, Fitchburg - 1 bioretention swale
7. Factory Hill Playground, Hyde Park - 1 leaching basin
8. Shannon Beach, Winchester - 2 leaching basins
9. Horgan Skating Arena*, Auburn – 2 leaching basins and 1 infiltration basin
10. George Spatcher Swimming Pool*, Attleboro – 1 leaching basin
11. Marsh Post Trail Connection*, Cambridge – 1 jellyfish filter, 1 infiltration basin
12. McVann – O’Keefe Memorial Skating Rink*, Peabody – 1 infiltration trench
13. Sarah Jane Sherman Pool, Chicopee – 1 leaching trench, 1 leaching catch basin
14. Gerald J. Mason Pool, Agawam – 1 leaching basin
15. Harvard University Newell Boathouse, Boston – 2 leaching basins, 1 bioretention infiltration basin, 1 detention chamber
16. John W. Flynn Memorial Ice Skating Rink, Medford – 1 leaching chamber, 1 infiltration basin
17. Honorable Charles J. Buffone Skating Rink, Worcester – 1 leaching galley
18. Northeastern University Henderson Boathouse, Boston – 1 porous pavement with underdrain, 1 bioretention with underdrain basin, 2 infiltration trenches
19. Quinsigamond State Park Regatta Point, Worcester – 1 sand & organic filter

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: 3,092

Number of catch basins cleaned: 2,619

Total volume or mass of material removed from all catch basins: 2,206.92 tons

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

Total number of catch basins: 7,118

If applicable:

Report on the actions taken if a catch basin sump is more than 50% full during two consecutive routine inspections/cleaning events:

DCR developed a ranking system to prioritize catch basin inspections and cleaning with the goal to maintain sumps being more than 50 percent full. The rankings recalculate when new inspections records are recorded in GIS. DCR created a ArcGIS dashboard and map to show the catch basins that require cleaning and the frequency at which they need to be cleaned. This process has allowed DCR field staff to focus efforts on catch basins that need immediate attention. If a catch basin sump has been reported as more than 50% full after two annual inspection/cleaning visits, the inspection and cleaning schedule for that catch basin will be changed to twice a year.

Street Sweeping

*Report on street sweeping completed **during this reporting period** using one of the three metrics below.*

☐ Number of miles cleaned:

☐ Volume of material removed: [Select Units]

☒ Weight of material removed: 2,021.38 tons

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: 52

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

DCR completed four rounds of quarterly inspections at each of the 13 regulated facilities. All facilities had at

least one inspection completed in wet weather conditions. DCR has developed an ArcGIS dashboard to summarize the activities that require follow-up or maintenance, and to help staff track quarterly inspections.

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):

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:

N/A

Additional Information

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.

DCR has continued to improve upon our GIS mapped drainage data in PY8, confirming accurate mapping through site inspections, CCTV investigations and collaborating with adjacent municipalities to identify interconnections. DCR has worked with 38 municipalities and state organizations to share mapped drainage and sewer data, confirm ownership of structures and identify interconnections and is continuing this work in PY8. DCR will continue to work with neighboring municipalities throughout the state to share GIS and eliminate illicit discharges. DCR stormwater staff has encouraged design projects to incorporate stormwater treatment practices to go above those required for the project in an effort to reduce pollutants from DCR properties, especially in TMDL watersheds like the Charles River.

DCR continues efforts to remove sources of pollutants before they reach the drainage system and waterbodies. In addition to catch basin cleaning and street sweeping described above DCR has programs to remove leaf litter at its facilities in the fall as well as goose and animal feces from parks along the Charles River. Additionally, DCR's removed close to 67 tons of trash from unauthorized homeless encampments at various DCR-owned properties. These activities help support DCR's efforts for clean parks and waterways.

Year 9

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 9 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 9 below:

DCR plans to continue meeting the annual requirements of the permit and continue on the progress made in
--

Permit Year 8, as documented in DCR's SWMP.

Part V: Certification of Small MS4 Annual Report 2026

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.

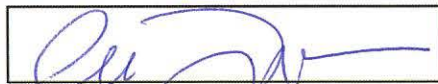
Name:

Nicole Lachapelle

Title:

Commissioner

Signature:



Date:

9/23/26

[Signatory may be a duly authorized representative]