



City of Cañon City

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First Quarter 2014 Stormwater Management Program News

Stormwater Permit Renewal Update

The draft revision of the General MS4 Stormwater Permit from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) was released for Public Notice in November, 2013. Oral comments were received by CDPHE on December 16, 2013 and written comments were accepted until January 10, 2014. The City of Cañon City submitted extensive comments on the proposed changes to the permit. Due to the amount and content of the comments received during both the oral and written comment period, the CDPHE has decided to revise the draft permit a second time. They will hold another round of stakeholder meetings and another public comment period. CDPHE anticipates releasing the second draft permit in April or May. The City of Cañon City will continue to participate in the stakeholder process and submit comments on the revised permit. Submitted comments have been posted on the State of Colorado's website at <http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/CDPHE-WQ/CBON/1251596793644> under "Work Plan Status for General Permits MS4 Sector". The revised draft permit will also be posted on our website when released, www.canoncity.org under Current Announcements.

The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) also has a stormwater discharge permit from CDPHE which is undergoing review and revision. Although their permit is an individual Phase I permit, many of the same requirements from the Phase II General Stormwater Permit have been incorporated into CDOT's revised draft permit. Since there are potential impacts to The City of Cañon City, we have also submitted comments to CDPHE on this permit.

2013 Stormwater Program Overview

Because the City of Cañon City is a Phase II Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permittee there are six (6) minimum measures we must meet annually. These are Public Education and Outreach, Public Participation/Involvement, Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination, Construction Site Runoff Control, Post-construction Stormwater Management and Municipal Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping. A brief summary of what was accomplished in each area during 2013 follows.

Public Education/Outreach and Public Participation/Involvement

Some of the methods we use to fulfill these requirements include newsletters, public service announcements, stormwater presentations and stenciling of storm drains.

- 1) During 2013, four quarterly newsletters were sent to residential customers and commercial establishments. These newsletters address the stormwater management program and ask for feedback from readers. A total of 33,844 newsletters were mailed with water bills.
- 2) A Stormwater Information booth was set up at one of the craft fairs during Blossom weekend. Brochures, magnets and children's activity booklets were given out. Staff was available to answer questions about the Stormwater Program and to give demonstrations about runoff. A total of 135 visitors stopped by the booth on Saturday; 39 demonstrations were given.
- 3) A stormwater runoff demonstration and presentation were given to the 3rd and 4th grades at Cañon Exploratory School. A presentation was also given to the Wolf Park HOA.
- 3) Fourteen public service announcements were aired on the local radio station and four stormwater related programs were aired fifteen times on CCTV-Channel 19.

4) Twenty-eight storm drains were re-stenciled with the message “Dump No Waste Drains to River” by students from Cañon City High School West Wing.

5) The City has a stormwater hotline (275-5265) for citizens to phone in with issues and questions. The adjacent table shows the breakdown of the one hundred thirty-five calls handled.

6) The City is a member of, or involved in, several councils and associations concerning stormwater. Various staff members attended several meetings and conferences during 2013.

Category	% of Calls
BMP Inspection	8
Complaint	26
Construction	1
Drainage	7
Erosion	1
Illicit Discharge	13
Impervious Surface/SW Fee	3
Information (General)	9
Other	3
Storm Related	29

Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination

Program elements required by the State in this category include Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination and Staff Education.

1) Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination: During 2013, thirty-two incidents of suspected illegal discharges were investigated. The investigations resulted in sixteen verbal warnings and four Notices of Non-compliance.

2) Our permit requires the inspection and monitoring of outfalls within the City limits. An outfall is the point where stormwater discharges to the river, creek or a drainage channel. During 2013 one hundred thirty-five inspections were conducted on outfalls.

3) An Illicit Discharge Detection course was held for thirty-five City employees.

Construction Site Runoff Control

A requirement of the City’s stormwater permit is the inspection of all construction sites to assess stormwater runoff control at each site.

1) In 2013, forty inspections were conducted at construction sites. These inspections resulted in six Notices of Non-compliance.

2) The City of Cañon City Stormwater Program, The City of Pueblo Stormwater Utility and the Pueblo County Engineering Department held a regional stormwater seminar for contractors, developers and municipal employees in Pueblo on February 5, 2013.

Post-construction Stormwater Management

A requirement of our permit is the annual inspection of post-construction stormwater facilities such as detention basins, stormwater quality vaults, grass swales, etc. One hundred eighty-eight inspections were done during 2013 on permanent facilities (both private and public).

Municipal Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping

Our State permit requires that the City of Cañon City prevent stormwater pollution, to the best of its ability, from its facilities through good housekeeping practices. Thirty-five City employees attended a course on pollution prevention in December. Inspections of municipally owned facilities (including parks) were conducted to assess the potential for pollution of stormwater runoff. During 2013, forty-five inspections were done with the results sent to the appropriate department heads. One hundred sixteen inspections were conducted on municipal and private drainage channels and two hundred twenty-seven inspections were done on inlets.



Please feel free to direct any concerns or questions to Glenda DeBekker, City of Cañon City Stormwater Program at either 276-5265 or grdebekker@canoncity.org. You may also write to The City of Cañon City’s Stormwater Program, P.O. Box 1460, Cañon City, CO 81215-1460.