



MS4 Permit No. WI-S050075-3

Section 2.6.5. Street Sweeping and Catch Basin Cleaning Program

March 2023

Summary

The City of Watertown (City) is covered under the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources' (WDNR) Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System Permit No. WI-S050075-3. The City developed MS4 permit compliance programs after the initial MS4 Permit issuance in 2006. Subsequent permit reissuances have increased the requirements to minimize the amount of pollution that reaches local waterways through urban storm water runoff.

The City operates a Street Sweeping program both to improve the overall aesthetics of the City and to minimize the amount of pollution and litter that reaches the local waterways via the storm sewer system per Section 2.6.5 of the MS4 Permit. City staff monitor and clean out catch basins as needed, however catch basins were not included in the City's source control assessments, so they are not tracked and reported as closely as the Street Sweeping Program. The City's Street Sweeping Program is operated based on recommendations from previous storm water management master plans that were developed with the goal of reducing the overall amount of Total Suspended Solids (TSS), Total Phosphorus (TP) and other pollutants from reaching the Rock River, Silver Creek, Silver Creek Pond, Lake Victoria, Heiden Pond, and other local tributaries and wetlands.

Equipment & Frequency

The City operates a Johnston high-efficiency vacuum sweeper between Spring and Fall. City streets are swept once per month or as needed before and after parades, festivals and other events. During Fall, the sweeper is run in conjunction with the leaf collection program, to collect additional leaf litter from the streets. The frequency of running the sweeper in various areas and combinations of areas of the City were evaluated in the 2014 Stormwater Management Master Plan, with an estimated cost of \$100 per mile.

The City of Watertown is an annual contributor to the League of Municipalities/USGS phosphorous and leaf collection studies to determine the effectiveness of various leaf collection programs. Results of these studies are eagerly anticipated, as any future program modifications would need time for budgeting, any staffing changes, and public education and outreach to successfully implement any modifications.

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Tracking and Reporting

Material collected through the street sweeping process is stored at the Yard Waste site and then hauled to the Deer Track Park Landfill in Johnson Creek. Records of the amount of material disposed of are retained for at least 5 years, per MS4 Permit requirements. Three hundred thirty-seven tons of material was collected through the street sweeping program in 2020, which would have otherwise flowed into the storm sewer system and out to local waterways and wetlands.

Program Contact

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