

2023 MS4 Stormwater Management Plan (SWMP)

PHASE II MUNICIPAL STORMWATER PERMIT



*City of Spokane Valley
Public Works Department
Stormwater Utility*

MARCH 2023



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Executive Summary

Document Purposes

There are five main purposes of the City's Stormwater Management Program (SWMP) Plan:

1. Provide status of the Municipal Stormwater Permit (NPDES) requirements.
2. Serve as guide to add improvement and/or value to current compliance mechanisms.
3. Suggest work or needs that should be considered in upcoming budget years.
4. Meet current regulatory requirements to have a comprehensive SWMP plan.
5. Educate the public on how Stormwater Utility meets regulatory requirements.

It is updated annually by City Stormwater Utility (Utility) staff, with input from the public and management for various activities and projects that the Utility performs.

The current year Plan and other related documents are available on the City's Stormwater website as required by State permit: <http://www.spokanevalley.org/stormwater>

The executive summary goals are generated from the sectional goals identified in this plan. Key goals identified in the executive summary are considered the top priority goals for 2023. Other goals identified in this plan will also be considered for action in 2023 but are dependent on scheduling and resource allocation of the remaining elements of the program.

Key Goals, and Future Considerations

Key Goals for 2023 Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) SWMP

- Expand internal Public Relation platforms to integrate new Public Education and Outreach efforts.
- Public Education and Outreach – Continue partnership with the City of Spokane social media PE&O plan development.
- Utilize internal Public Relation platforms to integrate new Public Involvement efforts.
- G20 Requirements -Absolve permit condition S5.B.4.a.iv and S5.B.4.C. - Erosion and Sediment Control procedures and Enforcement Strategies.
- G20 Requirement – Absolve permit condition S5.B.4.c – 5-yr Post Construction Inspection.
- Effectiveness Study - Continue participation and coordination with City of Spokane, Spokane County, and Evergreen StormH2O consulting. Submit to ecology the QAPP and begin the Spokane Bioretention Soil Media study.
- Implement Updated MS4 O&M plan.
- Continue involvement with Eastern Washington Stormwater Group.

Overall Program Future Needs & Considerations

- Sunset of the Aquifer Protection Area funding in 2025 – Will result in a reduction of capital funds for stormwater improvements unless a replacement fund is approved by voters in the coming years..

- Continue to integrate technology into work process to provide better program management, inspection data collation and monitoring of contractor performance (i.e. GIS field collection, GPS field tracking, asset management software, and QAlert).
- Develop long term plan to manage maturing infrastructure.
- Develop and implement a Swale Modification Permit.

Background

The City of Spokane Valley is required to comply with State and Federal stormwater regulations related to the Safe Drinking Water Act and the Clean Water Act to improve and protect water quality.

Surface Water Protection, Clean Water Act

- In 1972, Congress enacted the Clean Water Act (CWA) and charged the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) with restoring the nation's waters to fishable and swimmable conditions. Under the CWA, point source discharges to the nation's waters require National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits. In 1987, Congress broadened the CWA definition of "point source" to include municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s).
- The 1987 expansion of the CWA was promulgated in two phases; the City of Spokane Valley fell under the second phase and is regulated by the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) on behalf of the EPA. On January 17, 2007, Ecology issued to the City the "Eastern Washington Phase II Municipal Stormwater Permit". The Permit requires the City to address the quality of its stormwater discharged through the outfalls the City owns to surface waters of the State.
- Seventeen other cities and six counties in eastern Washington are also covered under the Permit. The first Permit term became effective February 16, 2007, and expired July 31, 2014. The second Permit term became effective August 1, 2014, and expired July 31, 2019. City operations are currently authorized under the third Permit term that became effective August 1, 2019, and expires July 31, 2024
- The first Permit term was designed to give jurisdictions an opportunity to develop their stormwater management programs and prepare for the second and third permit terms which require additional actions and an increased level of management and oversight. Since inception, the City has been developing its stormwater management program in accordance with the requirements of the Permits, including adoption of new ordinances, policies and procedures, contractor specifications, purchasing equipment, and staff training.

The current Permit can be viewed in its entirety on Ecology's website below.

[https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/Permits-certifications/Stormwater-general-permits/Municipal-stormwater-general-permits/Eastern-Washington-Phase-II-Municipal-Stormwat-\(1\)](https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/Permits-certifications/Stormwater-general-permits/Municipal-stormwater-general-permits/Eastern-Washington-Phase-II-Municipal-Stormwat-(1))

Drinking Water Protection, Safe Drinking Water Act

- Congress enacted the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) in 1974 to protect public health by regulating the nation's drinking water supply through the EPA. Under the SDWA, the EPA designated the Spokane Valley-Rathdrum Prairie as one of the nation's first Sole Source Aquifers.
- The SDWA established the Underground Injection Control (UIC) Program to safeguard underground sources of drinking water. The EPA delegated UIC authority in 1984 to Ecology.
- Most of the City's streets discharge runoff through drywells, which are underground drain fields considered by Ecology to be UIC's, therefore most all the City of Spokane Valley falls under regulations administered by Ecology's UIC program WAC 173-218.

- Owners of underground drain fields are required to implement a Stormwater Management Program. The City has managed its UIC Stormwater Management Program since incorporation of the City. Application of the current program has allowed the City to receive rule-authorization for all registered new and existing UICs. In 2020-2021 the City developed a UIC SWMP plan to represent the program.

Water Quality

This SWMP plan manages the stormwater facilities classified by the EPA as municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s), which is approximately 1.5% percent of the City's stormwater facilities. Most of the City's stormwater, roughly 98.5%, is taken up by plants, infiltrates into the ground, or is discharged by UICs. The City has developed a separate SWMP plan to help manage its UICs. The City's stormwater system does not convey stormwater to publicly owned wastewater treatment plants.

Stormwater runoff is "the number one water pollution problem in the urban areas of our state" (Ecology, 2007). Pollutants commonly found in stormwater include sediment, pesticides and herbicides, organic material, metals, hydrocarbons, bacteria, nitrogen, and phosphorus.

Keeping Waters of the State clean and protected from runoff that could be carrying pollutants is very important, which is why the City engages in and updates its annual SWMP Plan.

Establishment of Storm and Surface Water Utility

The Spokane Valley area has been managing drainage and stormwater runoff for a long time to protect the quality of the Spokane Valley-Rathdrum Prairie aquifer, meet regulations, mitigate flooding, and protect and preserve public drainage infrastructure.

Storm and Surface Water Utility & Fund

To support the activities of the City's Storm and Surface Water Management Program and to track associated costs, City Council formed a Storm and Surface Water Utility (Utility) and corresponding financial enterprise fund. The Utility was formed when the City incorporated on March 31, 2003. The Spokane Valley Municipal Code (SVMC) [Chapter 3.80](#) outlines the establishment of the Utility. This provides a permanent tracking and financial planning mechanism as part of the city's overall budget development process.

Utility fees are collected based on the amount of impervious surface area on developed properties within the City. Residential units pay \$58.00/year. Commercial properties are charged \$58.00 per 3,160 square feet of impervious surfacing on the property. See [the stormwater website](#), www.spokanevalley.org/stormwater for more information.

City Ordinances, Codes, and Adopted Standards

The City enacted ordinances and codes that address runoff pollution protection in Permit required areas such as: illicit discharge detection and elimination (IDDE), runoff from construction sites, and post-construction stormwater management. The City adopted Stormwater Management Regulations which can be found in [Chapter 22.150](#) of SVMC. The City also adopted the [Spokane Regional Stormwater Manual](#) (SRSM) which establishes the stormwater requirements for new development, redevelopment, maintenance, and capital projects. The [City of Spokane Valley Street Standards and Plans](#) also establish

the minimum design and construction standards for all street related improvements that convey, collect, store, and treat stormwater runoff.

The enforcement of these regulations for private development is regulated through permitting process, staff reviews & inspections, and through citizens reporting issues. When necessary, the City actively utilizes its Compliance and Enforcement rules that are found in [Chapter 17.100](#) SVMC to assist in conformity with its stormwater regulations.

Stormwater Management Program (SWMP) Plan

GENERAL PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION (INCLUDING S5.A. AND S9)

The City of Spokane Valley has developed and implements this Stormwater Management Program as it pertains to regulated MS4 areas. The SWMP is a set of actions and activities comprising the components listed in S5 of the Phase II Municipal Stormwater (NPDES) permit. The 2023 actions and activities will include:

2023 Continued Actions and Activities

- Complete the 2023 SWMP by March 31.
- Continue implementing the SWMP to reduce the discharge of pollutants from the regulated small MS4 to satisfy Water Pollution Control per RCW 90.48.
- Continue ongoing program of gathering, tracking, maintaining, and using information to evaluate SWMP.
- Continue internal coordination mechanisms to assure compliance with permit requirements.
- Coordinate with Ecology on permit implementation.
- Coordinate with other permittees thru participation in the Eastern Washington Stormwater Group.

Key Goals For 2023

- Continue to integrate technology into work process to provide better program management, inspection data collation and monitoring of contractor performance (i.e. GIS field collection, GPS field tracking, asset management software, and QAlert).
- Develop additional coordination mechanisms and efforts with other jurisdictions where MS4 are interconnected.
- Continue the update of the MS4 SWMP to better measure and define each area of the program to see what is needed for continuous improvement, which may include increases or decreases in service levels.
- Develop additional internal mechanisms to better track cost of SWMP implementation.

PUBLIC EDUCATION AND OUTREACH (S5.B.1.)

The City of Spokane Valley implements a public education and outreach program to educate the community and target audiences about the impacts of stormwater discharge to surface waters and the steps to take to reduce pollutants to stormwater.

The City of Spokane Valley has a variety of education and outreach efforts targeted at students, the general public, and businesses. These efforts resulted in thousands of people hearing and learning about the effects on/of stormwater and the water bodies around us.

Student efforts include but are not limited to participation by City of Spokane Valley Stormwater Utility, Spokane County Water Resources, Central Valley School District, West Valley Outdoor Learning Center, and Spokane Aquifer Joint Board. Activities include community events, classroom education, student field trips, “Aqua Duck” aquifer education & awareness, brochures, posterboards, watershed model discussion, aquifer atlas.

General public efforts include, but are not limited to, participation by Spokane Valley Stormwater Utility, Spokane County Water Resources, and Spokane Aquifer Joint Board. Activities include community events, meetings and education, billboards, City media releases, websites, citizen inquiries, and construction project neighborhood meetings.

Spokane Valley Stormwater Utility and Spokane Regional Health District visit local business to provide applicable information regarding prevention of illicit discharges, proper management of waste disposal, and the use and storage of chemicals. Activities include Local Source Control visits and Fats, Oils, and Grease outreach. These activities include educational and enforcement discussion.

City staff educates property owners, developers, engineers, and contractors on requirements of the Spokane Regional Stormwater Manual (SRSW), communicates upcoming training events, notifies applicants of the need to obtain Washington State Construction Stormwater General Permits, and notifies applicants of the 60-day registration requirement for new Underground Injection Control (UIC) drywells.

Local groups such as the Inland Northwest Associated General Contractors (AGC) provide additional education and training to design and construction professionals including a 2-day Certified Erosion Control Lead (CESCL) Training and 1-day CESCL refresher training courses.

2023 Continued Actions and Activities

- Continue partnering with multi-jurisdictional agencies to educate the public about the importance of water quality protection and the impacts of stormwater discharge and the steps that can be taken to reduce pollutants in stormwater. These agencies may include:
 - Central Valley School District
 - Spokane County Water Resources
 - Spokane Regional Health District
- Continue programs and visits as invited by local schools

- Continue posting on the City’s website, Facebook, Titter, and Instagram pages to reach the general public and businesses. Postings will include information on topics such as the importance of water quality protection, potential impacts from stormwater discharges, methods to avoid, reduce and/or eliminate adverse impacts of stormwater discharges, proper management of waste disposal, use and storage of chemicals, and actions the public/businesses can take to improve water quality.
- Continue to implement findings of public education and outreach effectiveness study, Dumpster Study for Businesses, in Spokane Regional Health District program.
- Attend stormwater conferences such as:
 - Washington State Municipal Stormwater Conference

Key Goals For 2023

- Expand internal Public Relations platforms (including multimedia) to integrate new public education and outreach efforts.
- Continue developing a more coordinated plan between the Utility and Spokane Regional Health District to provide education and outreach to targeted businesses best management practices, proper management of waste disposal and source control to prevent illicit discharges to surface water.
- Continue participation with Eastern Washington Education & Outreach Work Group to develop informational packets for target audience engineers, construction contractors, developers, development review staff, and land use planners, etc.
- Continue partnership with Spokane County and City of Spokane in the Spokane Regional Grass Roots Stormwater Stewardship Campaign, a multi-media public education and outreach campaign.
- Participate in the Central Valley School District 5th Grade Environmental Education Field trip.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND PARTICIPATION (S5.B.2.)

The City of Spokane Valley provides for ongoing public involvement and participation thru several documented opportunities.

2023 Continued Actions and Activities

- Post Stormwater Management Program (SWMP) Plan on website by May 31.
- Post Phase II Municipal Stormwater Permit Annual Report on website by May 31.
- As needed, prepare for and attend City Council meetings.
- As needed, prepare for and attend planning commission meetings.
- Continue coordination with City staff regarding regulatory requirements.
- Continue public communication and response to citizen complaints regarding City's stormwater programs.
- Continue recordkeeping of public communication and response to citizen complaint in QAlert.
- Continue to respond to public records requests.
- Continue to respond to public inquiries regarding the City's stormwater program.

Key Goals For 2023

- Develop method for the public to provide input during the development, implementation, and update of the SWMP.
- Consider internal Public Relations platforms (including multimedia) to integrate new public involvement and participation efforts.

ILLICIT DISCHARGE DETECTION AND ELIMINATION (S5.B.3.)

Spills are unplanned releases of materials and are a common form of illicit discharge. Reporting procedures are determined by the type of spill and its relationship to the City. Spills can be categorized four ways:

1. Emergency or Hazardous Spills to Ground – **See Figure 1.**
2. Emergency or Hazardous Spills to Water – **See Figure 1.**
3. Non-Emergency Spills and Illicit Discharges/Connections that can reach COSV MS4 System. **See Figure 2.**
4. Non-Emergency Spill and Illicit Discharges/Connections that Do Not reach COSV MS4 System. **See Figure 2.**

Emergency or hazardous spills to ground could include spills related to vehicle collisions, fires, unknown chemicals, or explosive hazards. Emergency or hazardous spills on City roadways or properties that may impact the safety of the traveling public, or the environment: **Call 911.** Response to this type of spill includes multiple regional agencies. The level of the response is dependent on the nature of the spill. **See Figure 1 on page 13** for a full response description.

Emergency or hazardous spill to water posing an immediate threat to human health or the environment could include a tank truck leaking into a water body. If a spill of oil or hazardous substance is observed in water call immediately:

1. 1-800-258-5990 (Department of Emergency Management)
2. 1-800-424-8802 (National Response Center)
3. (509) 329-3400 (Regional Department of Ecology)

Non-Emergency spills and illicit discharges or connections that can reach the City's regulated MS4 must be reported to the Regional Department of Ecology.

Non-Emergency spills and illicit discharges or connections that do not reach the City's regulated MS4 should be reported to the City of Spokane Valley. Contacts are available during normal business hours only. Leave a message if contacting outside business hours.

Dumping is another common form of illicit discharge. These discharges are most often identified through citizen complaints or found through routine inspections. The City maintains an Illicit Discharge and Connect Response Plan specific to these situations. **See Figure 3.**

Illicit connections are any unauthorized pipe, ditch, or other manmade structure that is physically connected to City property or stormwater drainage system. Illicit connections are reported during facility inspections.



Fuel Spill on Broadway avenue Contained by Spokane Valley fire Department

Stormwater Staff provides Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination incident-specific information through the Department of Ecology WQwebIDDE Incident Reporting portal.

2023 Continued Actions and Activities

- Continue documenting through the WQwebIDDE portal all responses to illicit discharge and connection.
- Continue implementing compliance strategy per Illicit Discharge and Connection Response Plan and spill plans shown in **Figure 3**.
- Continue investigating potential illicit discharges through facility inspections, outfall inspections, storm drain cleaning program, and through public involvement.
- Continue field of assessment of known outfalls.
- Continue training City staff in illicit discharge detection and elimination (IDDE).
- Continue to apply enforcement strategies per Chapter 17.100 SVMC.
- Continue social media (city-wide email list, website, facebook, twitter) outreach for IDDE.
- Continue procedures for response, investigation, tracing, notification, providing technical assistance, and follow up inspections per illicit discharge response plan and spill plans.

Key Goals For 2023

- Update mapping of the regulated MS4 per S1.B1, S3.A, and S5.B3.a.

- Continue plan between COSV and Spokane Regional Health District to provide education and outreach to targeted businesses regarding illicit discharge to MS4.
- Implement documented procedures to further locate priority areas likely to have illicit discharge of regulated MS4 areas.
- Assess current training programs and update if needed.
- Assess current field screening procedures to identify IDDE potential sources and update if needed.

Figure 1 – Emergency Hazardous Spill Response Plan

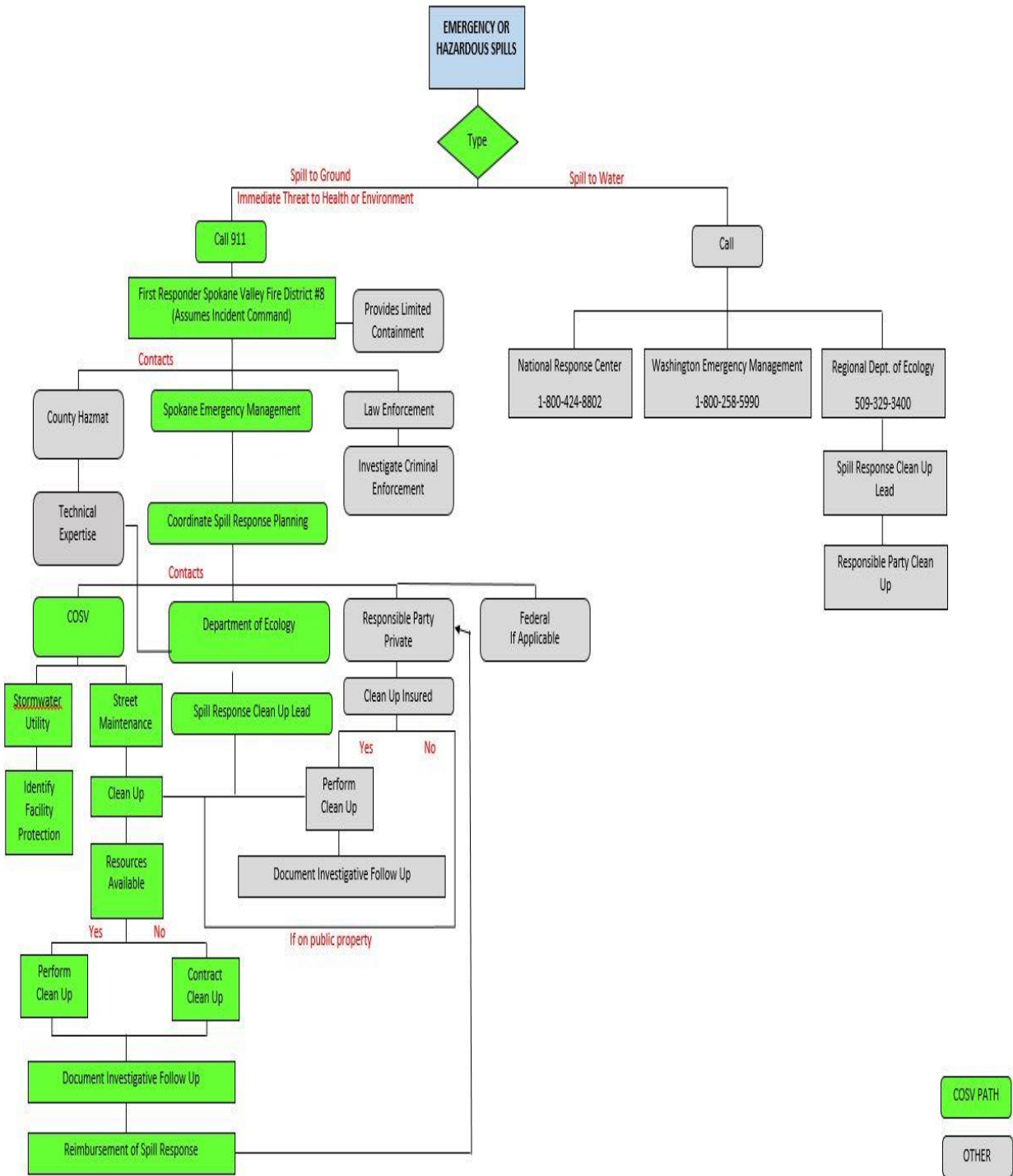


Figure 2 – Non-Emergency Spill Response Plan

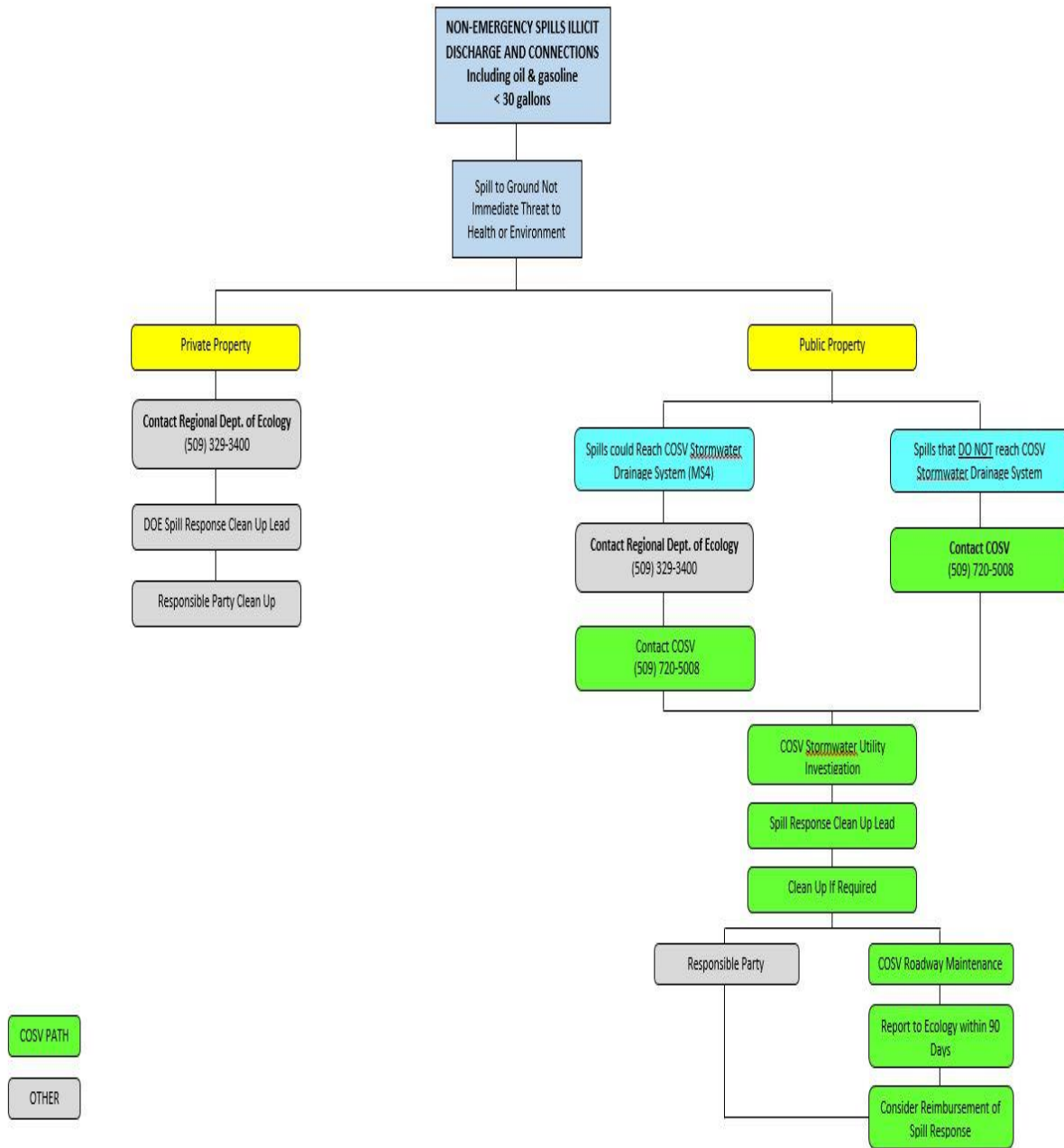
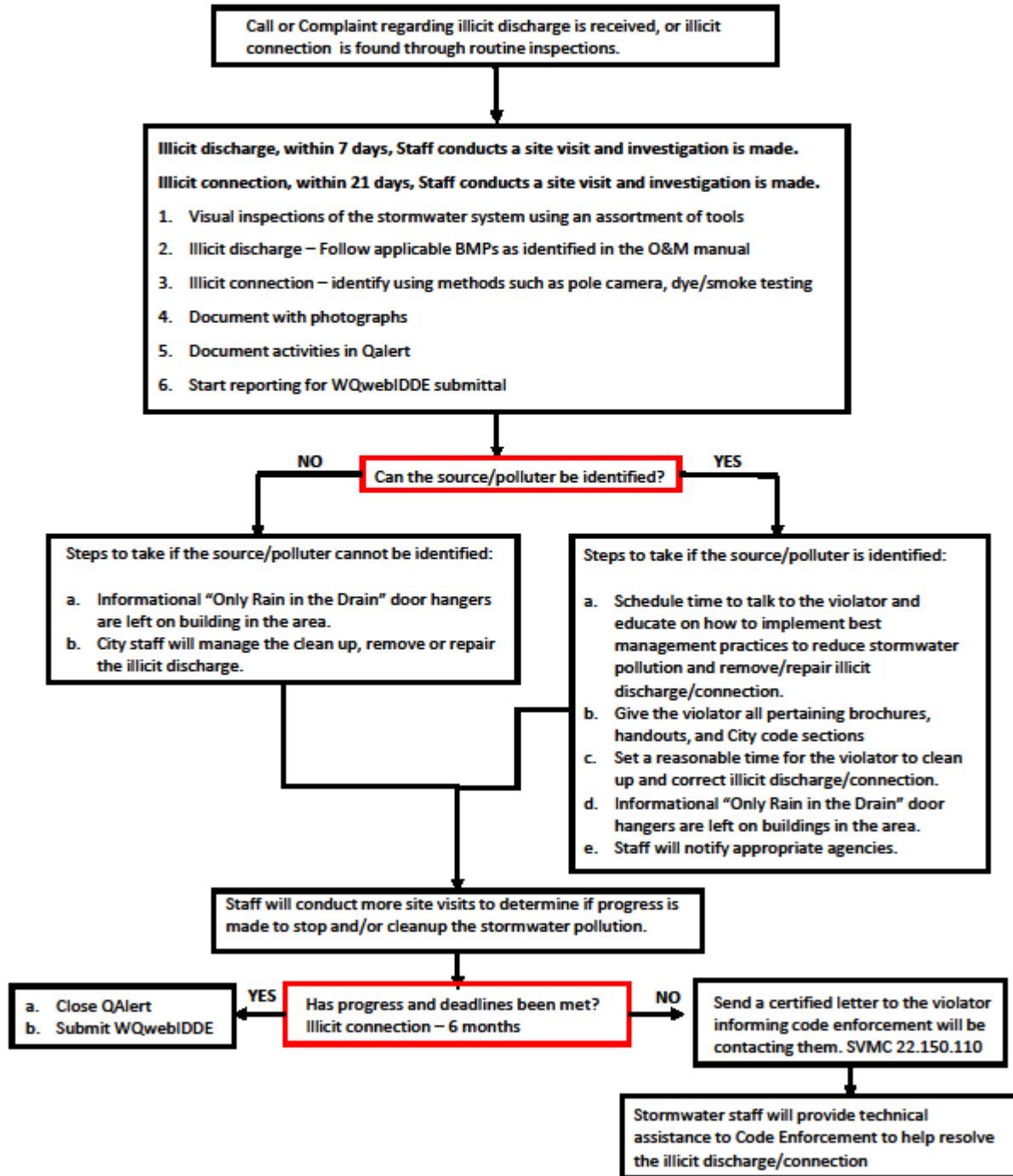


Figure 3 – City of Spokane Valley – Illicit Discharge/Connection Response Plan

CITY OF SPOKANE VALLEY ILLICIT DISCHARGE AND CONNECTION RESPONSE PLAN



CONSTRUCTION SITE STORMWATER RUNOFF CONTROL (S5.B.4.)

The City of Spokane Valley implements and enforces a program to reduce pollutants in any stormwater runoff to the MS4 from construction activities that disturb one acre or more and from construction projects of less than one acre that are part of a larger common plan of development or sale. The requirements of this program apply to both public and private projects.

2023 Continued Actions and Activities

- Continue requiring erosion and sediment controls at new development and redevelopment projects per the requirements of Chapters 22.130, 22.150, and 24.50 of SVMC, Spokane Valley Street Standards Chapter 4.9, and the SRSM.
- Continue to adhere to Chapter 22.150 SVMC, Chapter 24.50 SVMC and the SRSM to comply with erosions and sediment control requirements.
- Continue to require that qualified Certified Erosion Sediment Control Lead trained (CESCL) personnel conduct the inspections of construction phase best management practices on properties that meet the regulatory threshold that discharge to the MS4.
- Continue to review private development site plan as part of the permitting process for potential water quality impacts per Chapter 22.150 SVMC, Spokane Valley Street Standards Chapter 4.8 and SRMS Chapter 9.
- Continue to provide information of available training through the permitting application process and the Utility website.
- Continue to keep inspection records for private development, building permits and capital improvement projects.

Key Goals For 2023

- G20 Requirements - Absolve permit condition S5.B.4.a.iv and S5.B.4.C
- Assess current training programs and update if needed.
- Review procedures for ESC inspection reports in Smart Gov and on Inspector Daily Reports.

POST-CONSTRUCTION STORMWATER MANAGEMENT (S5.B.5.)

The City of Spokane Valley implements and enforces a program to address post-construction stormwater runoff to the MS4 from new development and redevelopment projects, that disturb one acre or more. Both public and private projects shall be included in this program.

2023 Continued Actions and Activities

- Continue to ensure that private projects incorporate best management practices that protect water quality, provide flow control, and provide source control per Chapter 22.150 SVMC, the Spokane Regional Stormwater Manual (SRSM) and Spokane Valley Street Standards Chapter 4.
- Continue to implement best management practices that protect water quality and prevent impact with capital improvement projects to per Chapter 22.150 SVMC, the SRSM and Spokane Valley Street Standards Chapter 4.
- Continue to ensure compliance of post-construction stormwater control on private projects per Chapter 22.150.060 SVMC and the private development permit requirements.
- Continue to comply with post-construction stormwater control requirements on public projects through inspection and development of an operation and maintenance plan.
- Continue to adhere to Chapter 22.150.040 SVMC and the basic requirements of the SRSM to meet requirements of Appendix 1 of the NPDES permit.
- Continue to preserve the natural locations of drainage systems per Section 8.3.4 of the Spokane Regional Stormwater Manual.
- Continue to allow low impact development in accordance with Chapters 2 and 6 of the SRSM.
- Continue to ensure thru SVMC 22.150 and the Spokane Regional Stormwater Manual the proper implementation, operation and maintenance, and inspection of water quality, flow control and source control BMPs.
- Continue to apply enforcement strategies per Chapter 17.100 SVMC.
- Continue to review site plans of private development that meet the regulatory threshold per Chapter 22.150 SVMC and the SRSM.
- Continue to implement procedures for inspection of post construction per Chapter 22.150.090 SVMC and Spokane Valley Street Standards Chapter 9.
- Continue to provide training information to design professionals and City staff thru process and procedural references to the SRSM.
- Continue to maintain records of projects disturbing one acre or more.

Key Goals For 2023

- Evaluate current Post-Construction enforcement strategies in concert with erosion and sediment control enforcement strategies and update if needed.
- Identify and inspect structural BMPs on private property within the regulated MS4 areas.
- Assess current training programs and update if needed.

- Absolve G20 notification for permit requirement S5.B5.d.ii – private structural BMPs inspected once every 5 years that discharge to the MS4. The City has identified six private developments with stormwater facilities.

MUNICIPAL OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE (S5.B.6.)

The City of Spokane Valley implements an operation and maintenance program for its regulated MS4 areas to prevent or reduce pollutant runoff from municipal operations. For areas outside the regulated MS4, the City implements a second, separate O&M plan to ensure compliance with other state regulations.

2023 Continued Actions and Activities

- Continue implementation of the City's Stormwater Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Plan.
- Continue current inspection cycle of City treatment and flow control facilities.
- Continue to spot-check City stormwater treatment and flow control facilities after major storm events (10-yr, 24-hr storm event or larger)
- Continue to perform maintenance on City stormwater facilities.

Key Goals For 2023

- Implement the updated O&M plan.

COMPLIANCE WITH TMDLS (S7)

In 2011, Utility staff applied for and received \$250,000 in grant funding to eliminate the last of the City's stormwater outfalls to the Spokane River. In 2015, the final outfalls from City-owned roadways that discharged into the Spokane River were eliminated and new stormwater system conveyed the storm sewer to new bio-infiltration swales. This project ensured that the City would not be included in current and future TMDL regulation discussions or allocations. It is estimated that this one project saved the City \$50,000 a year in continued fees and staff time attending meetings regarding Dissolved Oxygen, Phosphorous, Heavy Metals, and PCB's as well as handling additional reporting requirements in the NPDES Municipal Stormwater Permit.

MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT (S8)

Monitoring and assessment has been replaced with continued involvement and implementation of effectiveness studies. Eight Ecology-approved studies were selected pursuant to requirement S8.B in the Eastern Washington Phase II Municipal Stormwater Permit (2014-2019). A number of these studies are completed while others are in the final stages of development. The City of Spokane Valley participated in four of these effectiveness studies.

Two studies were completed in 2020:

1. Mobile Contractor E&O (Wenatchee) – Role as reviewer.
2. Street Cleaning and Catch Basin Cleaning (Ellensburg). Role as TAG member and reviewer.

One study was completed in 2021:

1. Bioretention Soil Media (Spokane County). Role as TAG member and reviewer.

One study was completed in 2022:

1. Drain Rangers Elementary School Children Program (Kennewick). Role as reviewer.

Effectiveness study requirements are also associated with the 2019-2024 permit. The City of Spokane Valley has partnered with the City of Spokane, Spokane County and Evergreen StormH2O consultants to meet these requirements. A non-vegetated bioretention soil mix will be studied for effectiveness of treatment and seasonal variability of treatment. A brief description of this study was submitted to Ecology on June 28th, 2021. A Detailed Study Design Proposal was submitted to Ecology on September 29th, 2022. The study will be cooperatively performed and funded by the City of Spokane, City of Spokane Valley, and Spokane County. The study will be implemented through Evergreen StormH2O consultants. Costs will be split equally among permittees. The City of Spokane will serve as the lead entity, while the City of Spokane Valley and Spokane County will be contributing entities.

2023 Continued Actions and Activities

- Continue participation for the 2019-2024 effectiveness studies.

Key Goals For 2023

- 2019 – 2024 study – Continue participation in the non-vegetated bioretention soil mix effectiveness study.
- Submit QAPP to Ecology by July 2023.
- Begin to conduct study.

Financial

This section deals with how the Stormwater Utility is paid for and annual budgeting.

Need Based

When the City incorporated, the initial revenue request was based on projected program needs. At that time, the new Utility faced several unknowns including:

- new water quality regulations
- newly incorporated City
- an incomplete drainage structure inventory
- an unknown maintenance backlog

Since incorporation, Utility staff has responded to immediate needs, while closing the knowledge gap about regulations, system inventory, and maintenance backlog.

Enterprise Funds

The Stormwater Utility receives revenues from two local funds to accomplish its work, as well as grant funding from state and Federal agencies for specific projects and activities.

In 2022, the Stormwater Utility conducted a comprehensive work and rate study. The City approved a proactive LOS directive for the Utility and a corresponding rate fee schedule. Rates for 2023 generate approximately \$5.6 million. The 2023 rate is the equivalent of \$4.83 a month (\$58/year) for a single-family residence, with commercial properties paying a commensurate rate based on the amount of impervious surfacing on the parcel. Rates apply to both private and publicly owned properties. Rates are collected twice a year with the County Property Tax & Fee bill. The fee calculation is explained further under the “Stormwater Utility Fee Calculation” tab on the Stormwater webpage:

<http://www.spokanevalley.org/stormwater>

The Aquifer Protection Area fee was created based on popular voting in 1984 and in a renewal vote 2004. It established fees for water and sewer utility billing to help pay for funding sanitary sewer projects in the County and has been later used to fund stormwater projects in the City. It generates approximately \$500,000 in annual revenue for City projects. The current rate is \$1.25 per month for each water service within the City and \$1.25 per month for each sewer service within the City. For more information, see Spokane County’s Aquifer Protection Area webpage:

<https://www.spokanecounty.org/1530/Aquifer-Protection-Area>

2023 Budget

The annual budget for the Utility is adopted as part of the City budget each year. The budget process for the Utility starts in the Spring of the year prior, with staff proposing requests based on the needs of individual areas discussed in this Plan. The draft plan of the SWMP for the following year starts at this point.

To review the current 2023 stormwater utility budget, see the following site:

[Budget & Financial Reports - Spokane Valley, WA](#)

Key Goals for 2023

- Continue coordination with City Finance Department regarding expenditures for the SWMP.

Contacts

Questions about the City of Spokane Valley's Stormwater Management Program Plan can be directed to:

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