Acton Board of Health

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Doug Halley, Health Director

Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

August 4, 2009

Ann Herrick - CIP
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region 1
1 Congress Street, Suite 1100
Boston, MA 02114-2023

To Whom It May Concern:

Attached with this letter please find Acton's sixth Annual Report in compliance with its NPDES Phase II Small MS4 General Permit. This report contains the following information:

1. A self-assessment review of compliance with the permit conditions.
2. An assessment of the appropriateness of the selected BMP's.
3. An assessment of the progress towards achieving the measurable goals.
4. A summary of results of any information that has been collected and analyzed.
5. A discussion of activities for the next reporting cycle.
6. A discussion of any changes in identified BMP's or measurable goals.
7. Reference to any reliance on another entity for achieving any measurable goal.

Should you have any questions regarding the Town of Acton's NPDES Phase II Small MS4 Annual Report or the information attached please contact me at (978) 264-9634.

Sincerely,

Doug Halley
Health Director

Cc: Fred Civian
Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
One Winter Street - 5th Floor
Boston, MA 02108

TOWN OF ACTON

SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT

NPDES Phase II Small MS4 General Permit

BOOK 1

Municipality/Organization: Town of Acton

EPA NPDES Permit Number: MAR041238

MaDEP Transmittal Number: W-

Annual Report Number & Reporting Period: **No. 1: May 08-May 09**

NPDES PII Small MS4 General Permit Annual Report

Part I. General Information

Contact Person: Doug Halley Title: Health Director

Telephone #: (978) 264-9634 Email: dhalley@acton-ma.gov

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, 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.

Signature:

Printed Name: Steven L. Ledoux

Title: Town Manager

Date: 5/30/08

Part II. Self-Assessment

The Town of Acton has completed the required self-assessment and have determined that the Town is in compliance v
conditions:

Part III. Summary of Minimum Control Measures

1. Public Education and Outreach

BMP ID #	BMP Description	Responsible Dept./Person Name	Measurable Goal(s)	Progress on Goal(s) – Permit Year 6 (Reliance on non-municipal partners indicated, if any)	Planned Act Permit Year
PE-1	Partner w/Local Organization	Board of Health Health Director	Provide financial contribution to Partner w/ SUASCO WCC	Continued commitment of participation in the SUASCO Watershed Community Council's "Storm Water Community Assistance Program" for Storm Water Phase II Permit Year 6 from July 2008 to June 2009.	Continue cor participate in Watershed C Council's "S Community A Program" for Phase II Perm 2009 to June
Revised					
PE-2	Develop Public Education Brochures/Flyers	Board of Health Health Director	Prepare/Distribute Storm Water Awareness Survey	The development and distribution of a Green Stormwater Solution Flyer.	Continued de Green Storm Education Pr
Revised					
PE-3	Structural BMP Education	Board of Health Health Director	No Goal Established	Assessment of the first five years of public education materials and redistribution of those materials to the public.	Continue to u materials on Education, ta populations o
Revised					

PE-4	Incorporate Storm Water into Public Meetings – Provide electronic media outlet.	Health Director	Create a permanent committee to formulate Stormwater educational strategy	Water Resources Advisory Committee's Annual oversight meeting and presentation to the Board of Selectmen. Shown and rebroadcast on cable TV.	Continue public presentations on Stormwater issues, activities and recommendations for the public.
Revised					

PE-5	Incorporate Stormwater Education into School Lesson Plans	School Curriculum Director/ Health Director	Work with A/B School System to provide materials developed by SUASCO	Continue to provide posters to school system as a follow up to previous curriculum.	Continue to provide storm water speakers to the 5th grade classes.
PE-6	Outreach program	Health Department	Storm water campaign	Implement the media storm water campaign	Continue the media storm water campaign

2. Public Involvement and Participation

BMP ID #	**BMP Description**	**Responsible Dept./Person Name**	**Measurable Goal(s)**	**Progress on Goal(s) – Permit Year 6** (Reliance on non-municipal partners indicated, if any)	**Planned Activities – Permit Year 7**
PP-1	Partner with Local Organization	Board of Health Health Director	Provide financial contribution to partner with SUASCO WCC	On March 22, 2008 the SUASCO WCC provided the deliverables for a Stormwater campaign to be conducted from July 2008 to June 2009.	Continue commitment to participate in the SUASCO WCC's "Storm Water Community Assistance Program" for Storm Water Phase II Permit Year 7 from July 2009 to June 2010.
Revised					

PP-2	Public Awareness and Understanding of Environmental Monitoring	Board of Health Health Director	Place storm water markers on catch basin drains	Reviewed and presented the Site Selection for the Nashua River Watershed Water Monitoring Program and sought public input.	Continue to inform and educate the public on the importance of improving and developing an environmental monitoring program.
Revised					
PP-3	Intra-Community Cooperation and participation	Health Director	Identify Common interests between abutting towns	Develop a proposal to determine the impacts of Acton septic systems on Maynard drinking water supply.	Seek funding for proposal developed by OTO.
Revised					

PP-4	Organize Public Meetings/Panels	Board of Health Health Director	Place display provided by SUASCO at one location throughout the year.	Participate at ABRHS Science Fair with a Stormwater Display.	Continue to participate in ABRHS Science Fair.
Revised					
PP-5	Illicit Discharge Educational Materials	Board of Health Health Director	Develop educational materials for a FOG program	Distributed an educational FOG program flyer, as well as, a water conservation guide, developed by Earth Te ch.	Contribute the Distribution of the FOG and water conservation flyers.
Revised					

2a. Additions

PP-6	*Stream Clean-up program*	Health Director & Stream Team	*Organize annual clean-up teams*	Stream Team volunteers conducted a clean-up of streams on April 25th which was covered by the local newspaper.	Continue Stream Team annual clean-up day.

3. Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination

BMP ID #	BMP Description	Responsible Dept./Person Name	Measurable Goal(s)	Progress on Goal(s) – Permit Year 6 (Reliance on non-municipal partners indicated, if any)	Planned Activities – Permit Year 7
ID-1	Clean Watershed Needs	Board of Health Health Director	Identify areas where storm water issues need to be addressed.	Woodard and Curran provided a Clean Watersheds Needs Report (2008-2027).	Review Needs Report and prioritize watershed needs for the short and long term..
Revised					
ID-2	Develop monitoring programs in conjunction with local watershed organizations	Health Director	Team with the Organization of the Assabet River	Continue contract with OAR to sample, analyze and report two sampling sites on the Assabet River and Nashoba Brook.	Continue the contract with OAR.
Revised					
ID-3	Environmental monitoring analysis	Board of Health Health Director	Identify detrimental trends that need to be addressed.	Contract with OTO to evaluate trends in nitrate concentrations in certain groundwater monitoring wells.	Continue environmental monitoring analysis of well and stream samples.
Revised					
ID-4	Identify and prioritize locations of potential Illicit Discharges	Board of Health Health Director	Use Geographic Information System to correlate risk properties with protected resources	Mapped all facilities with 25 gallons or 25 pounds of hazardous materials and their proximity to water bodies.	Continue to identify and prioritize locations with potential illicit discharges.
Revised					

3a. Additions

ID-5	Delineate watershed open space	Board of Health Health Director	Use Geographic Information System to delineate watershed open space.	Mapped watershed open space for each of the 11 identified watershed areas within Acton.	Continue defining and delineating watershed open space.
ID-6	Conduct Inflow/Infiltration Investigation of Sewer System	Health Director	Use sewer TV inspections to identify and correct I/I problems	Conducted I/I investigation of sewer sub-areas serviced by the Railroad Street and Prospect Street pump station. Followed with correction orders for properties with identified problems	Continue to use sewer TV inspections to identify and correct I/I problems.
ID-7	Identify and participate in regional, state or federal monitoring grant programs	Health Director	Use alternative funding methods to progress identification of needs	Submitted a proposal for 604(b) Water Quality Management Planning Projects for FY 2009	Continue to identify and apply for regional, state or federal grants.

4. Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control

BMP ID #	**BMP Description**	**Responsible Dept./Person Name**	**Measurable Goal(s)**	**Progress on Goal(s) – Permit Year 6** (Reliance on non-municipal partners indicated, if any)	**Planned Activities – Permit Year 7**
CS-1	Develop/Implement watershed regulatory strategy	Planning Board Town Planner	Develop/Implement watershed regulatory improvement plan	Begin implementation of a five point regulatory improvement plan by the appropriate regulatory bodies.	Work with regulatory bodies to improve the five point regulatory improvement plan.
Revised					

4a. Additions

5. Post-Construction Stormwater Management in New Development and Redevelopment

BMP ID #	BMP Description	Responsible Dept./Person Name	Measurable Goal(s)	Progress on Goal(s) – Permit Year 6 (Reliance on non-municipal partners indicated, if any)	Planned Activities – Permit Year 7
PC-1	Develop/Implement Protection for the Municipal Storm Drain System	Health Director	Develop Town Bylaw or regulation for Municipal Storm Drain Protection.	Received public comments regarding Chapter U, regulating discharges to the Municipal Storm Drain System.	Edit and amend Chapter U, discharges to the Municipal Storm Drain System, for Town Meeting consideration.
Revised					

5a. Additions

PC-2	Develop/Implement Protection for the Stormwater	Health Director	Develop Town Bylaw or regulation for Stormwater Protection	Received public comments regarding Chapter V, regulating activities that have potential impact to the Stormwater.	Edit and amend Chapter V, activities with potential impact to Stormwater, for Town Meeting consideration.

6. Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping in Municipal Operations

BMP ID #	BMP Description	Responsible Dept./Person Name	Measurable Goal(s)	Progress on Goal(s) – Permit Year 6 (Reliance on non-municipal partners indicated, if any)	Planned Activities – Permit Year 7

GH-1	Reporting	Public Works Director - Health Director	Create a method to record storm water activities for Good Housekeeping and all (MCM's)	Department of Public Works recorded all Stormwater Management Activities.	Record all storm water management activities, reassess eligibility criteria, and provide yearly reports as required in the General Permit Part II.F.
Revised					
GH-2	Audit Current Town Facilities	Public Works Director Of Public Works	Audit wastewater facilities impact to abutting Assabet River.	Wastewater Treatment Facility conducted annual Slope, Stability & Erosion Report and Wetlands Monitoring Report.	Wastewater Treatment Facility will continue annual audit and submit a report.
Revised					
GH-3	Operation and Management Program	Public Works Director of Public Works	Begin tracking records for catch basins cleaned	Health Department in conjunction with DPW tracked catch basins cleaned.	Continue to track records for outfalls cleaned, continue to track records for catch basins cleaned, begin measurable schedule for street sweeping.
Revised					
GH-4	Best Management Practice	Public Works Director of Public Works	Implement a sand reduction initiative for the Snow and Ice Removal Program.	Monitor the treated salt program, which virtually eliminated sand from being applied to roadways during the winter. Program also successfully reduced the tons of salt per mile.	Continue to use treated salt and monitor the results.
Revised					
GH-5	Watershed Improvement	Acton Water District	Nashoba Brook/Suasco Basin Watershed Protection.	Developed a Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan, which includes flood related hazards.	Continue watershed initiatives.
Revised					

6a. Additions

GH-6	Stream and Wetland Management	CMMCP	Ensure clear streamways and removal of debris from wetlands	CMMCP contracted to visually inspect streams and wetlands and remove debris from wetlands and streams.	Continue stream and wetland management.

7. BMPs for Meeting Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Waste Load Allocations (WLA) *<<if applicable>>*

BMP ID #	**BMP Description**	**Responsible Dept./Person Name**	**Measurable Goal(s)**	**Progress on Goal(s) – Permit Year 6**	**Planned Activities – Permit Year 7**
TMDL-1	Check Current Impairment List.	Board of Health Health Director	There are No completed studies for receiving waters in Acton.	Monitored the CWRMP/MEPA process of Assabet communities.	Check list annually to determine new implementation requirements.
Revised					

7a. Additions

Part IV. Summary of Information Collected and Analyzed

1. Stream Monitoring Program
   a. Four rounds of fecal coliform testing in 2008 were conducted at locations in the Fort Pond Brook and Nashoba Brook Watersheds as shown on the map. (see attachment "A")
2. Groundwater Well Monitoring Program
   a. Monthly rounds of water level and nitrate testing in 2008 were conducted within selected watersheds as shown on the map. (See attachment "B")
3. North Acton Recreational Area (NARA) Pond Monitoring
   a. Weekly Ecoli testing was conducted between May and September at NARA to ensure swimming water quality. (See attachment "C")
4. Household Hazardous Waste Day Collection
   a. Residential participation at the May and September Household Hazardous Waste Day Collections was mapped by watershed. (See attachment "D")
5. Hazardous Material Storage Monitoring Program
   a. The Health Department inspects all commercial facilities that store more than 25 pounds or 25 gallons of hazardous materials or wastes to ensure materials are being stored in proper secondary containment and that releases to the environment are not occurring (see attachment "E").
6. Conditions for possible Water District Expansion
   a. The Water Land Management Advisory Committee developed a strategy that recommended that in responding to requests for expansion of water service the Acton Water District must determine whether there are benefits in terms of four strategies (Water Source Protection, Water Conservation, New Water Supplies, Collaboration). The Committee further recommended taking this approach one step further by considering proactive exploration of expansion scenarios that offer benefits to the District (attachment F).