

E.S. MS4 Storm Water Education Outreach Team

Education Outreach Goal

This brochure is one of a series of publications regarding storm water issues along the Eastern Shore of Mobile Bay.

The series is produced by the Eastern Shore MS4 Stormwater Education Outreach Team and is intended to educate citizens, students, business owners and other professionals on how to protect, maintain, and restore the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of local rivers and streams in order to enhance the quality of life for all Eastern Shore residents.

Education Outreach Strategy

Baldwin County, Daphne, Fairhope and Spanish Fort are working together in this education effort to show the importance of stormwater management. This team effort is a cost effective approach to County wide education and helps prevent duplication of efforts. We are proud to work towards *creating a clean water future for all* (www.cleanwaterfuture.com).

Other Local Outreach Opportunities!



Local Rain Barrel Workshops



Benefits of Native Plant Workshops



Natural Stream Restoration Workshops

E.S. MS4 Stormwater Education Outreach Team



What is a Phase II Small MS4?



Healthier streams provide a benefit to all.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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<http://www.daphneal.com>

City of Fairhope – Planning Department
251-990-2877
www.cofairhope.com

City of Spanish Fort – Building Department
251-626-4993
www.cityofspanishfort.com



Daphne
ALABAMA

The Jubilee City



WHAT IS A MS4?

MS4 is an acronym that stands for *municipal separate storm sewer systems*. Basically, this term includes all municipal stormwater pipes, ditches and other infrastructure which convey (transport) stormwater from municipal streets and developed areas and discharges the stormwater into local rivers and streams.

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

Stormwater runoff is transported by municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s) and ultimately discharged into local rivers and streams. Pollutants can enter the MS4 system and be discharged without treatment. EPA's Stormwater Phase II Rule establishes an MS4 stormwater management program that is intended to improve the Nation's waterways by reducing the quantity of pollutants that stormwater picks up and carries into storm sewer systems during storm events. Common pollutants include oil and grease from roadways, pesticides from lawns, sediment from construction sites, and carelessly discarded trash, such as cigarette butts, paper wrappers, and plastic bottles. When deposited into nearby waterways through MS4 discharges, these pollutants can impair the waterways, thereby discouraging recreational use of the resource, contaminating drinking water supplies, and interfering with the habitat for fish, other aquatic organisms, and wildlife.



EPA RULES:

In 1990, EPA promulgated rules establishing Phase I of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) stormwater program. The Phase I program for MS4s requires operators of "medium" and "large" MS4s (City of Mobile), that is, those that generally serve populations of 100,000 or greater, to implement a stormwater management program as a means to control polluted discharges from these MS4s. The Stormwater Phase II Rule extends coverage of the NPDES stormwater program to certain "small" MS4s, such as Daphne, but takes a slightly different approach to how the stormwater management program is developed and implemented.

WHAT IS A PHASE II SMALL MS4 ?

A small MS4 is any MS4 not already covered by the Phase I program as a medium or large MS4. The Phase II Rule automatically covers on a nationwide basis all small MS4s located in "urbanized areas" (UAs) as defined by the Bureau of the Census (unless waived by the NPDES permitting authority), and on a case-by-case basis those small MS4s located outside of UAs that the NPDES permitting authority designates.

Who is a Phase II Small MS4 ?

Fairhope, Daphne, the City of Spanish Fort and a portion of Baldwin County are currently the County's only designated Phase II Small MS4s.

WHAT ARE THE PHASE II SMALL MS4 EPA PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS?

Operators of regulated small MS4s are required to design their programs to:

- Reduce the discharge of pollutants to the "maximum extent practicable" (MEP);
- Protect water quality; and
- Satisfy the appropriate water quality requirements of the Clean Water Act.

Implementation of the MEP standard will typically require the development and implementation of Best Management Practices (BMPs) and the achievement of measurable goals to satisfy each of the programs five minimum control measures.

The Phase II Rule defines a small MS4 stormwater management program as a program comprising the five elements that, when implemented in concert, are expected to result in significant reductions of pollutants discharged into receiving water bodies.

The five MS4 program elements, termed "minimum control measures," are outlined in the adjacent pane. For more information, visit <http://www.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/fact2-0.pdf>.

FIVE (5) MINIMUM CONTROL MEASURES

1. Public Education and Outreach

Distributing educational materials and performing outreach to inform citizens about the impacts polluted stormwater runoff discharges can have on water quality.

Public Participation Involvement

Providing opportunities for citizens to participate in program development and implementation, including effectively publicizing public hearings and/or encouraging citizen representatives on a stormwater management panel.

2. Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination

Developing and implementing a plan to detect and eliminate illicit discharges to the storm sewer system (includes developing a system map and informing the community about hazards associated with illegal discharges and improper disposal of waste).

3. Construction Site Runoff Control

Developing, implementing, and enforcing an erosion and sediment control program for construction activities that disturb 1 or more acres of land (controls could include silt fences and temporary stormwater detention ponds).

4. Post-Construction Runoff Control

Developing, implementing, and enforcing a program to address discharges of post-construction stormwater runoff from new development and redevelopment areas. Applicable controls could include preventative actions such as protecting sensitive areas (e.g., wetlands) or the use of structural BMPs such as grassed swales or porous pavement.

5. Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping

Developing and implementing a program with the goal of preventing or reducing pollutant runoff from municipal operations. The program must include municipal staff training on pollution prevention measures and techniques (e.g., regular street sweeping, reduction in the use of pesticides or street salt, or frequent catch-basin cleaning).